



Missouri SAVE Coalition

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

*American Council of Engineering Companies/Missouri * American Institute of Architects/Missouri
American Society of Civil Engineers/St. Louis * Earthquake Engineering Research Institute/New Madrid
Missouri Society of Professional Engineers * Structural Engineers Association of Kansas & Missouri
Society of American Military Engineers/St. Louis * Missouri Association for Code Enforcement
Missouri Seismic Safety Commission*

SAVE Coalition Board Quarterly Meeting Meeting Minutes September 29, 2023

Attendance – Board members Ben Ross, Mike Griffin, Michael Alberswerth, Thomas Bahr, Kurt Krueger, Greg Hemen, Alan Napoli, James Sisk, Joe Leahy, Dave Weber and Ted Pruess, as well as Jeff Briggs from SEMA.

Minutes Approved

With a motion from Greg Hemen and second from Alan Napoli, **the board unanimously approved the minutes from the June 16 meeting.**

Board Appointments

Joe Leahy said he hasn't followed up with ACEC regarding board appointments, but **will do so soon.**

Leahy welcomed Greg Hemen, a new board member representing the Seismic Safety Commission.

Leahy's three-year term as board president will expire at the end of the year. He asked **anyone interested in replacing him to contact him in the next couple of weeks.**

Training Updates

Jeff Briggs said that SAVE's bridge inspection training was held for the first time in four years last month in Kansas City, with about 30 attendees. A traditional class is scheduled next week in Kansas City, followed by classes in Poplar Bluff and St. Louis to close out the year.

For the first time, SAVE will be training students, Briggs said. University of Missouri-Columbia architectural students will participate in on-campus training Oct. 13; about 70 students are expected to attend. Briggs said a university professor who's a SAVE member requested the training; we agreed, thinking that many of these students will be eventually be SAVE-eligible and this would be

an opportunity to introduce them to our program. Ben Ross added that some of these students may go on to be licensed architects, others architect interns, and still others may become interior designers. He said architects and interns may be eligible for SAVE membership, but not the interior designers.

Kurt Krueger noted that all architects must be licensed; there's no such thing as an unlicensed architect, which is referenced in our qualifications in the administrative plan. **He suggested the board revisit these qualifications to make sure they're still accurate.** Alan Napoli wondered if SAVE could work with students in some way to introduce them to our program with the goal of engaging future members. Ross said California and FEMA both have specific membership requirements that we could look to for guidance.

Briggs suggested a **task force to look at the qualifications and recommend changes.** **Ted Pruess, Alan Napoli, Kurt Krueger, Ben Ross, Joe Leahy, Mike Griffin and Thomas Bahr volunteered to help.** **Briggs will schedule a meeting in a few weeks.**

Greg Hempen suggesting using university seminars, which students are required to attend, as a way to bring students into the SAVE program.

Ross asked for input regarding the training scenarios used in the on-site leader training. The small and medium scenarios are based on Branson and Joplin deployments, and work well, he said. The large scenario, a New Madrid seismic event, is more speculative. Is this large scenario the best way to train leaders to a large deployment? Joe Leahy and Dave Weber shared their thoughts, and agreed to further discuss soon.

Seismic Safety Commission

Joe Leahy attended the commission's last meeting in New Madrid, and said Eric Sandvol's presentation on findings from the Turkey earthquake was very interesting. He added that the commission's newest member, Rep. Donnie Brown from New Madrid, will be an asset to the commission as well as supportive of SAVE's efforts.

Jeff Briggs added that the meeting was hosted by the New Madrid County Historical Museum, and was attended by several local officials as well as a reporter from the Sikeston/Poplar Bluff paper, which gave the commission a nice write-up. These on-site meetings are important to demonstrate to the community that this statewide commission is invested in their concerns, he said.

CUSEC Update

Jeff Briggs said Jim Wilkinson retired as CUSEC executive director in September, with long-time assistant director Brian Blake stepping up to fill the role. Blake has been with CUSEC for 20 years, so CUSEC activities should continue without missing a beat, Briggs said.

CUSEC is working with SEMA, FEMA, the Missouri insurance department and private insurance providers on an Earthquake Insurance Summit, scheduled for Nov. 13-14 in St. Louis, to address the lack of affordable insurance in southeast Missouri. Briggs said **all board members are welcome to attend.**

Trimming Membership Rolls

Joe Leahy said he'd like to table this item until all training is complete for the year.

Tennessee Building Evaluation Exercise

Ben Ross said he's heard from R. J. Tazelaar, who's heading up Tennessee's efforts, and the news is not good. Tazelaar is having trouble with both the state emergency management agency and the state's national guard, both of which are showing little interest in the effort. Ross told him it's still not too late to have the exercise next year, and offered his help.

Jeff Briggs said he'll reach out to his counterpart, the earthquake program manager in Tennessee, to tell him about these concerns and see what can be done.

Greg Hempen suggested reaching out to Jim Wilkinson, formerly of CUSEC, to get his take. He'll also reach out to the Tennessee Geological Survey.

Drone Deployment

Ted Pruess said that in recent deployments we've seen instances of roof damage that's not visible from the ground impacting a building's safety rating. Having even one drone available on SAVE deployment could make a difference, but is it available on short notice? The Civil Air Patrol was very helpful at the Jefferson Barracks exercise, but how available is it in a deployment, Pruess asked. Also, perhaps SAVE volunteers with drones could be utilized, he added. Greg Hempen said the National Guard could be directed to make drones available in an emergency, if they have any.

Joe Leahy asked Jeff Briggs to inquire with the Civil Air Patrol, and perhaps set up a meeting with Pruess and Leahy to discuss further. Briggs said he would also inquire about the National Guard's drone capabilities.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 1 at 10 a.m. in Jefferson City.