

# **Minutes of Commission Meeting**

**5007 Fulton Road**

**Windsor, California**

**September 8, 2016**

## **Members Present**

Timothy Strack, Chairman  
Tracy Johnson, Vice Chair  
Greg Beroza  
Emily Berry  
Christina Curry (for Mark Ghilarducci)  
Michael Gardner  
Peggy Hellweg  
Helen Knudson  
Mia Marvelli  
Kit Miyamoto  
David Rabbitt  
Fuad Swiess

## **Members Absent**

Anthony Cannella  
Ken Cooley  
Randall Goodwin  
Ian Parkinson  
Mark Wheatley  
Chet Widom

## **Staff Present**

Richard McCarthy, Executive Director  
Lena Daniel, Administrative Manager  
Fred Turner, Structural Engineer  
Salina Valencia, Legislative Director

## **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chairman Strack called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m. Administrative Manager Lena Daniel called the roll and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

## **II. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Chairman Strack -

## **III. APPROVAL OF JULY 11, 2016, COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

ACTION: Commissioner \_\_\_ made a motion, seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_, that:

*The Commission approve the minutes of the July 11, 2016, meeting as presented.*

\* Motion carried, 12 – 0.

## **IV. OPENING COMMENTS**

Commissioner Rabbitt -

Welcome

Kendall-Jackson Estates -

Agricultural Seismic Preparedness Planning

Katie Jackson, Vice President of External Affairs and Sustainability at Kendall-Jackson Estates, provided an overview of Kendall-Jackson's earthquake preparedness strategies as follows:

- Kendall-Jackson has invested in seismic bracing for the fire suppression system, infrared inspections of the electrical distribution system, protection of overhead storage, and general housekeeping.

- Kendall-Jackson has purchased earthquake insurance to preserve property, account throughput, and business interruption.

In answer to a Commissioner's question, Ms. Jackson answered that Kendall-Jackson has a structural engineer on staff.

A Commissioner asked Ms. Jackson to describe the damage that occurred to Kendall-Jackson facilities due to the 2014 South Napa Earthquake. Ms. Jackson stated a broken sprinkler system caused by the earthquake flooded the warehouse, affecting approximately 1,000 cases of wine, which had to be relabeled at a cost of approximately \$200,000.

In answer to a Commissioner's question, Ms. Jackson answered that the damaged sprinkler system has been assessed and updated. The Commissioner noted that sprinkler systems caused a lot of water damage to buildings as a result of the Napa earthquake due to insufficient seismic valves and connections.

A Commissioner asked about the earthquake insurance coverage carried by Kendall-Jackson. Ms. Jackson stated wineries, inventory, and revenue is considered from a replacement cost standpoint when reviewing earthquake insurance policies. Kendall-Jackson also has business interruption insurance and will receive financial rewards based on historic revenue patterns. After a loss, an accounting of all expenses is done to receive the full value of an earthquake claim and a third-party loss surveyor is hired to ensure that full value was received.

Commissioners joined Chairman Strack in thanking Ms. Jackson for her presentation.

## **V. SEISMIC RISK & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS IN SONOMA COUNTY**

Commissioner Rabbitt introduced Gaye Lebaron, a local historian, and briefly shared some of her background and accomplishments.

### Local History

Ms. Lebaron discussed the history of seismic events in Sonoma County. She stated Santa Rosa, in Sonoma County, has the largest number of earthquakes in Northern California. She stated she has interviewed individuals about historical earthquakes. She provided an overview of the headline world, national, and local news in the year 1906, facts about the April 18, 1906, earthquake, the political and geographic reasons that Santa Rosa was hit so hard, and lessons learned. She shared eye-witness accounts from individuals who experienced the 1906 earthquake. She also shared her own experience of living in Santa Rosa during the 1969 earthquake. She recommended a book by William Bronson titled "*The Earth Shook, the Sky Burned.*"

Commissioners asked Ms. Lebaron to send them some of her past articles and other materials she has written and gathered on this topic. Ms. Lebaron stated she would be happy to share her materials with the Commission. She stated much of her materials are available online at Sonoma State University in Special Collections under Gaye Lebaron Collection.

#### County Planning & Seismic Upgrade Project

Commissioner Rabbitt introduced Tennis Wick and Zachary Hamill, who were invited to update the Commission on Sonoma County seismic projects and plans.

Tennis Wick, Director of the Permit & Resource Department at Sonoma County, stated he and Mr. Hammill came to the meeting from the emergency operation center and the urban shield exercise, which simulates day three of a major earthquake taking place forty miles off the coast of the Golden Gate. He summarized the status of seismic safety efforts in the unincorporated part of Sonoma County where approximately 130 buildings have yet to be retrofitted. The county is bringing a seismic safety ordinance forward, under the leadership of Supervisor Rabbitt, that focuses on unreinforced masonry, under-reinforced concrete, and soft story buildings. The ordinance will be presented to the Board in January of 2017.

#### Tsunami Preparedness/County Seismic Emergency Plan

Zachary Hamill, Emergency Coordinator at Sonoma County, provided an overview, accompanied by a slide presentation, of the definition of tsunamis, significant historical tsunamis in Sonoma County, the State Tsunami Steer Committee, distant-source tsunamis, land use planning, issues and lessons learned from recent tsunamis and exercises, and the tsunami preparedness, vulnerability, and emergency operations plan of Sonoma County. He stated Sonoma County was recognized as a tsunami-ready community in January of 2016.

Mr. Hamill answered questions from Commissioners as follows:

- The arrival time from Cascadia is approximately 30 minutes.
- The wave height at full rupture in Cascadia in Crescent City is 36 feet, Klamath River is 24 feet, Trinidad is 23 feet, and Eureka is 20 feet.
- Humboldt, Del Norte, and Mendocino Counties have tsunami sirens. A warning test exercise is done annually in March. The National Weather Service triggers the sirens.
- Public education and outreach is ongoing in Sonoma County.
- Sonoma County has partnered with state and regional parks and Caltrans on tsunami evacuation planning and exercises.

## **VI. CALIFORNIA EARTHQUAKE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM BENEFIT STUDY**

Richard McCarthy, Executive Director of the Seismic Safety Commission, reminded Commissioners that eight months ago the Commission authorized Cal OES to hire a contractor to review the California Earthquake Early Warning System. Staff seeks acceptance today from Commissioner Curry, the Deputy Director at Cal OES, of the California Earthquake Early Warning System Benefit Study.

Dr. Laurie Johnson, a Visiting Project Scientist at the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER), provided an overview, accompanied by a slide presentation, of the literature review, stakeholder interview process, sectors, application types for early warning, human control, and overall findings of the California Earthquake Early Warning System Benefit Study. The study looks at the anticipated value from the user perspective of the early warning system to California's economy and infrastructure.

## **VII. THE HAYWIRED SCENARIO, APRIL 2017**

## **VIII. DISCUSSION: BUILDING CODES; DEVELOPING A PUBLIC EDUCATION/OUTREACH PROGRAM TO EXPLAIN THE INTENT OF THE STRUCTURAL PROVISIONS IN THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE**

## **IX. REVIEW OF THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION'S WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Commissioner Michael Gardner and Fred Turner summarized administrative delays to six seismic-related projects within the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Water System Improvement Program. Completion of the overall Program will be delayed an additional seven months. The delays do not appear to substantially impact seismic safety, but prior cumulative delays ranging from one to over six years on individual projects have the effect of forestalling seismic safety reliability for the Regional Hetch Hetchy water transmission system for 27 wholesale customers serving 2.6 million people in the greater San Francisco Bay region. The draft letter report under consideration has been reviewed by SFPUC staff and the staff of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency. Commissioner Beroza asked why the delays

shown in the report are from March 2016 and not more recent. Mr. Turner explained that the SFPUC is required to hold hearings to officially notify the public about the delays and to allow for public comment on how the SFPUC is managing the delays before the SFPUC notifies the Commission about the delays. The additional time needed for the public's participation is the reason that the Commission is not considering the impacts of more recent information about delays to the Program's schedule. Commissioner Peggy Hellweg moved and Commissioner Helen Knudson seconded a motion to approve the letter report summarizing the public safety implications of the delays and to direct staff to convey the letter report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**X. REPORT ON ITALY'S AUGUST 24, 2016, M 6.2 EARTHQUAKE**

**XI. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

**XII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**XIII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Chairman Strack -

**XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Strack -

**XV. MISCELLANEOUS & GOOD OF THE MEETING**

Chairman Strack -

**XVI. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chairman Strack thanked everyone for attending, and the meeting was adjourned at \_\_\_ p.m.