

COSMOS

Consortium of Organizations for Strong-Motion Observation Systems

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

17 November 2006

8:45 — 9:35 AM

**DoubleTree Hotel
Berkeley, California**

Minutes

Announcement of the Meeting (from an email to the membership, November 1, 2007):

To Members of COSMOS:

As indicated earlier, this year's Annual Meeting and Technical Session will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel at the Berkeley Marina on Friday, November 17th. Similar to last year, the COSMOS Annual Business Meeting will be held from 8:45 am to 9:45 am, while the COSMOS Technical Session, which is being co-sponsored by PEER, will be held from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. A no-host cocktail hour will follow the Technical Session to permit discussions to continue in a more relaxed setting.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President W. Savage at 8:45 AM. (11 persons present)

Review and Adoption of Minutes from the 18 November 2005 Annual Meeting

The minutes were approved unanimously.

President's Report (read by W. Savage)

President James F. Davis had hip replacement surgery on November 7, so was not able to be present. W. Savage read a statement from J. Davis. Davis is confident that COSMOS continues to play a crucial role in community of strong-motion data producers and users. Savage thanked Davis for his contributions.

Treasurer's Report: M. Power.

COSMOS remains in very good and stable financial condition. Power reviewed the membership: four core members, two other strong-motion program members, eight institutional members, one affiliate member, and currently thirty-seven individual members. He thanked our members for their support. He reviewed COSMOS contracts and grants. Six grants are active as of this date, or were active during the current calendar year. As of 12 October, COSMOS had assets of \$206,609.18. An accounting firm reviews the report. There were no questions for Maury Power.

Senior Advisory Council Report: Robert Nigbor

Nigbor reviewed the SAC activities. The SAC has been inactive for the last year, but will likely become more active as a result of the COSMOS long-term planning process in January.

Director of Engineering Applications Report: Robert Bachman

The technical program later today will continue the dialog between gatherers and users of strong-motion data. The COSMOS Virtual Data Center (VDC) will transfer to the National Engineering Strong-Motion Data Center (NESMDC) next year, currently planned for March 1. This is one motivation for the long-range planning meeting next January. COSMOS was a proud sponsor of the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference and of sending three students to the conference.

J. Bela asked why the instrumentation requirements in Uniform Building Code (UCB) were not put into International Building Code (IBC). Bachman says that was an oversight, and he will advocate this for the next cycle, i.e. the 2009 IBC. COSMOS will advocate for this change as an action item.

Savage reported that the Board recommended that election of new officers be carried out by email or regular mail after the strategic planning. Bachman moved, Nigbor seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote. (18 persons in room)

Report of the General Membership Chair:

Roger Borchardt reported to the Board of Directors yesterday that there is a growing positive perspective of the COSMOS membership, due to the VDC and the Technical Sessions.

COSMOS Virtual Data Center Report: Mindy Squibb

Mindy reported that the VDC added several earthquakes in the last year, most significantly a significant set of data from New Zealand. There is a VDC poster at this meeting. There is a user survey on the VDC website, and Mindy encouraged all users to respond. There are several other enhancements. One is a display of earthquakes and stations on Google Earth.

Update on Plans for the VDC Transition to the NESMDC planned to be completed by April 1, 2006: W. Savage.

Savage showed a PowerPoint presentation on the background of the VDC. The VDC has become the primary portal in the United States and the world for access to strong-motion data. It will transition into the National Center for Engineering Strong-Motion Data with resources from U.S. Geological Survey and the California Geological Survey. Rollout of the national center is targeted for January 1, 2007. Mindy Squibb will continue to be part of the VDC operation. The COSMOS Board of Directors has fully supported this transition. COSMOS will have four roles, in brief: 1) to continue to advocate for the SM-VDC in the National Center; 2) to host the COSMOS SM-VDC working group as a COSMOS entity to provide diverse user input; 3) to facilitate international data contributions; and 4) to develop standards, practices, and policies in the SM-VDC. With this arrangement, the SM-VDC is assured of continued operation and development in the National Center, and COSMOS has vital roles in supporting, advising, and promoting the SM-VDC.

N. Abrahamson asked if the National Center will have only national data or international as well. The international data will continue to be available through the VDC; U.S. data would likely be available faster through the National Center.

J. Bela asked if the data are being backed up outside of Menlo or Sacramento. W. Savage stated that at present the answer is no, but ANSS is planning an additional secure national archive for data.

Other Business

None brought forward.

Adjournment

W. Savage thanked everyone for his or her participation. (23 persons present)
The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 AM.