

# **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO TEXNET AND BUREAU OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY**

Meeting Minutes  
May 16, 2019

## **OPENING**

The special meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee with TexNet was called to order at 10:00 AM on May 16, 2019 at the Bureau of Economic Geology, J.J. Pickle Research Campus, The University of Texas at Austin.

## **PRESENT**

Douglas Dierking, Facilitator

Aaron Velasco, Committee Member

Alexandros Savvaidis, Manager of TexNet

Brian Stump, Committee Member

Chris Hillman, Committee Member

Dan Hill, Committee Member

Dana Jurick, Committee Member

Ellen Rathje, Research Affiliate, TexNet

Hal Macartney, Committee Member (Present via Webex)

Kris Nygaard, Committee Member

Michael Young, Associate Director, Environmental Division, Bureau of Economic Geology

Peter Hennings, Project Manager, Center for Integrated Seismicity Research (CISR)

Robie Vaughn, Committee Chair

Scott Tinker, Director, Bureau of Economic Geology

## **ABSENT**

All members present.

## **BUSINESS**

### **AGENDA ITEM I**

Alexandros Savvaidis presented feedback from poll questions. Committee began an open discussion regarding the importance of stakeholders, a question which was provided by the feedback from members. As discussion continued, committee agrees identifying stakeholders is crucial to identify the audience for TexNet's mission. Discussion of stakeholders is agreed to continue for the next meeting.

### **AGENDA ITEM II**

Alexandros Savvaidis discusses current TexNet processes and plans. Committee advises TexNet to emphasize the importance of conducting fund planning and distribution for research projects. TexNet and TAC agree that identifying the roles of TexNet include providing scientific facts (i.e. Seismology, safety risks, causation, and dissemination).

**STAKEHOLDERS**

<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>INDUSTRY</b>	<b>REGULATORY</b>
Citizens	Center for Integrated Seismicity Research (CISR)	Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
General Land Office of Texas (GLO)	O & G Operator	Texas Railroad Commission (TRRC)
First Responders	Disposal Operations	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Lobbyist	Service Providers	Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT)
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)		Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)
Federal Government State Govt. Local Govt. Regional Govt.		Council of Governments (COGS)
Education/Research		U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Non-governmental organization (NGO)		River Authority
Media		Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

**AGENDA ITEM III**

Douglas Dierking presents TexNet’s current draft of their mission statement. Committee advises TexNet to identify as an independent body to classify as a separate entity from CISR (Center for Integrated Seismicity Research). Committee and TexNet begin framing the TexNet mission statement draft in open discussion where topics such as goals and values are discussed. TAC advises TexNet.

**AGENDA ITEM IV**

Through discussion TexNet and TAC identify the most important activities and gaps in the TexNet research. TexNet’s goal is to produce and distribute data and science to create the understanding of earthquakes, but executing this to fulfill the needs of stakeholders should be identified for TexNet to properly accomplish its mission. TAC advises that critical needs may vary per stakeholder, and should be furthered discussed to create agreement of needs. TAC advice that TexNet needs to prioritize the idea of identifying potential risk factors of ground motion. TexNet agrees with TAC.

**MISSION STATEMENT DRAFT**

“TexNet is an independent scientific body that measures, analyzes, and distributes earthquake data and objective information to benefit the State of Texas”. Committee agrees mission statement draft will need further adjustments to establish a statement where both TexNet and TAC agree is appropriate for the mission of TexNet. Final draft will be approved during the next meeting.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Produce and distribute accurate earthquake information on a timely basis
- Responsive to the critical information needs of the TRRC
- Responsive to the critical information needs of local communities
  - o What is the impact on the safety of residents and infrastructure
- Responsive to the need of the industry
  - o Decrease hypocentral uncertainty
  - o Understanding causality of seismicity
- Responsive to the need of the broad research community
- How much of risk does the seismic activity pose
- Communication with the public and media

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

## **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

Dana Jurick made a motion that identification of top three stakeholders of the TexNet program should be discussed. Committee agreed, facilitator then initiated discussion of TexNet and TACs priority stakeholders.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Seismic activity risks; causal contributors.  
Identify TexNet and CISR as independent entities.  
Infrastructure benefits from TexNet research data.

## **AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

Identify “primary” stakeholders.  
Peer review responses.  
Promoting TexNet.  
Approval of Mission Statement.  
Plan for execution of priorities.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:12 PM by Michael Young. Discussion for next meeting will be followed up.

**Minutes submitted by:** Nayeli Silva, Research Program Coordinator, TexNet

**Minutes approved by:** Robie Vaughn, Committee Chair