The Technical Advisory Committee to TexNet met on Friday, October 31 at the J.H. Reagan Building, Texas Capitol. Members of the committee present, as follows:

Robie Vaughn, chair; Dan Hill; Chris Hillman; Dana Jurick; Hal Macartney; Kris Nygaard; Craig Pearson; Brian Stump; and Scott Tinker.

AGENDA ITEM 1

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vaughn at 10:07 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Meeting minutes from September 30, 2016 were presented for approval. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted. The minutes were approved as presented.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Status of network deployment was explained by Alexandros Savvaidis, Program Manager of TexNet. Dr. Savvaidis reported on permanent stations and portable stations in the state. Quality of measurements was discussed. Dr. Savvaidis informed members that Operation Status maps were available on the TexNet website (http://www.beg.utexas.edu/index.php/texnet/operations-status). A question and answer discussion followed the presentation.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Dr. Savvaidis displayed a state map with existing seismic stations, as well as new TexNet stations. Hub access to stations including how data is accessed and how equipment is monitored was also discussed. Conditions of lease agreements and cooperation of landowners was discussed. Dr. Savvaidis gave a timeline of deployment for permanent stations. The committee urged BEG to explore ways to accelerate the deployment. A question and answer discussion followed.

AGENDA ITEM 5

Dr. Savvaidis discussed recent seismic activity in Texas. The recent 5.8 earthquake in Pawnee, OK and impact on structures and infrastructure was reviewed. Research into earthquake hazards and risks, and civil engineering analysis of earthquakes was explained. A question and answer discussion followed.
AGENDA ITEM 6

Peter Hennings, Principal Investigator of the Center for Integrated Seismicity Research (CISR) at BEG, gave an update on state-funded research projects. Each area of research was explained and discussed. Dr. Hennings proposed making all published papers available on the TexNet website. A question and answer discussion followed.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Dr. Hennings gave an update on current staff, upcoming changes in staff, and upcoming recruitments. Dr. Hennings discuss the need to hire another seismography researcher. The TAC agreed and a job posting is forthcoming.

AGENDA ITEM 8

Dr. Hennings gave the presentation on Fort Worth Basin collaborative study. This study will be a template for a Permian Basin study beginning in 2017. A question and answer discussion followed.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Michael Young, Associate Director at BEG and Principal Investigator, discussed a multi-state initiative. The value of collaborating with other states could attract federal support and further leverage state investment. The states TexNet would like to have involved are New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, and Arkansas. Dr. Young also spoke about communication protocol during a seismic event. A question and answer discussion followed.

AGENDA ITEM 10

Dr. Hennings gave update on the Governor’s report. He reported that 75% of the text had been received. The draft report will be sent out in the next two weeks for TAC members’ comments and questions. Dr. Hennings discussed the goals of the report including what has been created, what has been accomplished, and what the next six months will look like. A question and answer discussion followed.

AGENDA ITEM 11

Dr. Young presented information on funding for next biennium including cost categories. Funding needs over the next several years was also considered. The need to include funding to cover holes in the network even after full deployment was discussed. A discussion followed.
AGENDA ITEM 12

The next meeting of TAC was confirmed. These meeting is as follows:

Monday, November 28 2p – 4p JH Reagan Building Room 100, Texas State Capitol

AGENDA ITEM 12

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Vaughn at 12:18 p.m.