

# USSD Committee on Public Safety, Security, and Emergency Management for Dams, Charter

(Last Approved by the BOD on 16 August 2018)

## Committee Description

The mission of the Committee on Public Safety, Security, and Emergency Management for Dams (COPSSEM) is to support the Mission and Strategic Plan of United States Society on Dams (USSD) through the development, maintenance, and communication of programs and tools which gather and disseminate public safety and security best practices for and around dams.

This committee exists to foster cooperative arrangements and partnerships with other organizations for the purpose of enhancing public safety, security, and emergency management of dams within the United States. Our efforts will be demonstrated through educational and collaborative endeavors with recognition through the establishment and sponsoring of an awards program.

## Terms of Reference

The COPSSEM has been approved with formal recognition by USSD's Board of Directors on 16 August 2018. The committee is charged with development, maintenance, and communication of programs and tools which gather and disseminate public safety, security, and emergency management best practices for dams. The committee provides other assistance and support to the efforts and programs of USSD on an ongoing basis. Further, the committee assists in supporting the work of ICOLD's committees on Dam Safety and Public Safety. The Committee keeps the general membership informed of Public Safety, Security, and Emergency Management related issues on dams through timely publication of reports and white papers, announcements in the Newsletter, input to the committee's section of the USSD website, and in the organization and execution of periodic workshops. The Committee shall also collaborate and/or assist with other committees in developing and promoting education and training activities under the four imperatives of the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan: Advocate, Educate, Collaborate, and Cultivate.

## Background and History

The USSD Security Subcommittee, USSD Committee on Dam Safety and Security (CODSS), was established in 2009 with the first committee member meeting held at the 2010 USSD Conference. At this conference short term and long-term goals were established as well as the primary functions of the subcommittee which are listed below:

- Develop programs and tools which gather and disseminate dams' security information
- Establish cooperative arrangements and partnerships with other organizations

At the 2012 USSD CODSS meeting the Security Subcommittee's sunset was extended for four years (2016).

Additionally, because of USSD's strategic plan of 2014, all committees were asked to resubmit a new charter. Thus, during the 2014 USSD Annual Committee meetings, this sub-committee met, motioned, and voted to not only add Public Safety to our name but that our committee

become a standalone committee.

### ***Responsibilities***

Collectively, the committee will foster cooperative arrangements and partnerships with other organizations for the purpose of enhancing public safety, security and emergency management of dams within the United States and Canada. Our efforts will be demonstrated through educational endeavors and recognized through an awards program.

- Develop and support annual educational sessions (separate program track or a workshop) on “Public Safety, Security, and Emergency Management for Dams” during the Annual Conferences and/or workshops
- Establish a recognition program for members and member projects that reflect best in class and most improved on matters of public safety and security for dams
- Establish and hold a Dam Public Safety, Security, and Emergency Management Workshop, separate from the Annual Conference every other year.

Additionally, this committee will work to maintain the following positions and relationships on behalf of USSD:

- The DHS Critical Infrastructure Protection Advisory Committee (CIPAC), Dams Sector Coordinating Council (SCC), and the Various Joint SCC/Government Coordinating Council (GCC) Workgroups
- ASDSO Security Committee
- FERC DDS (Security)
- DHS Dams SSA
- FEMA
- Bureau of Reclamation Security Staff
- USACE Security Staff
- Committee on Dam Safety (CODS)

### ***Chair, and Vice Chairs and Related Responsibilities***

Chair: William F. Foos

Vice Chair: Paul Meeks

Vice Chair (Young Professional): Megan Puncke

## ***Goals and Objectives***

### Advocate

- Provide technical information to support Advocacy Goals
- Communicate with committee members through relevant outreach information/activities

### Educate

- Publish technical papers and presentations
- Develop and implement conferences and workshops
- Provide on-line resources

### Collaborate

- Strategically Collaboration within USSD
- Strategically collaborate with targeted US organizations
- Strategically collaborate with targeted international organizations such as the Canadian Dam Association

### Cultivate

- Improve committee operations

Our intent is use a task force structure in our committee to consolidate, educate, and provide reference sources on matters that support dam safety and security. Areas of interest include but are not limited to;

1. Dam Security
2. Public Safety around Dams
3. Emergency and Incident Management for Dams
4. Promoting Best Practices in all areas

## ***Membership***

1. Foos, William, Chairperson
2. Meeks, Paul Vice Chair
3. Puncke, Megan, Vice Chair (Young Professional)
4. Beard, Sher
5. Bennett, Tony
6. Bonin, Dave
7. Byers, Jack
8. Calcagno, Frank
9. Cisar, Bryan
10. Crookston, Brian
11. Darling, Justin
12. Demby, James
13. Fayyez, Bijan
14. Fessler, Randy
15. Fitzpatrick, Anne
16. Hancock, Alfred

17. Hyatt, Richard
18. Kaade, Nadim
19. Linenberger, Toni
20. McCann, Marty
21. Moyle, John
22. Muto, Matt
23. Parkes, James
24. Puncke, Megan
25. Roach, Sharon
26. Schweiger, Paul
27. Sharon, Laura
28. Velez, Liza
29. Wilson, Preston
30. Wilson, Cheri

To promote membership in COPSSEM, the committee will and has undertaken the following activities:

Accomplishments:

1. Sponsored Canadian Dam Association's "Public Safety around Dams Workshop" held at USSD annual conference in 2017.
2. Currently sponsoring the Fall Workshop (2018) on "Public Safety and Security around Dams Training"
3. Established and has awarded three times, since 2016, a Public Safety and Security Recognition Award that was been awarded to; 2016 Loudoun Water, 2017 Al Hancock, and 2018 Tony Bennett.
4. Solicited the National Dam Safety Review Board to establish a Public Safety Task Force, which was completed in 2017.

Plans:

1. Distribute a 1-page advertisement in the USSD Annual Meeting literature as to what issues the COPSSEM works on and list the COPSSEM work product website to find out more.
2. Develop a small "want ad" for the USSD newsletter and seek the Board of Directors' approval.
3. During Committee status reports at the USSD Annual Meeting make an appeal towards joining the COPSSEM.

To foster development of younger members, COPSSEM is implementing the following:

1. Any new document will be developed by a team of a younger and more seasoned member before being released for comment to the larger group.
2. At the end of each COPSSEM meeting held during the USSD Annual Meeting, the last 10 minutes will be reserved for younger members to be introduced to a few of the more recognized members of our committee.
3. During the USSD Annual Conference, COPSSEM members will be asked to greet younger members and engage them in an informative conversation about our mission in support of the society and community.