



I. OPENING BUSINESS

9:00 a.m.

- Call to Order (John Aho, Chairperson); Roll call: Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, David Cole, Roger Hansen, Robert Hicks, Kathy Hosford, Laura Kelly, Dean Maxwell, and Mark Roberts were present. Commission member Gay Dunham signed in late and Commission member Rod Combellick was excused. April Woolery of the State Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys was also present.
- The meeting agenda was approved.
- Introductions-Guests: Sam Kito, Facilities Engineer with the School Finance and Facilities Section of the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development.
- Review and Approval of Minutes for 1/06-07/2009 and 2/5/2009: The minutes from both meetings were approved with amendments.

II. BRIEFINGS

9:10 a.m.

- Recent Seismic Activity of Interest-Hansen: During the week of February 9 through 14 there were 447 events, the largest being a magnitude 4.4 event that occurred near Kodiak on February 10. The week of February 16 through 22 there were another 427 events, three of which were greater than magnitude 4 with the largest event a magnitude 4.6 occurrence in the Andreanof Islands on February 20. During this time, there were three alarms, nine releases and a total of three "felt" events.
- Health of the Alaska Seismic Networks-Hansen: Increasing daylight hours mean more solar power to remote stations, so the network health is improving. The work that Roger's staff have done in south-central Alaska at Bering Glacier camp over the last year has allowed the collection node at the camp to continue communicating data through the winter months. They had no interruptions based on power outages.
- Shake Map Update-Hansen: Shake Map is working well. Some coordination issues have been worked out and it is running smoothly. His staff are still waiting on a new contract for the Alyeska pipeline monitoring project. Roger's staff record the data from this monitoring project, and if they detect acceleration above certain thresholds, they send a real time alarm to the operations control center for the pipeline. They also generate a customized Shake Map for Alyeska for events above magnitude 4.5. Roger can update the Commission on events that affect the pipeline, as well as for the Atwood and Frontier Buildings and the C Street Bridge in Anchorage, all of which are instrumented.
- SW Alaska Municipal Conference-Hosford: She did not attend, no report.
- EERI/WSSPC Meeting-Roberts/Hansen: The award presentation for the Kodiak Island Borough School District went well. The Undergraduate Seismic Design Competition was very interesting. There were also presentations on the State of California's Shake Out exercise. Commission member Hansen said that there was a Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Committee meeting while he was there, and they discussed the federal funding of the tsunami mitigation activities. The states are concerned about whether the allocated funding will actually be available. Commission members also worked on getting WSSPC involved with the 2014 National Earthquake Engineering Conference

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in Anchorage. Commission Chairman Aho reported that EERI has created its own school hazards mitigation committee.

- March 25 Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) Real Code Tsunami Awareness Test-Roberts: This will be a statewide drill, and local communities are invited but not required to participate. Communities located inland can do drop, cover and hold (earthquake) drills in place of tsunami drills.
- NTHMP Coordination Meeting-Hansen: There is continued frustration with allocation of funding for tsunami mitigation. "We used to have a group of people that would discuss what needed to be done for tsunami mitigation, and money would spread out and work would get done." Now they are having to fight NOAA to get the funds that were supposed to be allocated to them, and this hampers their ability to do their work. There is a National Research Council review group that may yield some changes to NOAA's tactics in allocating funds.
- Municipality of Anchorage Geotechnical Advisory Commission Activity Update-Cole: There was no meeting this month, so no report.

III. OLD BUSINESS 9:40 a.m.

- Action Items: These will be covered under committee reports.
- Earthquake Insurance Model Review Assistance-Aho: He has not heard anything more on this.
- NIMS Online Training-Roberts: He has sent the information via e-mail. Commission members are encouraged to review it and take the training as they have time.
- September Face-to-Face: Will probably take place in Anchorage. There is training and a seismic summit that will take place in Anchorage at this time. Chairman Aho would like to hold off on discussing this, as there may be a face-to-face between now and then.

IV. MEETINGS OF INTEREST 9:50 a.m.

- SW Alaska Municipal Conference-January, 2009
- Alaska School Administrators-Anchorage January 2009
- SW Alaska Municipal Conference-January 2009
- NTHMP Coordination Meeting-February 17-19, 2009
- WSSPC Annual Meeting-Salt Lake City, UT, February 11-14, 2009
- EERI Annual Meeting-Salt Lake City, UT February 11-14, 2009
- SSA Meeting-Monterey, CA, April 8-10, 2009
- 9th U.S. National and 10th Canadian Conference in Earthquake Engineering-Toronto, July 2010
- 2014 National Earthquake Engineering Conference-Anchorage

V. CRITICAL DEADLINES 10:00 a.m.

- ASHSC Report to WSSPC-Hansen: He will refer them to the report on the ASHSC website.

VI. NEW BUSINESS 10:05 a.m.

- Future Briefings
 - Mat-Su Prison Presentation
 - MOA Emergency Operations Center Tour
 - Monitoring of Large Earthquakes
 - Utilities Risk Mitigation Approaches
 - GIS Measurement of Fault Displacement
 - Alyeska Pipeline Seismic Instrumentation
 - Other suggestions should be forwarded to Chairman Aho

VII. REPORTS

10:15 a.m.

- Chairperson
 - Meetings with Legislators: These were arranged by Melanie Lesh, the DNR Legislative Liaison. On Thursday, Chairman Aho met with Senate President Gary Stephens. He also met with Senator Kim Elton, who is on the Finance Committee, and Senator Elton's staffer Dana Owen, as well as Senators Bettye Davis and Charlie Huggins and Representative Les Gara. These meetings were important for reminding our state legislators of who we are and what we do. Following the presentation on Friday, Chairman Aho met with Senator Olson, Representative Austerman, and again with Senator Huggins. He feels that the ASHSC should plan to have a member travel to Juneau on a yearly basis to keep our Commission and its work in the minds of our representatives.
 - Education/Finance Committee Presentations: The presentation could only be 50 minutes due to a Senate floor meeting. Again, he gave a good account of what the ASHSC does. Sam Kito attended the presentation and felt that it went well. There was good interest from the legislators. Mr. Kito pointed out that the maps were particularly useful in letting the legislators see how seismic hazards might affect their districts. He echoed the idea that an annual presentation by the ASHSC to the Education and Finance Committees would be a good idea. Commission member Roberts suggested that the ASHSC make legislators aware that our members are available for input and assistance on seismic issues if the legislators need it. Mr. Kito suggested preparing a letter to all of the legislators to that effect.
 - Annual Report: In future annual reports, Chairman Aho will ask the committee chairs to write the sections for their committees. Commission member Roberts suggested that we could use the cover letter that goes with the report to advise the legislators of our commission members' willingness to assist in seismic matters, as suggested above by himself and Mr. Kito. Chairman Aho would also like a one to two page summary of committee meetings by the committee heads following face-to-face meetings. These will be attached to the meeting minutes.
 - Port Instrumentation Letter: Chairman Aho will write a letter to the Port Authority of Anchorage, requesting that they give due consideration to the installation of free field instruments in the new port facility. For an expensive (about one billion dollars), critical facility like the port expansion, the relatively small cost of seismic instrumentation would be well worth it. Commission member Hansen said that his staff could set up the same type of real-time alarm system that they have for the pipeline.

- Committee Reports
- Insurance-Maxwell: There has not been much progress on the brochure since the last meeting. He did discuss the health of the insurance industry as a whole, which is not good at this time. Some of the large carriers are having financial difficulties due to the credit crisis. The need for insurance and the industry's ability to supply it are no longer in balance. The remaining healthy companies are unable to take on the burden of those left uninsured. The industry as a whole is looking to limit its catastrophic exposure, which will increase the cost of earthquake insurance and may make re-insuring difficult for some customers. Industry health will improve over time, but there will need to be changes in legislation and public opinion first.
- Schools-Kelly: Sam Kito is now on board as a Schools Committee advisor. Their February 6 meeting covered seismic retrofits and construction. Mr. Kito pointed out that the Department of Education has a capital improvement fund that could be used to do seismic work. The Schools Committee should come up with recommendations to the State of Alaska to have all new school designs subjected to peer review and to provide special inspections for newly constructed schools. Schools Committee Chair Kelly will work with Mr. Kito to coordinate a draft memo on some approaches to implementing measures to accomplish these recommendations. The Schools Committee will then hold a teleconference to discuss the measures.
- Earthquake Scenario-Combellick: The Scenario Committee held a meeting while attending the EERI/WSSPC meeting. Commission member Roberts reported on the 2010 Alaska Shield Exercise. The ASHSC will be asked to provide background information as to the type of earthquake and where it would be located for the exercise. At this point, they may not do a scenario in conjunction with the exercise: he will let us know once they announce a decision. If it does not happen, the Commission at least has a scenario proposal ready and will be able to look for other funding.
- Education & Outreach-Hicks: He is still working on building an inventory of articles for the newsletter. Feature articles are needed, and he will be sending out ideas to the rest of the Commission members. Chairman Aho would like to e-mail the current meeting minutes link to legislators each month. Commission member Roberts suggested that he include a map of the past month's seismic events for the state. Commission member Hicks will contact Commission member Hansen and April Woolery for the seismic events map and the approved minutes. Chairman Aho suggested that the map be included as part of the minutes.
- Hazards Identification-Carver: Nothing new to report. He will be contacting committee members to remind them of what he needs for the white paper that he is working on.
- Response, Recovery-Roberts: On Wednesday, March 25, 2009, there will be a test of the tsunami warning system at 9:45 am (unless a real emergency supersedes it). It will be tested statewide. The Commission will be asked to review the Post Disaster Damage Assessment (PDDA) curriculum, which he will send out. He would also like the Commission to review several seismic-related proposals that have been received by his office. He is involved in an Anchorage School District project to install emergency gas shut-off valves that are triggered by seismic events over a certain magnitude. As part of this project, he visited 15 different schools in the Anchorage area that have been designated as shelters. Each of these schools has a

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boiler/generator system with fuel enough to provide three days of heat and electricity for that school. DHS & EM is also placing orders for tsunami siren systems in Nikolski, Adak and Atka through a NOAA grant. If Commission members know of other communities in the state that want warning systems, please let him know. He will write a white paper on combining the Response, Recovery and Post-Earthquake Planning Committees, with a suggested name for the new committee.

- Post Earthquake Planning-Carver: Nothing to report at this time.
- Partnership-Aho: No report at this time.

VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION 11:05 a.m.

- Public: None
- Commission Members: Commission member Hansen reiterated that the EERI/WSSPC meeting went well. Commission member Dunham reported that he convinced the City Council of Valdez to participate in the Tsunami Awareness Week, March 22-28. They will be doing special classes in the schools to make kids aware of the local evacuation plan. Four of nine emergency sirens have been installed in Valdez, with the rest to be completed this summer. Commission member Hansen requested that Commission member Carver send him information on a potential site for seismic monitoring near Tok.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS 11:10 a.m.

- Budget Report-Woolery: there is \$1,459.00 remaining in the budget for the 2009 fiscal year. However, not all of the travel charges for Chairman Aho have been processed at this time.
- ASHSC Web Site Update Status-Woolery: Most of the minutes are updated and finalized. The PowerPoint presentations from the October, 2008 face-to-face meeting are still needed. Commission member Maxwell should send a pdf of the Missouri Insurance Final Report to be included on the website. Thanks to Commission member Kelly for sending an official announcement letter for her U.S. Coast Guard Engineer of the Year award. It is now posted on the site.
- Chairman Aho asked that everyone review the Committee membership memorandum that he sent out and let him know if changes should be made.
- Next Meeting Date: Teleconference on Thursday, May 7 at 9:00 am. (The April 2, 2009 meeting was cancelled.)

X. ADJOURNMENT 11:20 p.m.

- Commission member Hosford moved, and Commission member Maxwell seconded to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.