



## **September 9, 2009**

### **I. OPENING BUSINESS**

11:00 a.m.

- Call to Order (John Aho, Chairperson); Roll call: Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, Gay Dunham, David Cole, Gayle White, Laura Kelly, David Miller, Rod Combellick, Mark Roberts, and Roger Hansen were present. Robert Hicks has chosen not to renew his membership due to other commitments. April Woolery of the State Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys was present.
- The meeting agenda was approved.
- Introductions-Guests: None on September 9. Guests on September 10: Ian Shennan, Professor in the Department of Geography at Durham University, U.K., Elena Suleimani, Natasha Ruppert and Dmitry Nicolski of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks (UAF) Tsunami Mapping Team, and Jeff Freymueller, Professor at the Geophysical Institute at UAF.
- Review and Approval of Minutes for the July 9, 2009 meeting: The minutes were approved with one amendment. April Woolery still needs the presentations from the October 1-2, 2008 meeting so that she can post them on the website. Please send to April or to Commission member Combellick.

### **II. BRIEFINGS**

11:10 a.m.

- Commission member Mark Roberts has the funds to pay for travel for any Commission members who want to attend the training on rapid visual screening for non-structural seismic hazards. This is part of the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management's (DHS&EM) annual Preparedness Conference, which will take place in October. Please let Commission member Roberts know if you want to attend or if you have publications that you would like him to distribute at the conference. He will be sending a link via e-mail a public service announcement regarding tsunami hazards in Alaska and Hawaii, so check your in-boxes. He is also working on getting a \$58,000 grant from FEMA awarded for completing the Active Faults Database for Alaska: the money has been promised, so it is just a matter of finishing the paperwork at this point. Commission member Roberts discussed the use of disaster grants to fund assessments and scope of work plans for schools that have been designated as emergency shelters. At that point, the local school districts can pick which projects they want to do, using the Kodiak School District's experience as a model for securing funds. Commission member Dunham commented that the ASHSC should recommend a seismic safety standard that school districts should follow.
- Recent Seismic Activity of Interest-Hansen: The total number of events from July 2008 to June 2009 was 26,323. Of those events, 342 were greater than magnitude 4.0. There were 126 felt events, or about one every third day. Commission member Roberts encouraged people to submit a "felt" report on-line when they feel an earthquake.
- Health of the Alaska Seismic Networks-Hansen: Commission member Hansen thanked Mark Roberts for getting Matanuska Telephone Association (MTA) to donate a DSL line for the seismic instrumentation at the Chugach Fire Department. This

success inspired Commission member Hansen to solicit donations as well: ACS has agreed to donate 20 DSL lines for two years. The UA system only has to pay taxes on the lines. He will be drafting a letter of thanks to ACS and MTA at the suggestion of Commission members Kelly and Roberts. Commission member Hansen has also applied for stimulus money through the USGS to upgrade and retrofit 17 seismic stations. Chairman Aho signed a letter of support to go with the funding request. Commission member Hansen reported that upgrading the old, analog stations around Valdez is a priority, but that the stimulus funding can't be used for that purpose. He and his staff will look for resources to do the work in Valdez.

- Shake Map Update-Hansen: The inundation and submarine landslide modeling continues for coastal Alaska.
- Municipality of Anchorage Geotechnical Advisory Commission Activity Update-Cole: The Municipality of Anchorage is going through a land use planning and zoning process and has hired engineering firm MMI to provide them with a risk assessment for development within the hazard zones. MMI most recently looked at damage potential for 32 different building types, using HAZUS data and depending on their location within the mapped hazards zone. They will ultimately produce a land-use plan for the downtown Anchorage.

### III. OLD BUSINESS

12:10 p.m.

- MMI NEHRP Proposal-Combellick: No word back yet.
- Break for lunch followed. The meeting reconvened at 1:15 pm.
- **Action Items:**
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) training-Roberts: He gave an overview of the training and the Incident Command System (ICS). Commission member Kelly, who has taken the course, described the training and its usefulness.

### IV. MEETINGS OF INTEREST

1:20 p.m.

- AEG Annual Meeting-September 21-26, 2009 at South Lake Tahoe, California
- DHS&EM Seismic Training and Summit-September 28 through October 2, 2009 in Anchorage: Commission member Roberts has funds through his Division to pay for travel costs for any Commission members who want to attend. Please contact him for details.
- Geological Society of America Annual Meeting-October 18-12, 2009 in Portland
- ANSS Meeting-November 4-6, 2009 in Berkeley
- 2009 Seismic Instrumentation Technology Symposium-November 10-11, 2009 in Palm Springs
- Applied Technology Council and Structural Engineering Institute of ASCE (ATC & SEI) Conference-December 9-11, 2009 in San Francisco
- AGU Meeting-December 14-18, 2009 in San Francisco
- 2009 National Earthquake Program Managers Meeting-November 5-6, 2009 in Cambridge, Massachusetts
- EERI Annual Meeting-February 3-6, 2010 in San Francisco
- WSSPC Annual Meeting-July 10-13, 2010 in Broomfield, Colorado
- 9<sup>th</sup> U.S. National and 10<sup>th</sup> Canadian Conference in Earthquake Engineering-Toronto, July 2010

- 2014 National Earthquake Engineering Conference-Anchorage

V. TEAM CHARTERING SESSION 1:40 p.m.

- Chairman Aho gave an overview addressing the importance of chartering, who makes up the Commission and what it does. He wants to define more deliverables that the Commission can provide to educate the public and garner recognition and support for our efforts.
- The PowerPoint presentation for the re-chartering session will be posted on the website.
- Throughout the session there was discussion by Commission members as to what our focus should be. Members made several good points. Commission member White observed that Alaskans would have an easier time getting insurance if we adopted better statewide codes. Commission member Roberts noted that the Commission should have a Continuity Of Operations (COOP) plan, so that if a catastrophic event occurs, the Commission would convene a teleconference within 36 hours and have a plan of action.
- Commission member Hansen moved, and Commission member Miller seconded a recess for the day at 5:15 p.m. All in favor.

**September 10, 2009**

VI. CRITICAL DEADLINES 8:30 a.m.

- The meeting reconvened September 10, 2009 with all Commission members and April Woolery in attendance.
- ASHSC Report to WSSPC-January 2010: The report should be summarized (to about one and a half pages) to match the WSSPC newsletter format.
- 2009 Report to Legislature-December 2009: Committee chairs will provide a paragraph on their activities for this report. Draft paragraphs should be turned in by early December so that the completed report can be turned in by mid January (January 15 is the beginning of the Legislative session).
- As a potential regular agenda item, the Commission might consider nominations for the WSSPC awards. Commission member Hansen suggested nominating ACS for donating 20 DSL lines for seismic instrumentation.

VII. BRIEFINGS I 9:00 a.m.

- Videoconference presentation by Ian Shennan. Elena Suleymani, Natasha Ruppert and Dmitry Nicolski also attended via videoconference. Professor Shennan specializes in past sea levels and has done research in Alaska to study the effects of past earthquakes, including the 1964 event. He and his team discovered that "great" earthquakes like the magnitude 9.2 1964 quake, have occurred in south-central Alaska about every 600 years for at least the last 4,000 years. Their effects can be unpredictable: in some areas, the land might rise, while in others, the land might sink as a result of the same event. The slides from the presentation will be posted to the ASHSC web site.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS 10:30 a.m.

MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING  
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- Chartering Session Comments: ASHSC should re-charter every three years or so, as new members come in.
- Future Briefings
  - How the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development does business, by Larry LeDoux or Sam Kito.
  - TransCanada Pipeline Work
  - Emergency Management, perhaps a re-cap of the DHS&EM Seismic Conference by Mark Roberts
  - Mat-Su Prison Presentation
  - MOA Emergency Operations Center Tour
  - Monitoring of Large Earthquakes
  - Utilities Risk Mitigation Approaches
  - Alyeska Pipeline Seismic Instrumentation
  - DOT inventory of bridges: photo inventory of types and weaknesses
  - Gas Pipeline potential investors: TransCanada, Denali and Enstar all have projects going related to the planned gas pipeline
  - Richard Koehler field work presentation
  - Other suggestions should be forwarded to Chairman Aho

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS 10:45 a.m.

- Budget Report-Woolery: The current budget is \$9,424, pending travel expenses.
- ASHSC Web Site Update Status-Woolery: the web site is up to date.
- Next Meeting Date (Teleconference): November 5, 2009

X. BRIEFINGS II 11:00 a.m.

- Presentation by Jeff Freymueller on using precision GPS measurements to determine the movement of the earth's crust over time. The slides from the presentation will be posted to the ASHSC web site.
- Break for lunch followed the presentation. The Commission reconvened for Committee Meetings and Reports.

XI. COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND REPORTS 1:00 p.m.

- Insurance-Aho, White
- Schools-Kelly
- Earthquake Scenario-Combellick
- Education & Outreach-Aho
- Hazards Identification-Carver
- Response, Recovery/Post EQ Planning-Roberts
- Partnership-Aho

XII. GENERAL DISCUSSION 4:15 p.m.

- Public: None
- Commission members: None

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XIII. ADJOURNMENT 4:30 p.m.

- Commission member Kelly moved, and Commission member Hansen seconded to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.