



## **March 3, 2010**

### **I. OPENING BUSINESS**

10:45 a.m.

- Call to Order (John Aho, Chairperson); Roll call: Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, David Cole, Rod Combellick, Gay Dunham, Roger Hansen, Laura Kelly, David Miller, Mark Roberts, and Gayle White were present.
- The March 3, 2010 meeting agenda was approved with no changes.
- Introductions-Guests: Sam Kito, Facilities Engineer with the School Finance and Facilities Section of the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (ADEED); William (Bill) Leith, Advanced National Seismic System Coordinator with the United States Geological Survey (USGS); Stephanie Prejean, Peter Haeussler, Erol Kalkan and Paul Earle, all with the USGS; Dr. Utpal Dutta, Associate Professor at the University of Alaska, Anchorage; and Richard Koehler, Geologist with the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS). April Woolery, Administrative Assistant with DGGS, was also present.
- Review and Approval of Minutes for the January 7, 2010 meeting: The minutes were approved with amendments.

### **II. BRIEFINGS**

10:55 a.m.

- Recent Seismic Activity of Interest-Hansen: The total number of events for the week of February 22-28 was 507. Although aftershocks from the 2002 Denali fault event are decreasing, more events overall are being recorded due to improvements in the network.
- Shake Map Update-Hansen: The Alaska Earthquake Information Center (AEIC) where Commissioner Hansen works, is among the first group to run ShakeMap 3.5. Most of the ShakeMap information is now available in real time.
- Health of the Alaska Seismic Networks-Hansen: The VSAT Company does some of the telemetry for the network. The company has changed some of its satellites, so modem upgrades are needed to fix some station signals. Some stations are out in southeast Alaska due to lightning damage. There will be a new Coast Guard tower available soon which will be a big improvement. There has been trouble with the Alaska Volcano Observatory (AVO) analog signals dropping out, recovering, then dropping out again. Stephanie Prejean pointed out that many AVO stations have not been maintained in recent years, so that system is in poor condition, but planned repairs this summer should solve the problem. Planned AEIC upgrades include freewave radios and cell phone modems in addition to some stations being upgraded to VSAT monitoring.
- State Hazard Mitigation Plan-Roberts: Commissioner Roberts will send copies of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan to Commission members. He will need feedback by one month from now.
- Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection (APIP) Meetings, January 21 and February 18, 2010-Aho: Chairman Aho has attended two meetings so far. This is a partnership of mostly private and some government groups which share information

that can assist in mitigation of and recovery from loss and damage due to disasters. Chairman Aho will give a briefing on the ASHSC later this month at the March APIP meeting.

- Municipality of Anchorage Geotechnical Advisory Commission (MOA/GAC) 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. The MOA/GAC is currently working on deciding whether to use the newer ground failure map for Anchorage produced by Randall Jibson and John Michael of the USGS, or the older map produced by Harding-Lawson Associates. They are also looking at the question of imposing restrictions on building in the high ground failure zones.

LUNCH 12:10-1:00 pm

III. OLD BUSINESS 1:00 p.m.

- Action Items: See 01/07/2010 Action Item List
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) training-Roberts: He reminded Commission members to take advantage of the online Incident Command System (ICS) training.

IV. MEETINGS OF INTEREST 1:05 p.m.

- Alaska Tsunami Awareness Week, March 22-26, 2010: Commissioner Roberts reported that this will coincide with National Tsunami Awareness Week, and that the real codes will be used in Alaska and California during the test to be sure that they will work in the event of an actual emergency.
- SSA Annual Meeting, April 20-23, 2010, Portland, Oregon
- IRIS Annual Workshop, June 9, 2010, Snowbird, Utah
- WSSPC Annual Meeting, July 10-13, 2010, Broomfield, CO
- 9<sup>th</sup> U.S. National & 10<sup>th</sup> Canadian Conference on Earthquake Engineering, July 25-29, 2010, Toronto
- Association of Engineering Geology (AEG) Meeting, Anchorage, Autumn 2011.
- 2014 National Earthquake Engineering Conference-Anchorage

V. PRESENTATIONS 1:15 p.m.

- Bill Leith, USGS: *Up-to-Date Synopsis of Network Issues*
- Erol Kalkan, USGS: *Future of the Strong Motion Program in Alaska*
- The PowerPoint slides for both presentations will be posted to the ASHSC website.

VI. CRITICAL DEADLINES 3:30 p.m.

- ASHSC Report to WSSPC: Commissioner Hansen will find out how long this report should be and what it should include.
- Legislature Visit by Chairman Aho: Commissioner Combellick spoke with Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Legislative Liason Melanie Lesh. She is willing to set up meetings between legislators and Chairman Aho, who should call Ms. Lesh to arrange the schedule.

VII. COMMITTEE MEETINGS 3:45 p.m.  
(Following Committee Meetings, the meeting was adjourned for the day.)

**March 4, 2010**

I. OPENING BUSINESS 9:00 a.m.

- Call to Order (John Aho, Chairperson); Roll call: John Aho, Gary Carver, David Cole, Gay Dunham, Roger Hansen, Laura Kelly, David Miller, Mark Roberts, and Gayle White were present. Rod Combellick arrived later.
- The March 4, 2010 agenda was approved with no changes.
- Guests present were Jim Roddick of Alyeska, Sam Kito (ADEED), Rich Koehler (DGGS), and April Woolery (DGGS).
- Discussion: coordination of scientific field groups following a disaster. This is covered under the Response & Recovery Committee report, below.

II. REPORTS 9:40 a.m.

- Chairperson
  - Annual Report: It still needs one correction but is otherwise complete. The corrected version will be posted on the ASHSC website.
  - Fourth Quarter Ethics Report: There were no violations this quarter.
  - Joyner Lecture: Art Frankel has agreed to give his lecture: Progress and Controversy in Seismic Hazard Mapping, in Anchorage. Chairman Aho will schedule the lecture for early fall, when the University of Alaska, Anchorage is in session.
  - Newspaper Article: Will discuss when Commissioner Combellick returns.
  - WSSPC Survey Response: ASHSC did not respond to this survey.
  - Seismic Commissions: Commissioner Hansen suggested that Chairman Aho attend the next WSSPC meeting in Boulder, Colorado, as there will be a subcommittee meeting for seismic commissions. Commissioners Hansen and Roberts are planning to attend. Commissioner Kelly would like to seek input from other state seismic commissions that would pertain to her work as Schools Committee Chair.
  - Publications: Earthquake Spectra (a technical journal), Guidelines for Design of Structures for Vertical Evacuation (FEMA publication on building for tsunamis), Primer for Design Professionals Communicating with Owners and Managers of New Buildings on Earthquake Risk (another FEMA publication), a publication on team efforts following the Haiti earthquake, information on geotechnical engineering for Haiti, and several EERI publications.
  - New Member: There is one vacancy for a local government representative on the Commission. Chairman Aho is investigating possible candidates from Seward.
- Committee Reports
  - Insurance-White: She has developed a purpose statement and goals for the committee based on discussion during the committee meeting the

day before. The purpose statement is to “provide information and assistance to the Governor, Legislature, Division of Insurance, and the public, so appropriate decisions can be made about the costs, availability, and policy provisions of earthquake insurance for Alaskan citizens.” The goals are:

- 1.) “Provide basic information on the ASHSC website that is easily accessible to the above audience concerning earthquake exposures, insurance availability, and personal safety measures.” The committee could consider links to other State of Alaska websites, such as the Division of Insurance, DNR, and possibly others.
  - 2.) “Publish an informational brochure for the public about earthquake and tsunami risks, insurance, and choice, and find venues for distributing this information.”
  - 3.) “Work with the Division of Insurance to provide information on hazards throughout the state, steps that can mitigate those hazards, and assist as needed to attract additional carriers to the Alaska market who will provide affordable earthquake insurance to citizens throughout the state.”
  - 4.) “Review the existing white paper that is on the website and update as appropriate.”
- Schools-Kelly: The committee will focus on legislation to provide for seismic hazard mitigation in schools. This will be easiest to address in new schools. Existing schools are more difficult to deal with because there is little funding available for upgrades. Sam Kito said that getting the information out to school districts would be helpful. Commissioner Kelly would like to invite Yumei Wang of the Oregon Seismic safety Policy Advisory Commission to speak at a future teleconference regarding schools. She also reported that Utah has successfully passed legislation to ensure that all new schools will be built to seismic standards. She has a copy of the legislation for the Commission to review.
  - Hazards Identification-Carver: They are writing a white paper, with committee members adding a section according to their expertise. They are working on the first draft at this point.
  - Education & Outreach-Aho: Gay Dunham has agreed to be the committee chair. He will try to draft goals by the next meeting.

BREAK

10:40 a.m.

- Committee Reports (Continued)
  - Response & Recovery-Roberts: Revisiting earlier discussion, the Commission members touched on coordination of field response teams after an event. They decided to convene a conference call following a major event, and to contact the Governor’s Office to let the staff there know that the Commission is available for advisory duties. Commissioner Combellick suggested that there be more than one plan in place for various levels of urgency. If the event does not warrant a

field response team, the commission should decide on a minimum level of response. Commissioner Carver motions, and Commissioner Cole seconds, to have an electronic bulletin board on the ASHSC website. It would be used by scientists who want to do field response after an event, so that they could coordinate their efforts if possible.

Commissioner Hansen abstained, all others were in favor.

- Earthquake Scenario-Combellick: Committee members will develop a scope of work for proposals to FEMA, NEHRP and EERI for the development of a scenario.
- Partnerships-Aho: He is currently working on APIP and the next Joyner Lecture.

LUNCH 12:10 p.m.

III. PRESENTATIONS 1:00 p.m.

- Jim Roddick of Alyeska and Roger Hansen: *Seismic Monitoring of the Alyeska Pipeline*
- Richard Koehler of DGGs: *Active Fault Identification in Alaska and Haiti Earthquake Briefing*

IV. NEW BUSINESS 3:30 p.m.

- Recognition
  - ACS, MTA for donating internet services for seismic monitoring purposes, DNR Commissioner Tom Irwin for his interest in the ASHSC, and all of those who did presentations for the meetings yesterday and today.
- Election of Officers: John Aho retained as Chairman; all in favor. Laura Kelly retained as Vice-Chair; all in favor.
- Future Briefings
  - 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
  - Warning and Coordination Meteorologists from NOAA
  - Alaska Rail Road bridge upgrade
  - Peter Haeussler on the Denali Fault
  - John Aho, APIP presentation
  - Other suggestions should be forwarded to Chairman Aho

V. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS 3:45 p.m.

- Budget Report-Woolery: The current budget is \$3,786, pending travel expenses.

MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING  
March 3 & 4, 2010

- ASHSC Web Site Update Status-Woolery: the web site is up to date.
- Next Meeting Date (Teleconference): April 1, 2010

VI. GENERAL DISCUSSION 3:55 p.m.

- Commission Members: Discussion of tentative date for the next face-to-face meeting. It will be sometime in May. The PowerPoint presentations from this face-to-face should be sent to Commissioner Combellick or to Ms. Woolery so that they can be included on the website.
- Public: none

VII. ADJOURNMENT 4:00 p.m.

- Commission member Kelly moved, and Commission member Cole seconded to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.