

MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION
June 7, 2012 Meeting



I. OPENING BUSINESS

- John Aho (Chair) called meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, Roger Hansen, Laura Kelly, Dan Mahalak, David Miller, Robert Scher, and Gayle White present (quorum established); Rich Koehler excused; Bud Cassidy and Mark Roberts/Ann Gravier absent. April Woolery, DGGS Administrative Assistant, present.
- Meeting agenda approved; added Anchorage seismic network under Chair's report (VII)
- Guests: Kurt Byers (Education Services Manager, Communications Director Alaska Sea Grant); Don Hunter (Anchorage public), Sam Kito (ADEED), Robin McSharry (State Farm – Gayle White's proposed replacement)
- Draft minutes from the April 5-6 meeting not yet available.

II. BRIEFINGS

- Kurt Byers (invited guest) reviewed the function of Alaska Sea Grant, which supports Alaskan coastal communities through research, education, and extension; funded by UAF and NOAA. The ASG education programs include K-12 curriculum, research grants, and tsunami awareness. Interested in linking with the Commission's Education & Outreach committee (Scher to follow up).
- Hansen reviewed seismic activity for May 2012. AEIC located 2,097 earthquakes within Alaska, noteworthy were: a cluster of M3 earthquakes north of Seward Peninsula; two M5 earthquakes, one SSW of Adak and the other WNW of Attu; and a M4.6 earthquake 7 miles S of Anchorage that was recorded on the strong motion network.
- Hansen reviewed health of the weak and strong motion instrumentation networks in Alaska: AEIC field crews have completed work on instruments near Kodiak Island and at Nome; crews currently working on Seward Peninsula and scheduled to be in Anchorage mid-June, then southcentral and southeast regions in July. AEIC working on proposal to Alaska Energy Authority to establish 4 seismic instrument stations near the Watana dam site on the Susitna River. Hansen spoke with Bill Leith (USGS) about AVO's maintenance of the Anchorage instruments - Hansen to work with Jim Smith (USGS, Menlo Park) to resolve issues.
- Scher reviewed MOA-GAC's activities in May: The Port briefed GAC on the status of CH2MHill's report of their independent review of the suitability of an open-cell bulkhead. The report has been pushed back to September 2012 while CH2MHill completes additional geotechnical testing and analysis; UAA briefed GAC on the status of their program to archive and evaluate data recorded by the Anchorage strong motion network.
- Aho attended the EERI Annual Meeting and National Earthquake Conference in Memphis, TN, 10-14 April 2012. Interesting meeting and presentations, particularly those focusing on the assessment of building vulnerabilities and resiliency. Called special attention to the session titled "Creating Safe Schools". All of the conference

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presentations are available free online at <http://2012am.eeri.org/conference-presentations>.

- Aho also attended the WSSPC meeting, held concurrent with the EERI Annual Meeting. Aho intends to improve and increase the frequency of interaction and communication between the ASHSC and the other State seismic commissions.
- Hansen attended SSA Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, 17-19 April 2012: interesting presentations on the upcoming US Array, and a 3D tomography project of the earth (to study wave propagation following an earthquake), and tsunamis.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- Action Items from April 5-6 meeting: Items a-c, f, i, j, k, s-u, w-x, aa, dd, ii-ll done; all other items continuing (see other Old Business, and Reports, VI, for more information). Aho recommended that a 'white paper' be prepared for each of ASHSC's 'policy recommendations', to further explain and support the PR, such as purpose, objectives, and implementation strategies.
- ASHSC Strategic Plan: Aho provided a copy of the most recent draft; requested all members to review it and give him their comments by July 2nd, and all committee chairs to identify the plan strategies applicable to their committee.
- Commission Roster: Aho, Hansen, and Miller have submitted letters to the Governor's Office requesting reappointment. Robin McSherry has submitted an application to the Governor's Office, as the Insurance member to replace White. Status of Gravier to replace Roberts unknown. Still have an opening for one Local Government member to replace Mahalak.
- Post-Earthquake Clearing House for Alaska: Aho will coordinate with Koehler regarding what he learned at the EERI Annual Meeting regarding practices in Utah.

IV. MEETINGS OF INTEREST

- IRIS Meeting, 13-15 June 2012, Boise
- Tsunami Hazard Workshop, 23 July 2012, Seattle
- ASHSC Face-to-Face Meeting, 11-12 Sep 2012, Anchorage
- 15th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, 24-28 September 2012, Lisbon, Portugal
- Non-Structural Seismic Mitigation and Rapid Visual Screening Training, October 2012, Anchorage
- Tsunami Operations Workshop, November 2012, Seward
- 10th U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering and EERI Annual Meeting, July 20-26, 2014 – Anchorage
- Scher asked if webinars should/could be listed; Aho said yes, as well as using the ASHSC list serve.

V. CRITICAL DEADLINES

- ASHSC Report to WSSPC - TBD
- Comments to Aho on draft ASHSC Strategic Plan – 15 June 2012
- 2012 Report to Legislature – 1 February 2013
- Legislative Trip - TBD

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VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Future briefings: Cassidy to try and contact the Alaska State PTA regarding a future briefing. Kelly reported that Professor Christine Theodoropoulos (University of Oregon) had her students participate in a rapid visual screening exercise to identify campus buildings at risk to the seismic hazard. Kelly recommended the Commission invite her, as well as the Dean of Engineering at UAA, to participate in our next face-to-face meeting in September. Kelly to contact Prof Theodoropoulos and Aho/Scher to contact Orson Smith at UAA.

VII. REPORTS

- Chair: Aho will contact the MOA GAC about a joint meeting during the Commission's face-to-face meeting in September; attended last APIP meeting; and reminded all about the upcoming opportunity to hear Lloyd Cluff speak on September 11th. Aho very concerned about the current USGS/AVO procedures to maintain the Anchorage strong motion network.
- Schools Committee: Kelly briefed Commission on her involvement with ATC to update and improve their rapid visual screening procedure (e.g. quality control, data accuracy, FEMA form 154, etc.); creative means RVS has been applied in other states (e.g. Utah and Oregon); and consideration of soliciting input from Mel Green (California) to implement RVS in Alaska. Sam Kito (invited guest) reported the Legislature approved budget for ADEED included 14 school maintenance projects (of which one included seismic upgrades to a portion of Ryan Middle School in Fairbanks), and 2 new schools (at Emmonak and Koliganek). ADEED does brief school districts annually of the budget line item available for seismic upgrades.
- Insurance Committee: White (last meeting) will be helping Robin McSharry assume chair of the Insurance Committee, and with 2012 annual report input; insurance handout completed and should be available on the ASHSC website.
- Earthquake Scenario Committee: Carver informed Commission that the Cascadia white paper is complete, and will be published by DGGS; updated status of FEMA's HAZUS study for Kodiak (data acquisition complete, should be starting analyses); and suggested possible future earthquake scenarios by Commission (e.g. for a SE or PWS community; and for Anchorage).
- Hazards Identification Committee: No report (Koehler excused absence).
- Education and Outreach Committee: Scher has started researching information for a white paper on the value of seismic instrumentation for engineers, planners, and policy makers; will contact Kurt Byers (Alaska Sea Grant) to establish a link with their E&O program.
- Response & Recovery Committee: No report.
- Partnering Committee: Aho will be working with EERI on their 2014 meeting and conference in Anchorage; and is continuing to attend APIP meetings.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Budget Report –Woolery: \$818 remaining in FY budget (ending 30 June 2012). Aho said Lloyd Cluff's airfare can be reimbursed; Carver to contact Cluff to get expense request submitted before end of this FY.

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- ASHSC Web Site Update Status-Woolery: The web site is up to date.
- Next Meeting Date (Teleconference) – 5 July 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Kelly moved to adjourn, Hansen seconded; all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.