

MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION
July 5, 2012 Meeting



I. OPENING BUSINESS

- John Aho (Chair) called meeting to order approx 9:15 a.m. Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, Rich Koehler, Bud Cassidy, Laura Kelly, Robert Scher, and Gayle White present (quorum established); Ann Gravier, Roger Hansen, Dan Mahalak and David Miller absent (note there were problems with the teleconference setup; it was unknown if the absent members tried linking into the meeting but were unsuccessful). April Woolery, DGGs Administrative Assistant, excused (see Administrative Matters, VIII).
- Meeting agenda approved; added Fairbanks are seismic zones under New Business (VI) and discussion with Boards & Commissions under Chair's report (VII)
- Guests: Sam Kito (ADEED)
- Draft minutes from the April 5-6 and June 7 meetings not available

II. BRIEFINGS

- No reports of seismic activity for June 2012, the health of the Alaska seismic network, or status of resolving issues pertaining to the maintenance of the Anchorage strong motion network (Hansen absent).
- No report on the MOA-GAC (Scher noted GAC did not meet in June).

III. OLD BUSINESS

- Action Items from June 7 meeting: Items a-c, o, q, t, u, w, x, aa, dd, hh, kk, mm done; all other items continuing (see other Old Business, and Reports, VII, for additional information). Aho reminded Commissions to send him suggestions for the agenda (items k & l), and comments to draft Strategic Plan asap (item q).
- ASHSC Strategic Plan: Comments received from Cassidy, Scher & Combellick; Aho still soliciting feedback from others. Aho intends to revise priority and target dates for completing strategies. Commissioners should provide review comments, including suggestions on prioritizing strategies by 9 July.
- Commission Roster: Still opening for 'Local Government Representative' to replace Mahalak.
- Lloyd Cluff will be speaking in Anchorage on September 11; Aho has processed Cluff's expense request under the Commission's FY 2011-2012 budget.

IV. MEETINGS OF INTEREST

- Tsunami Hazard Workshop, 23 July 2012, Seattle
- ASHSC Face-to-Face Meeting, 11-12 September 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

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- IQC International Workshop on Earthquake Geology & Paleoseismology, 19-24 November 2012, Mexico
- 10th U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering and EERI Annual Meeting, July 20-26, 2014 – Anchorage

** Aho understands the Commission has not been requested to help present these meetings, but Commissioners should contact Ann Gravier if interested in volunteering.*

V. CRITICAL DEADLINES

- ASHSC Report to WSSPC - TBD
- ASHSC Strategic Plan – Final Draft expected shortly (Aho)
- 2012 Report to Legislature – 1 February 2013
- Legislative Trip - TBD

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Future briefings: Aho will try to get Tom O'Rourke (Cornell Univ) to Anchorage in future to present his talk The New Normal for natural Disasters, which he delivered at the 2012 EERI meeting and was excellent. Scher suggested the Commission may be more interested in touring the State's emergency operations facility (on JEER), versus the MOA center.
- Scher concerned about a disconnect between the seismologic information available for the known multiple active seismic zones around Fairbanks (the second most densely populated area in Alaska) and that information needed by engineers to assess and design for that seismic hazard (e.g. credible earthquake magnitudes, recurrence frequency, 'fault' source models, etc.); asked which agency the Commission could approach about developing such parameters (e.g. DGGS, AEIC, USGS, other). Koehler said DGGS is currently doing some further studies of these source zones; Carver pointed out similar work also was done by others but is proprietary. Scher suggested Commission could develop a policy recommendation, and give it to the Fairbanks area legislators, requesting funding for DGGS to work on this (no motion – topic tabled).

VII. REPORTS

- Chair: Aho again highlighted upcoming presentation by Lloyd Cluff on 11 September; reminded committee chairs they are responsible for a one-page summary of their committee's activities for the ASHSC annual report; and no news on the EERI 2014 meeting/conference in Anchorage. Aho reviewed discussions with the Boards and Commissions office: they have requests for reappointment from Aho, Hansen, and Miller; still no letter/application from Gravier (to replace Mark Roberts); still looking for one 'Local Government Representative'; will be making their selections by mid-Aug; and clarified that while they appreciate the Commission providing names for replacements, the Commission should not feel obligated to do so as it is ultimately their responsibility.
- Schools Committee: Kelly briefed Commission on status of ATC's upgrade of FEMA's RVS procedure – have revised and added a second page to FEMA form 154; have

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circulated new form around the nation for testing, initial feedback encouraging. Kelly will present a briefing of the new RVS procedure at the Commission's Sep meeting.

- Insurance Committee: White insurance handout is available on the ASHSC website. Scher volunteered to make sure the MOA Building Safety Department has it for the public.
- Earthquake Scenario Committee: Carver informed Commission that the Cascadia white paper has been submitted to DGGGS for publication - intends to add a revision from Scher - Koehler pointed out such a change must be made quickly, as the document is now moving through DGGGS. Carver had no update on FEMA's Kodiak HAZUS study; solicited Commission's thoughts on the depth and extent of the final report (e.g. background geology, paleoseismology, results, recommendations, etc.) – Commission tabled discussion until FEMA completes their study. Suggestions for other communities for future earthquake scenario studies included Sitka and Unalaska/Dutch Harbor.
- Hazards Identification Committee: Koehler will give his 'beach ball' presentation at the Commission's Sep meeting. Koehler stated Cascadia paper in process for publication by DGGGS – looking for originals of the figures (Carver & Kelly?). DGGGS Alaska Quaternary fault database project nearing completion; resolving final issues with the metadata; will first be released as digital data files, followed later by a printable document summarizing the project and general mapping. Koehler has finished his white paper on an Alaska earthquake clearinghouse – will forward to Aho for distribution.
- Education and Outreach Committee: Scher gave Aho draft letter to Alaska Attorney General regarding Commission's question about protection for post-earthquake building inspection team members from civil liability; working on white paper on the value of seismic instrumentation for engineers, planners, and policy makers; has contacted Kurt Byers (Alaska Sea Grant) to link with their E&O program; working on a glossary of terms for the Commission; will be meeting with the Alaska licensing board (AELS) regarding our policy recommendation 2011-2 (seismic training for engineers).
- Response & Recovery Committee: No report (Gravier absent).
- Partnering Committee: Nothing to report (Aho).

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- The Commission's staff representative, April Woolery, will be going on maternity leave – Aho will contact Rod Combellick (DGGGS) about a replacement.
- Koehler indicated \$9,182 spent in 2011/12 (out of our \$10,000 budget – don't know if that includes Lloyd Cluff's expense request). No report on the Commission's 2012/13 budget, or update on status of website (Woolery excused)
- Next Meeting Date (Teleconference) – 2 August 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Cassidy moved to adjourn, White seconded; all in favor. Meeting adjourned about 11:45 a.m.