



- I. OPENING BUSINESS 9:00 a.m.
- Call to Order (Robert Scher, Chairperson); Roll call: Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, Bud Cassidy, Ann Gravier, Laura Kelly, Rich Koehler, Robin McSharry, David Miller, Robert “Buzz” Scher and Mike West were present. Commissioner Mark Delozier was excused.
 - A briefing if the local response at Sitka to the M7.5 January Craig earthquake was added to “Briefings”; 2012 ASHSC Report to WSSPC added to “New Business”.
 - Introductions-Guests: Joanne Bennet of the Alaska Division of Insurance; Rod Combellick and April Woolery of the State Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS).
 - Review and Approval of Minutes: not available-delayed until next meeting. Discussion of Commission members to delegate minutes.
- II. BRIEFINGS 9:15 a.m.
- Recent Seismic Activity of Interest-West: There were 1,924 recorded events in the month of February, 2013. Of those, the most significant was a magnitude 4.8 event on February 23 about 60 miles southwest of Bethel. It is unusual to see events of that strength in that area. Aftershocks from the Craig event have died down and are approaching background levels.
 - Health of the Alaska Seismic Networks-West: No significant changes from the last month. There was field work done in the Wrangell-St. Elias area to address communications issues there. Part of the network is now working again, although there are still several stations that don't function in the area. These may come back online in late spring once the snow melts. No other field project is planned for the summer. Fortunately there is a high number of stations in the Wrangell-St. Elias area, so the loss of some does not mean loss of coverage. Other than a new station near Craig, there are not currently plans to expand the seismic network in Southeast Alaska. Commissioner Aho asked about the Anchorage strong motion network and its maintenance issues. Dr. West wants to get cooperation between AVO, AEIC and the Geophysical Institute to maintain this network. Dr West pointed out that the AEIC puts out weekly e-mail reports on the network. He will see about getting Commissioners Aho and Scher on this list.
 - Municipality of Anchorage Geotechnical Advisory Commission (MOA/GAC) Activity Update-Scher: The GAC met with PND, the original designers of the Port expansion, and more meetings are to follow. Anchorage is working toward adopting the 2012 IBC. The new code increases the magnitude of ground motions to be used to evaluate liquefaction potential and ground failure, possibly by 10% - 20% in Anchorage. The CH2MHILL report is now available in final form. Commissioner Kelly asked if this can be shared, and Chairman Scher affirmed that yes, it can be made public. There will be two important public meetings held in Anchorage this spring. On March 19, CH2MHILL will

discuss their findings and moving forward with the Port expansion. On March 26, PND will discuss their side of the port expansion project. The take home lesson for large projects is that the owners should be proactive from the beginning, should do peer review and insure independent oversight from start to finish. Rod Combellick had heard that an ordinance to restrict buildings to two stories on Anchorage's 4th Avenue is expiring and asked if the GAC was doing anything on that. Chairman Scher responded that the ordinance has already expired and that the GAC is looking into that issue.

- 10th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Local Planning Committee-Aho: The committee has been quiet lately, but they are continuing to work on local tours, sponsorships, brochures, etc. The schedule for abstracts and brochures is now available on the EERI website. The weekly Friday planning meetings continue. Commissioner Carver asked about the need to make a guidebook for the field trip that is planned for the conference. Commissioner Aho will send him the call-in number for the meeting so that he can attend and forward his request.
- EERI 2013 Annual Meeting-Aho: The focus of the meeting was on building resilient cities and recovery from seismic events. One interesting feature was the student shake table building competition, where university student groups found out how well their multi-story balsa structures performed on a shake table. Commissioner Aho will make sure that Commissioner Kelly is on the EERI Seismic Safety of Schools Committee e-mail list.
- Overview of Emergency Response to the January 5, 2013 Craig Earthquake-Miller: This was the first felt event in Sitka in a long time. Part of the emergency response was to contact six neighboring communities following the event to report on the situation. The first report from the Tsunami Warning Center followed about five minutes after the event. The response was more organized than the one following the Queen Charlotte event last year. Sitka emergency management made the decision to wait 15 minutes to sound the alarm because they wanted to get their crews and equipment moved to high ground and get police officers in place to direct traffic. The response went well aside from some traffic congestion issues.

III. OLD BUSINESS

9:50 a.m.

- February 11, 2013 Meeting Action Items: See attachment A of the Agenda
- Commission Membership-All: Dr. Mike West is now an official member of the Commission. Commissioner Koehler has sent notification of his intent to continue serving on the board to the Governor's Office. Commissioner Gravier must wait to send her notification until she learns whether upcoming changes to her division will affect her ability to serve on the Commission. She will know within the next 30 days. Chairman Scher has also sent his notification.
- 2012 Annual Report-Aho: The report is complete and will be printed soon. The DNR Legislative Liaison, Esther Tempel, will distribute these to legislators.
- ASHSC Post-Damaging Earthquake Response Plan-Gravier: This is not yet complete and will be discussed at a future meeting.

- National Tsunami Hazards Mitigation Program (NTHMP) – Gravier/West: This program was created by a federal act that has expired. Representative Suzanne Bonamici of Oregon is preparing a House Bill in support of NTHMP. On the senate side, Commissioner West and his colleagues will be speaking to Senator Begich’s office soon. Commissioner West agreed that it would be good for the Commission to endorse this, and he will send a draft approval to Commission members for review. Commissioner Gravier’s division is also involved in the support of this funding.
- Policy Recommendation White Papers-Scher: Chairman Scher will seek input on these. Commission members should review them prior to the next face-to-face meeting (Chairman Scher will e-mail these to members).

IV. MEETINGS OF INTEREST 10:05 a.m.

- Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference, April 2-4, 2013, Tacoma, WA
- DHS&EM Spring Emergency Preparedness Conference, April 2-4, 2013, Anchorage, AK
- Seismological Society of America (SSA) Annual Meeting, April 17-19, 2013, Salt Lake City, UT
- National Earthquake Program Managers Meeting, April 30-May 2, 2013, Seattle, WA
- WSSPC Annual Meeting, May 2-3, 2013, Seattle, WA
- National Earthscope Meeting, May 13-15, 2013, Raleigh, NC
- DHS&EM Fall Emergency Preparedness Conference, October 8-10, 2013, Anchorage, AK
- SSA Annual Meeting, April 30-May 2, 2014, Anchorage
- 10th U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering/EERI Annual Meeting/NEES Quake Summit, July 21-25, 2014, Anchorage

V. CRITICAL DEADLINES 10:20 a.m.

- ASHSC Report to WSSPC March, 2013
- 2012 Report to Legislature Final March, 2013
- AELS Meeting (PR 2011-2), Fairbanks May 2-3, 2013
- Legislative Sunset Audit Summer/Fall 2013

VI. NEW BUSINESS 10:25 a.m.

- Matanuska-Susitna Borough Seismic Hazard Zone Map – Scher: The borough is updating its All-Hazards Plan as a requisite to qualify for hazard mitigation grants. The borough planning department is looking at developing a seismic hazard zone map as part of the update. Chairman Scher sent a draft response to Commission members for review. Commissioner Aho moved to send a final version of the draft letter to the borough. Commissioner Carver seconded, but he stated that the creation of a hazards zone map was a significant undertaking and asked if there were other, similar seismic hazards maps for other areas in Alaska. Chairman Scher said that such maps do exist for Anchorage and that the Mat-Su Borough planners were looking at those. At this point, the

Commission would just be endorsing the idea. Commissioners Carver and Koehler will provide comments on the draft response by Wednesday, March 13.

- Letter to House & Senate Transportation Committees re: KABATA – Scher: Moved to Chairman’s report
- ASHSC 2012 Report to WSSPC – Scher: The Chairman will send this today pending amendments.
- Future Briefings: Please see Attachment B on the Agenda. The City of Kodiak Pier III Project was added to the list.

VII. REPORTS

10:30 a.m.

Committee Reports

- Schools-Kelly: Commissioner Kelly forwarded items to the Alaska PTA and is continuing to work with ADEED on contacting Sam Kito’s replacement.
- Insurance-McSharry: Commissioner McSharry has not yet heard back regarding the Alaska Insurance Day final agenda, but she will share that information with Commission members once it is available.
- Earthquake Scenario-Carver: Commissioner Carver needs the HAZUS information from FEMA to move forward with the Kodiak scenario, but he has been waiting on this for six months. He requested advice on how to proceed. Commissioner Gravier will talk with Tamra Biasco at FEMA and with Mark Roberts of the Alaska DHS&EM to see if they can resolve this problem. Commissioner Carver also asked Commissioner West about a Shake Map done by Roger Hansen on the Narrow Cape Fault near Kodiak. There appears to be more potential ground movement in the Shake Map information from Dr. Hansen compared to more recent Shake Maps. Commissioner Carver would like clarification on which is accurate, and Commissioner West will find out and get back to him.
- Hazards Identification-Koehler: The Alaska earthquake sources paper is nearly complete. Commissioner Koehler had received Alaskan regional seismicity information from the Geophysical Institute, but newer versions have different regional boundaries. Commissioner Koehler will arrange to meet with Commissioner West to discuss the changes.
- Education & Outreach-Scher: Covered under Chair report. Chairman Scher would like to have someone else chair this committee in his place.
- Response and Recovery-Gravier: She covered everything above.

Chairperson

The House and Senate’s standing Transportation Committee had a joint meeting last month which included a discussion with KABATA representatives regarding seismicity issues with the proposed bridge. Chairman Scher sent letters to the two chairs of the committee with a copy of the letter sent by the Commission to KABATA regarding seismic issues. He will send a copy of his letter to Commission members. Peter Haeussler of the USGS has spoken with Commissioner Gravier several times about the idea of an Alaskan Earthquake Alliance similar to the one in California. Chairman Scher has invited him to speak about his progress at the next face-to-face meeting.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS 11:00 a.m.

- Budget Report-Woolery: The ASHSC budget is currently \$4,289.00. We also have some unused airline tickets that can be used for travel.
- ASHSC Web Site Update Status-Woolery: No big changes at this time. Chairman Scher asked about linking more than just the agenda with the meeting information, but the commissioners agreed that it was best to leave the agenda as the only item linked on the site. Chairman Scher asked that Ms. Woolery find out if he can have an electronic signature that can be attached to e-mails, if there are Commission envelopes for mailings, and if there is a mailing list available for legislators.
- Next Face-to-Face Meeting: Anchorage, April 24 and 25, 2013. The Commission's response plan following a damaging seismic event will be completed at this meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT 11:16 a.m.

- Commissioner Koehler moved, and Commissioner Carver seconded to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:16 am.