



Monday, October 7th, 2013 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Atwood Building, Anchorage, AK, Room 1970

- I. OPENING BUSINESS 10:30 a.m.
- Call to Order (Robert Scher, Chairperson); Roll call: Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, Bud Cassidy, Mark Delozier, Laura Kelly, Rich Koehler, David Miller, Robin McSharry, Robert “Buzz” Scher and Mike West were present. Commissioner Ann Gravier was excused – quorum present. Administrative Assistant April Woolery arrived at 2:00 p.m.
 - Introductions-Guests: JoAnne Bennett, State Division of Insurance (present only to 12:00 p.m.)
 - Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Carver moved to accept the draft agenda for 7 October; West seconded. No changes or discussion; motion passed unanimously.
 - Ethics Disclosures: In response to the Chair’s questioning, no commissioner had any known or suspected conflict of interest with any item listed on the agenda. No commissioner had any known or suspected misuse of their position, improper gift, improper use or disclosure of business, improper influence on State business, improper representation, etc. in regards to their membership on the Commission.
 - Approval of August 22 Meeting Minutes: Commissioner Aho moved to accept the draft minutes from the August 22nd meeting; Delozier seconded. Minor corrections requested; motion passed unanimously.
 - Review August 22 Meeting Action Items: Reviewed action items list from August 22nd meeting (attached): Carry-over items from previous meetings; a, b, c, g, i and j done. New items introduced at the August 22nd meeting; a, b and c done. Long-term active projects items; b done. All other items continuing.
 - Commission Membership: Commission roster is full through June 2014 – no commissioner anticipates requesting replacement before the end of their present terms.
- II. ONGOING PROJECTS
- Kodiak Earthquake Planning Scenario – Carver: For the benefit of the members present, Commissioners Cassidy, Carver and Kelly reviewed the background of the Kodiak project. Reviewed FEMA’s ‘Final Kodiak Risk Assessment Report’, dated October 2013. Commission note that subsequent to a progress ‘preliminary draft’ version provided in April 2013, before FEMA had completed their Hazus modeling, FEMA had not given the Commission or the Kodiak Island Borough the opportunity to review their findings or report. Carver noted that the figure in the report of the Narrow Cape fault scenario earthquake was not for the correct ShakeMap provided by AEIC. Several other preliminary questions and concerns were raised. It was agreed that the Commission would

first confirm with FEMA which Narrow Cape fault scenario they actually used. Subject to FEMA's reply the Commission would provide detailed comments and request FEMA make those changes to their report. Commissioner Carver has received comments to his preliminary draft of the Commission's scenario report from Commissioners Cassidy, Koehler and Scher. Commissioner Aho agreed to update the preliminary report per the comments received – Commissioner Carver will continue completing the full report. Commissioner Koehler believed that the report can be published by DGGs.

- RVS of Schools Pilot Program – Kelly: Commissioner Kelly briefed Commission on the status of the project grant application. The Commission agreed with her that it would be most efficient to apply for a grant under the Federal 'Hazardous Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) or Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program. Commissioner Kelly will circulate the HMGP application that was completed earlier in 2013 for the Commission's to review and update for 2014. In discussion of the pilot program, Commissioner Kelly believes it would be more efficient to use a contractor to perform the RVS versus trying to use students at UAA and UAF.

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III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Division of Legislative Audit – All

IV. ONGOING PROJECTS (Continued)

- RVS of Schools Pilot Program – Kelly (Continued): Commissioner Kelly reiterated that she will continue to pursue funding to get the program started, and that it would be most effective to use contractors to undertake the work. Chairman Scher would like to follow up with Commissioner Gravier to find out if other school screening studies have been done.
- ASHSC Post Earthquake Response Plan – Gravier: Excused. Commissioner West liked the idea of a one-page plan that gave general guidelines and contact information. Due to job demands, he and other commissioners might have time only for a conference call and follow-up communication. Chairman Scher added that the plan does not need to be specific, but it should give guidance on the Commission's role following a large seismic event. Commissioner Aho will contact other state seismic commissions to see if they have such plans in place to give us a starting point. Commissioner Koehler has sent out a link to a state of Utah post-event policy publication that might also be helpful. All agreed that the Commission's response should not attempt to replicate the response from the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.
- Seismic Sources in Alaska – Koehler: Chairman Scher asked if other commission members are able to assist in completing this paper. Commissioner Koehler responded that although he does not need help at this time, he will want feedback once he has a draft completed. He has rewritten most of the paper to reflect current scientific information. Commissioner

Koehler will create a one-page summary once the paper is complete. Commissioner West felt that the AEIC will use the paper extensively once it is complete.

- Value of Strong Motion Instrumentation – Scher: Commissioner Aho motioned to adopt the draft policy recommendation titled “Value of Seismic Instrumentation to Government Jurisdictions, Facility Owners, Engineers and the Public.” Commissioner Koehler seconded the motion and discussion followed. Commissioners Koehler and Carver suggested shortening the title to “The Value of Seismic Instrumentation.” Chairman Scher will also make some minor edits. The draft recommendation was adopted unanimously.

V. COMMISSION UPDATES

- Recent Seismic Activity of Interest – West: Magnitude 7.0 Aleutian event on August 22, 2013. No damage, close to 1,000 aftershocks. Very limited instrumentation in that region.
- Health of the Alaska Seismic Network – West: Working on getting a list serve for the strong motion reports. Almost everything is working in the statewide network: 90% of their equipment is running properly, including the seven new stations at the Susitna/Watana site.
- Municipality of Anchorage Geotechnical Advisory Commission (MOA GAC) – Scher: Building developers pushed through an ordinance for 1-2 family dwellings for one area of Anchorage. This ordinance can circumvent the municipality’s Building Safety Department by having an independent engineer sign off on plans. There is a new ordinance proposal that would extend this procedure to all new building in the affected area.
- 10th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering (NCEE), Local Planning Committee – Aho: Still working on increasing local sponsorship. DGGS, Golder and Associates and some others have agreed to sponsor. Commissioner Carver will send a sponsorship brochure to his contact at Alyeska. Abstracts have been chosen, between 600-700. Papers are still to be reviewed.

VI. MEETINGS OF INTEREST

- DHS&EM Fall Preparedness Conf, October 8-10, 2013, Anchorage, AK
- DHS&EM Tsunami Operations Workshop, October 15, 2013, Kodiak, AK
- Great Alaska Shakeout, October 17, 2013, statewide
- Geological Society of America Annual Meeting (125th Anniversary) October 27-30, 2013, Denver, CO. Commissioner Koehler will attend.
- SSA Annual Meeting, April 30-May 2, 2014, Anchorage, AK
- Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference, April 23-24, 2014, Tacoma, WA
- 10th Nat’l Conf on Earthquake Engineering/EERI Annual Meeting/NEES Quake Summit/WSSPC Annual Meeting, July 21-25, 2014, Anchorage, AK. Commissioner Aho suggested to Chairman Scher that WSSPC be contacted and asked to schedule time for a meeting of state seismic hazards commissions.

RECESS MEETING

5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 8th, 2013 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
DEC Air Quality Division, Bayview Building, Conference Room A
619 E. Ship Creek Avenue

I. RECONVENE MEETING

8:30 a.m.

- Call to Order (Robert Scher, Chairperson); Roll call: Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, Bud Cassidy, Mark Delozier, Laura Kelly, Rich Koehler, Robert “Buzz” Scher and Mike West were present. Commissioners Ann Gravier, David Miller and Robin McSharry were excused. Quorum established. Administrative Assistant April Woolery was present.
- Introductions-Guests: Division Operations Manager Steve Masterman of the Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys.
- Modifications to Agenda: Commissioner Koehler added a review of the akseismic e-mail list under Old Business. WSSPC Award nominations were added under New Business.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- DNR-DGGS Role in the Commission – Steve Masterman, (DGGS): The Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) provides administrative support to the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission through the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (DGGS). Commissioner Koehler added that the DGGS Geologic Communications section publishes the ASHSC Annual Report. DGGS is also responsible for maintaining the budget for the ASHSC. For fiscal year 2015, DGGS has requested an additional \$15,000 be added to the commission’s budget in order to bring it up to \$25,000. The funding will only be increased if the request makes it through the full budget process. The final budget will be announced sometime in spring of 2014. Chairman Scher asked when budget requests should be made. Masterman replied that in the state, we are always working a year ahead, so any such requests should be forwarded prior to July for the next fiscal year. Commissioner Scher also asked to whom in DNR the ASHSC should report. Aho and Masterman agree that the commission can send a letter to either the Legislature or Governor or both but should cc the DNR Commissioner. Masterman will follow up to be sure that the Commission has the correct contact information. The commissioners discussed an e-mail that Chairman Scher sent to the DNR Legislative Liaison, Esther Tempel. This was a request that Ms. Tempel alert the Commission to upcoming legislation about state infrastructure that might be affected by seismic events. Ms. Tempel’s response was included, and Commissioner Koehler said that the commission should sign up to be on the notification list mentioned in the reply.
- List Serve Review: Commissioner Koehler provided a list of who was currently on the akseismic e-mail list for the Commission. Some old names needed to be removed, which the commission agreed. It was also agreed that DGGS Director Robert Swenson should be added. Commissioners Koehler and Scher

pointed out that if Commissioners want to just send e-mails to Commission members they should use regular e-mail and not the list serve. At a future meeting, the commission will discuss having a broader list to disseminate information.

- EarthScope Seismic Stations – West: The AEIC will attempt to get a \$5 million capital request to the Legislature in order to purchase seismic stations from the Earthscope Transportable Array, also called the U.S. Array. This array is part of an ongoing project by the National Science Foundation where 400 seismometers have been deployed across the United States over a period of ten years. Each station is placed for 18 to 24 months before being moved to the next array location. The array is scheduled to be placed in Alaska in 2014. Already six or seven prototype stations have been installed in Alaska. The AEIC is working with the NSF to bring the array to Alaska. Once the placement period is complete, stations can be “adopted” or purchased and kept. Considering that these stations will already be in place, many in formerly uninstrumented areas, the AEIC has identified this as a tremendous opportunity to expand its seismic network for relatively low cost. They hope to be able to buy 100 of these stations. This is one of three CIP project requests to be sent by the UA system to the Legislature this year. Commissioner Koehler suggested that the ASHSC create a policy recommendation to support this acquisition. Commissioner West added that the temperature sensors on these instruments would provide temperature readings for the entire state. Those studying atmospheric science and climate change would like to piggyback instrumentation and data on this project. Commissioner Delozier advised looking for other uses for the instruments while the array is in place to use as selling points for adopting the stations. Chairman Scher said that the Commission will send a letter of support once the CIP request reaches the Finance Committee.
- Strategic Plan Update – All: Commissioner Koehler will review this with special attention to prioritization and measures of success. He will take comments from other Commissioners and compile them before returning it to the Chairman.

III. COMMITTEE BRIEFINGS

- Schools – Kelly: Discussion about working with UAA on rapid visual screening (RVS) of buildings. Commissioner Aho will address this with the new dean of the UAA School of Engineering when opportunity arises. Chairman Scher will talk to UAA professors Joey Yang and Utpal Dutta as well.

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IV. BRIEFING

- ASCE 7 Tsunami Loads and Effects Committee – Gary Chock: Presentation, attached.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Continued)

- Division of Legislative Audit – All

VI. COMMITTEE BRIEFINGS (Continued)

- Insurance – McSharry: Excused, items were covered in discussion the day before.
- Earthquake Scenario – Carver: He and Commissioner Aho are working to complete the Kodiak Scenario. In the meantime, other committee members should look at smaller scenarios for their local areas. Chairman Scher should begin work on this for Anchorage, Commissioner Kelly for Juneau and Commissioner Koehler for Fairbanks. Commissioner Koehler suggested using ShakeMap as HAZUS was more than was needed for these smaller scenarios. Commissioner West confirmed that the AEIC can provide ShakeMaps for this purpose. Commissioner Kelly pointed out that having good ShakeMaps for these key population areas would provide local planners with something to work with, and that the scope of these scenarios should be kept to a manageable size. Commissioner Aho would like to create a template that can be applied to other communities to ensure a consistent product. He would also like to see the Kodiak scenario advertised once it is completed to generate further interest in other community scenarios. Commissioner Delozier pointed out that the ASHSC work with school safety has been a priority that should also be memorialized. The Commission should make clear what they do and why. Commissioner West would like to have a list of the steps a community must take to do a scenario. He suggests going to in-state communities and planning departments, showing the Kodiak scenario as an example and showing them how they can get a scenario done. Commissioner Kelly added that it will be best to have an Alaska scenario example to show instead of one from outside the state. Commissioners Carver, Cassidy and Delozier emphasized the importance of having local involvement and knowledge involved in these scenarios.
- Hazards Identification – Koehler: This information was already covered in discussion yesterday.
- Education, Outreach and Partnering – Scher: Nothing new to report.
- Response and Recovery – Gravier: Excused.

VII. OLD BUSINESS (Continued)

- Update Commission's *Charter* – All: The charter is available on the ASHSC website. Commissioners should read it over and give feedback to Commissioner Aho by October 21st. The Legislative auditors felt that the Commission's purpose and mission statements did not match source legislation or current activity, so members are asked to pay special attention to those sections.
- Update Commission's *Rules of Procedure* – All: Again, review by October 21st. Provide feedback to Chairman Scher, especially on how to deal with absentees.

- Recommendations to update Commission's Website – All: Commissioner Koehler will be the contact person for this and will prepare suggestions for the next meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Public Comments: None
- Commissioner Comments: No general comments.
- WSSPC Policy Recommendations: There are six to review. Comments must be submitted soon.
- WSSPC Award Nominations: These are open through December 31st. Forward nomination ideas to Chairman Scher, who will follow up. The DGGG Alaska Fault and Fold database is one possibility.
- Potential Future Briefings: Some old items can be crossed off the list as they have been done now. Commissioner West suggests adding a Fairbanks-based face-to-face with DGGG and the AEIC.
- Proposed Policy Recommendations: Commissioners should provide comments on these

IX. CRITICAL DEADLINES

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| • Respond to DLA Letter | October 10, 2013 |
| • Comments to WSSPC Draft PRs | October 15, 2013 |
| • Revised Strategic Plan | December 1, 2013 |
| • Committee Reports for 2013 | December 15, 2013 |
| • Annual Report to WSSPC | (TBA) |
| • Annual Report to Governor & Legislature | (TBA) |

X. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Budget Report – Woolery: The current balance for the Commission is \$9,557 but travel costs are pending.
- Expense Reports – None at this time.
- Next Meeting (Teleconference): Thursday, November 14, 2013 9:00 a.m.

XI. REVIEW NEW ACTION ITEMS

- Commissioner West pointed out that there was a resolution passed in 1989 by the state legislature at the prompting of the Alaska Natural Hazards Safety Commission, which preceded the ASHSC. Resolution #16 designated 1989 as the year of earthquake remembrance, with March 1989 designated Earthquake Awareness Month for the state. That year was the 25th anniversary of the great Alaska earthquake in south central. Commissioner West suggested that as 2014 will be the 50th anniversary of that event, the ASHSC do something similar. He will forward his ideas for items that should be included in a new resolution. He will contact Esther Tempel for guidance.

ADJOURNMENT

3:45 p.m.