



I. OPENING BUSINESS

9:00 a.m.

- Call to Order (Robert Scher, Chairperson); Roll call: Commission members Gary Carver, Bud Cassidy, Mark Delozier, Ann Gravier, Laura Kelly, Rich Koehler, Robin McSharry, David Miller, Robert “Buzz” Scher and Mike West were present. Commissioner John Aho was excused. Administrative Assistant April Woolery was present.
- Introductions-Guests: Division Operations Manager Steve Masterman of the Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys.
- Approval of Agenda: Commissioners Kelly and Delozier approved and seconded the January 9th, 2014 meeting agenda. Items added: Discussion of Alaska Capital Engineers under Briefings-Kelly; update on budget, also under Briefings-Koehler. All in favor: agenda approved unanimously.
- Approval of 7-8 October 2013 Meeting Minutes: Commissioners Koehler and Kelly moved and seconded to accept the minutes with corrections. All in favor.
- Approval of 14 November 2013 Meeting Minutes: Commissioners Miller and Cassidy moved and seconded to accept the minutes with corrections. All in favor. Corrections will be done by Chairman Scher, and he will send the source document for the October action item list to append to the minutes.
- Commission Membership: David Miller announced that he will resign his position. Chairman Scher sent a written letter to the Office of Boards and Commission requesting that the vacancy be filled as soon as possible, and that the Commission will help them at their request.
Election of Chair and Vice-Chair: Robert Scher was nominated and seconded by Commissioners Carver and Gravier for the position of Chair. All in favor. Rich Koehler was nominated and seconded by Commissioners West and Carver for the position of Vice-chair. All in favor.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Schools – Kelly:
 - Rapid Visual Screening of Schools Pilot Program: Commissioner Kelly sent a letter to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development requesting a database of retrofitted schools in Alaska. The grant request/application for Rapid Visual Screening (RVS) of Alaskan schools is in progress. Commissioners Kelly and Gravier tried last year to get a \$50,000 grant, but FEMA cut state assistance grants that year. The money was distributed through state consortia instead, so Commissioner Gravier will modify the application to send to Tamra Biasco at FEMA to see if there is money left to use for RVS. Since this is a new fiscal year, the state assistance money may be available again. If so, Commissioner Gravier will assist the ASHSC to reapply. She suggested modifying the scope of the project to match available funding. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is another possibility for funding. This is money declared available by the federal government

following a declared disaster. Moneys awarded through this program must be associated with a hazard mitigation plan update. It can be associated with the state hazard mitigation plan. Commissioner Gravier can give guidance as the DMVA/DHS&EM would probably have to be the sub-grantee if a HMGP grant was secured due to the hazard mitigation plan update requirement.

Commissioner Scher is working on making direct contact with someone in the UAA Civil Engineering Department regarding doing RVS on campus.

- Earthquake Scenario – Carver:
 - Kodiak Earthquake Scenario Report: Commissioner Carver reported that Commissioner Aho is working on integrating the HAZUS information into the report. Carver would still like to see new, small-scale scenarios done for Juneau and perhaps Fairbanks. He would like Commissioners Kelly and Koehler to do a simple outline for each community, and for Commissioner West to provide seismicity information. He would like these to be smaller, more uniform scenarios than the Kodiak version. Chairman Scher pointed out that from previous meeting discussions, he was under the impression that the ASHSC should not do these but should advocate government agencies to do them. West agreed. Carver stated that, in the lower 48, agencies like CREW and the USGS do these, and that if the ASHSC doesn't do them for Alaska, they won't happen. Koehler suggested using the Kodiak scenario as an example and writing a policy recommendation that these should be done for Alaskan communities. Carver would like a template to put forward as an example for how to do these, pointing out that HAZUS information is not necessary. The EERI website has such a template. West felt that a one-page, bulleted fact sheet would be useful in outlining what kinds of hazards are covered in a scenario, how much it might cost and what the benefits are. Koehler agreed that the Commission should do something like this, similar to the Insurance brochure that has already been produced. West, Scher, Koehler and Carver are all willing to work on this project. Koehler agrees that the Commission should complete a brochure and a scenario template before attempting to fill in the blanks for specific communities. Commissioner Cassidy asked why Juneau and Fairbanks instead of Dutch Harbor or another community. Carver replied that local knowledge is invaluable for scenarios and there are Commission members in Juneau and Fairbanks. They are also larger population centers.
- Insurance – McSharry: Commissioner McSharry was asked whether a building's ISO rating is affected by including seismic monitoring. She found that the answer was no. Retrofitting will improve and ISO rating, but monitoring will not.
- Hazards Identification – Koehler: He is working on a priority list as he has funding through DGGs to work on the Tintina Fault, including part of the fault that is in the Yukon Territory. An update of the probabilistic hazards map by the USGS has led to heavy use of the Quaternary Faults and Folds (QFF)

Database of Alaska. Koehler will discuss the database at the SSA meeting in Anchorage this year. Discussion followed about seismic sources in Alaska, which are relatively unknown. Koehler is working on a Seismic Sources in Alaska paper.

- Education, Outreach & Partnering – Scher: Nothing new to report.
- Response & Recovery – Gravier: Discussion of comment requests for a paper that had been disseminated in November. The commission had moved it forward while Gravier was dealing with emergency response to state disasters.
- Chair – Scher: He discussed a presentation in October, 2013 about use of tsunami building codes to enable FEMA funding of something called “Building Back Better.” He asked if this was an official FEMA program, and if Commissioner Gravier had heard of it. She had not but will ask.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- Action Items, November 14, 2013: see attached list.
- Commission’s Post-Significant Earthquake Plan – West: He has received comments on the draft plan from Scher and Koehler. He will allow another week for further comment, then compile the next draft with the goal of adopting the plan at the next ASHSC meeting.
- 2013 Annual report to Governor and Legislature: Chairman Scher would like to get the report to the legislators at the beginning of their session. He will try to get the final version to DNR Legislative Liaison Esther Tempel by the end of January. He will accept comments from Commission members through the next week. Discussion resulted in the decision to attach the ASHSC strategic plan as an appendix to the Annual Report.
- ASHSC Website Modifications – Koehler: Commission members should send comments on the website to Koehler by the next meeting. He has a list of suggestions that he will send out to members for consideration.
- State Seismic Commissions Round-Table, WSSPC 2014 Annual Meeting – Scher: Scher would like to recommend to WSSPC that they include this at their 2014 annual meeting. It would allow the various state seismic commissions to get together and discuss best practices. Koehler agrees that a small group discussion, with one of two representatives from each commission, would be beneficial.
- Re-adoption of the 2010 Policy Recommendations: Commission members should send comments to John Aho.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- Public Comments: None
- Earthquake Response and Investigation Field Guide – Koehler: He previously sent materials from Utah that could be useful in generating a guide for Alaska. Members should send feedback to Koehler on policy recommendation and implementation strategies. Koehler can refer to Policy Recommendation 2012-01 on the Alaska clearing house website.
- Related to the above: Several Commission members have been requested to provide opinion pieces for SSA by USGS Geologist Peter Haeussler. On the

DHS&EM's Preparedness website, Commissioner Gravier was asked to have a correction made to one of the links.

V. BRIEFINGS

- Recent Seismic Activity of Interest-West: The most interesting event in the last few weeks was magnitude 5, located along the Alaska Peninsula. Last year's Craig earthquake was the largest event in the last decade. There were 28,000 located earthquakes in 2013.
- Health of the Alaska Seismic Networks-West: The regional network is 87% functional, which is very good for winter. ACS had been providing free service for half of the Anchorage strong motion network. They now want payment for the service and had threatened to shut down their half of the network. AEIC made an emergency payment to prevent the shutdown. Chairman Scher offered to write a letter of support from the Commission. West agreed and will also forward the letter the Commission sent previously to thank ACS for providing the service.
- 2014 Alaska Shield Meeting-West: This scenario exercise will be based around the 1964 Alaska event.
- Municipality of Anchorage Geotechnical Advisory Commission (MOA/GAC) Activity Update-Scher: They are working to get the Anchorage strong motion network running as it should. They want to have performance metrics in place as well as getting the actual equipment up and running properly. They will seek more support from the Municipality on this as well.
- 10th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Local Planning Committee-Aho: Chairman Aho was excused – no report.
- AGU Fall Meeting, December 9-13, 2013, San Francisco – Koehler: The meeting was well attended and he received good feedback on his presentation.
- 2014 Anchorage Museum Exhibit – Scher: Scher and Gravier have been working with the museum to provide input on exhibits relating to the 1964 event.
- Meetings and Seminars:
 - Commissioner Kelly discussed a group in Juneau called the Alaska Capital Engineers, which is a joint organization encompassing the local ASCE and ASPE organizations in Juneau. They hold meetings on the first Wednesday of the month.
 - DHS&EM Tsunami Operations Workshop; February 11-13, 2014, Kodiak
 - FEMA/DHS&EM Alaska Shield, March 27-April 2, 2014, Alaska
 - DHS&EM Spring Preparedness Conference, April 15-18, 2014, Anchorage
 - Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference; April 23-24, 2014; Tacoma
 - SSA Annual Meeting; April 30-May 2, 2014; Anchorage
 - 10th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering/EERI Annual Meeting/NEES Quake Summit; July 21-25, 2014; Anchorage

VI. CLOSING BUSINESS

- Critical Deadlines:

MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
January 9, 2014

- ASHSC Annual Report to Governor and Legislature: Committee chairs should send comments on the draft to Scher by one week from January 10th, 2014.
- Administrative Matters
 - Budget Report: The budget is now \$5,751.
- Review New Action Items: Scher will send new action item list out tomorrow.
- Next Meeting: Teleconference, mid-February, 2014. Chairman Scher will confirm which time will work best.

VII. ADJORNMENT

12:07 p.m.

- Commissioner Carver moved, Commissioner Koehler seconded to adjourn. All in favor: meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS LIST (*Updated 14 November 2013*)

MONTHLY ON-GOING ITEMS

- Mark your calendar for a **9 January 2014 teleconference** meeting (*tentative*) - **All**
 - Post the meeting schedule on the State's 'Public Notices' website, and schedule Atwood Building conference room(s) – **Woolery**
 - Submit travel reimbursement forms to Woolery two weeks before meeting – **All**
 - Prepare public service announcement at least one week before 'face-to-face' meetings – **Scher**
 - Prepare meeting agenda and post on ASHSC website at least one week before meeting - **Scher/Woolery**
 - Notify chair when not able to attend the meeting – **All**
 - Prepare a brief report of the committee's activities, if the chair will not be available to participate in the meeting - **Standing Committee Chairs**
- Prepare and circulate draft minutes (7-8 Oct 2013, & 14 Nov 2013 meetings) – **Woolery & Scher**; review for discussion at next scheduled meeting - **All**
- Update membership contact roster and list of acronyms - **Scher**
- Post to ASHSC website all approved minutes, documents and project reports - **Woolery**

CARRY-OVER ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a. Provide members a copy of the Anchorage School District's seismic assessment report for Mears Middle School & Muldoon Elementary [*introduced 24-25 Apr 2013*] – **Gravier**
- b. Provide members a list of the seismic retrofit projects completed in Alaska since 2007 using NEHRP/FEMA grants [*introduced 24-25 Apr 2013*] – **Gravier**
- c. Circulate report by the State of Washington pertaining to the Cascadia Earthquake scenario and its effects on Alaska [*introduced 24-25 Apr 2013*] – **Gravier & Carver**
- d. Draft an outline of the general steps communities could take to prepare their own abbreviated scenario earthquake study [*introduced 8 Oct 2013*] - **Scher**
- e. Review the Commission's website and draft changes for the Commission to review [*introduced 8 Oct 2013*] – **Koehler**

NEW ITEMS INTRODUCED AT THE NOVEMBER 14 MEETING

- a. Send out 'final drafts' of the revised *Strategic Plan* and revised *Rules of Procedure* – **Scher**. Provide final comments to Scher by Dec 1st – **All**
- b. Circulate word file for the draft *Commission's Role Following a Significant Earthquake* – **West**. Provide review comments to West by Dec 1st – **All**
- c. Circulate the application nominating the DNR-DGGS digital database of Quaternary faults in Alaska for a WSSPC 2014 'Award in Excellence' – **Scher**. Provide review comments, as well as a vote to approve or disapprove ASHSC's nomination, to Scher by Dec 1st – All

- c. Provide a list of accomplishments in 2013, and goals for 2014, to Scher by Dec 15th – All Committee Chairs

ITEMS FOR LONG-TERM ACTIVE PROJECTS (IN-PROGRESS)

ASHSC's Post Damaging Earthquake Response Plan - Response & Recovery Committee (Gravier)

- a. Compile post-earthquake response plans from other state seismic commissions and review for possible application to ASHSC's plan [introduced 8 Oct 2013] – **Aho**
- b. Review DNR's emergency response plan for possible application to the ASHSC's plan [introduced 8 Oct 2013] – **Koehler**

Alaska Rapid Visual Screening of Schools Pilot Program (PR 2010-1) – Schools Committee (Kelly)

- c. Contact State Department of Law, Opinions, Appeals, & Ethics Section for advice about the Commission serving as a steering/project management committee for the RVS of schools pilot program [introduced 30 May 2013] – **Scher**
- d. Contact local school districts and other entities for information on past RVS or seismic upgrade projects of buildings [introduced 8 Oct 2013] – **Delozier** (Valdez), **Miller** (Sitka), **Scher** (Anchorage & DOT&PF), **West** (Fairbanks)
- e. Meet with UAA Engineering Depart to explore possibility of incorporating RVS of local schools into their curriculum (e.g. senior project) [introduced 8 Oct 2013] - **Scher**

Kodiak Scenario Earthquake Project – Earthquake Scenario Committee (Carver)

Summary Report of Known Seismic Sources in Alaska (PR 2011-1) - Hazards Identification Committee (Koehler)

Requisites for Seismic Knowledge of Civil Engineers (PR 2011-2) – EO&P Committee (Scher)

Value of Strong Motion Instrumentation Position Paper (PR 2013-1) – EO&P Committee (Scher)

Seismic Provisions for Designing Schools and Public Buildings Position Paper (PR 2013-2) – EO&P Committee (Scher)