

NOVEMBER 11, 2015 MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Meeting was held at the Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

OPENING BUSINESS

- Commissioner Scher (Chair) called meeting to order at 8:20 am. Commissioners Aho, Carmody, Carver, Cassidy, Gravier, Kelly, Scher, Stevens and West present; Commissioner Holman was excused. Also present were April Woolery (DGGs, Commission staff), and Steve Masterman (Director DGGs, guest).
- Carver moved to approve agenda, Cassidy seconded motion; no changes; motion passed 9-0.
- Upon inquiry from Scher, no commissioner indicated conflicts with any of the items on the agenda, or any disclosure of items covered in the State Ethics Act.
- Reviewed current roster: 10 members, one vacancy. Three new commissioners were appointed by Governor Walker on 1 Nov 2015: Charity Carmody (Insurance Industry representative), Michael Holman (Local Government representative), and De Anne Stevens (DNR representative). The commission still has one vacancy (Local Government representative). Governor Walker also reappointed Commissioners Aho and West on 1 Nov [*terms expired on 30 Jun 2015*]. Scher asked the other commissioners to forward names of possible candidates for him to call about filling the last remaining Local Government Representative vacancy [*see action items, AI*].

OLD BUSINESS

- West moved to approve draft minutes from the Sep 30th meeting, Cassidy seconded motion; several typographic errors noted; motion with edits passed 9-0.
- Scher reviewed implementation to-date of 2015 policy recommendations (PR):
 - PR 2015-3 (Identification and Prioritizing Mitigation of Seismically Vulnerable Public Buildings) - mailed to the Commissioner of DOT&PF and the mayors of Anchorage, FNSB, KPB, MSB, and Juneau.
 - PR 2015-4 (Develop Contingency Plans to Mitigate the Possible Detrimental Effects of a Great Pacific Northwest Earthquake on Alaska) – mailed (including DGGs MP 148) to the Governor, the Commissioner of every Department (14), each senator (2) and representative (5) of a southeast district, and the mayor of Anchorage.
- Discussed existing PRs 2011-1, 2, & 4, scheduled for reconsideration in 2015:
 - Aho moved to sunset PR 2011-1 (Development of an Earthquake Research Program), West seconded motion, motion passed 9-0.
 - Aho moved to update and re-adopt PR 2011-2 (Earthquake Engineering Basic Knowledge Requirements for Professional Engineering Licensure), Cassidy seconded motion, motion passed 9-0 [*AI – Scher will draft update*].
 - West moved to sunset PR 2011-4 (Relief from Liability for Qualified and Trained Volunteers Who are Assigned to Damage Assessment Tasks), Carver seconded motion, motion passed 9-0.
- Discussed draft policy recommendation titled “Municipality of Anchorage Earthquake Scenario Study” introduced at the 30 Sep meeting – no action taken at this time [*AI – Scher will revise; Aho will contact EERI for information on the cost of scenario studies completed in other cities*].
- Emily Roland (University of Washington) contacted Scher to thank the Commission (in particular Cassidy) for the assistance with their grant application to the NSF to fund their proposed Western Alaska Earthquake Research project.

- Discussed the Commission's "Rules & Procedures"; no changes/amendments were proposed. Steve Masterman discussed DGGs's 'duties' and roll to administer and assist the Commission (i.e. arrange meeting rooms, travel and logistics; document meetings {tape recording and abbreviated minutes}; archive letters and products; maintain the website).
- West updated the Trillium Earthquake Forecasting Research project in Alaska Schools; has tried to contact Ron Fortunado (Trillium Learning) to discuss the project and invite him to brief the Commission; no reply to-date.
- Aho circulated a draft 'fact sheet' about the Commission [*AI – ALL will submit comments to West*]

COMMITTEE PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

- **Schools** – Kelly summarized, and discussion followed of BBFM's draft reported for the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District RVS project. [*AI – ALL will submit their comments to Kelly by 20 Nov, who will consolidate and forward them to BBFM*]. Discussed Anchorage or FNSB school districts for potential future RVS projects, subject to grant opportunities in 2016.
- **Earthquake Scenario** – Carver handed out the updated draft Kodiak Scenario Earthquake report. Consensus reached that (i) FEMA's 'final' 2014 hazus report for the KIB contained too many errors or misinformation, and should be corrected [*AI – Cassidy, Gravier and Scher will continue to lobby FEMA to correct and reissue their report*]; and (ii) the Commission's report will focus solely on the earthquake hazard, and will not discuss the FEMA Hazus study [*AI – ALL will submit their respective comments to Carver by 11 Dec*].
- **Hazards Identification** – Stevens agreed to chair the subcommittee. Former Commissioner Rich Koehler has agreed to complete his summary report of the earthquake sources in Alaska.
- **Response & Recovery** – Gravier summarized current disaster declarations (Sockeye and Car Street fires, NSB storm damage) and current FEMA grant opportunities in Alaska. [*AI – Gravier will prepare a fact sheet describing FEMA grant programs and resources*].
- **Insurance** – Carmody agreed to chair the subcommittee. [*AI – Carmody will prepare a summary of general 'talking points' for use by commissioners regarding earthquake insurance in Alaska*].
- **Education, Outreach & Partnering** – *see Chair's report.*
- **Chair's Report** – Scher summarized correspondence since the Sep meeting. The DOL is investigating our inquiry about a 'members only' web site. [*AI – Scher to circulate the WSSPC 2015 Policy Recommendation online survey he had been requested by WSSPC to complete*].

NEW BUSINESS

- Public Comments - none
- WSSPC will circulate their draft 2016 policy recommendations for member review later in November. The Commission had no recommendations for nominations for WSSPC's 2016 awards in excellence, or lifetime achievement & leadership awards.
- Discussed a 'potential' new policy recommendation or resolution for public release on earthquake source studies completed by TransCanada [*AI – Stevens will research matter*].
- No new 'future' briefings or other 'new' business were introduced.

BRIEFINGS

- **AEC** - West reviewed the new AEC website and server; about one-third of the EarthScope Alaska array instruments have been deployed.
- **DGGS** – Stevens reported DGGS will be posting for an earthquake geologist to fill Rich Koehler’s position. Steve Masterman reviewed new on-line mapping tools available on the DGGS website.
- **DHS&EM** – [*see Response & Recovery Committee, above*].
- Scher reported the **MOA GAC** is still working with the Planning Department on draft land use regulations pertaining to building development in the downtown area.
- Aho referred commissioners to the California Seismic Commission’s website for information pertaining to their recent discussions of earthquake early warning projects.
- Upcoming conferences and meetings of possible interest to the commissioners:
 - ATC-SEI 2nd Conf on Improving Seismic Performance of Existing Buildings and Other Structures; 10-12 Dec 2015; San Francisco <http://atc-sei.org>
 - 2016 Association of American State Geologists Annual Meeting; June 2016; Girdwood http://www.stategeologists.org/upcoming_meetings.php?id=251
 - 2016 EERI Annual Meeting; 5-8 April 2016; San Francisco <http://www.eeri.org/>
 - National Earthquake Program Managers Meeting; 2-3 May 2016; Long Beach, California <http://eqprogram.net>
 - 2016 National Earthquake Conference; 4-6 May 2016; Long Beach, California <http://earthquakeconference.org/>

CLOSING BUSINESS

- Reviewed the Commission’s running action items list (attached): ‘carry-over’ items b, d, e (partial) and f cleared; Sep meeting items b-d and f-g cleared; all other items still open.
- Work on the Commission’s 2015 annual report to the Governor and Legislature will begin in Dec, with the goal to submit in early Jan 2016.
- Staff reviewed problems making travel arrangements for the Nov meeting; provided instructions to minimize future reoccurrence. Staff reported the Commission’s remaining budget for FY16 stands at \$6,517 (which includes travel and lodging for the Nov meeting, but not meals and other expenses).
- Discussed Commission website [*AI - Scher will provide Staff copies of the PRs adopted in 2015, and the final MSB RVS project report (by BBFM) to post*]
- Next meeting will be a teleconference in early Dec (date TBD).
- Kelly moved to adjourn, Aho seconded motion, motion passed 9-0 - meeting adjourned at 5 pm.

ACTION ITEMS LIST (30 September 2015)

MONTHLY ON-GOING ITEMS

- a. **The next commission meeting (face-to-face) will be 11 November 2015, in Fairbanks.**
 - Send additions for agenda to the Chair at least 10 days before the meeting.
 - If you are not able to attend, send the Chair a brief report of the your activities (e.g. action items, projects, committee report, etc.) prior to the meeting - **All**
 - Post the meeting date on the State's 'Public Notices' website, and schedule meeting conference room – **Staff**. Prepare a public service announcement at least one week before 'face-to-face' meetings – **Chair**
 - Finalize travel arrangements with Staff at least two weeks before meeting – **All**
 - Prepare meeting agenda and post on ASHSC website at least one week before meeting - **Chair/Staff**.
- b. Post to ASHSC website all approved minutes, documents and project reports - **Staff**

CARRY-OVER ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a. Review 'earthquake insurance' talking-points - **All** (*circulated by Commissioner McSharry on 10 Feb; on-hold awaiting appointment of the new Insurance Industry member*)
- b. Access 2011 policy recommendations for re-adoption – **All** (*introduced at the 11-12 May meeting; updated at the 30 September meeting*)
 - Review PR 2011-1 (Development of an Earthquake Research Program) and submit comments to Scher prior to the November meeting
 - Review PR 2011-2 (Earthquake Knowledge Requirements for Alaska Professional Engineering Licensure) and submit comments to Scher prior to the November meeting
 - Review PR 2011-4 (Relief from Liability for Qualified and Trained Post-Earthquake Damage Assessment Volunteers) and submit comments to Scher prior to the November meeting
- c. Contact Gala Gulacsik (FEMA Region 10) regarding our concerns with FEMA's Nov 2014 Kodiak Hazus report – **Scher** (*introduced at the 11-12 May meeting; Scher called in July, but Gulacsik was on leave until September*)
- d. Draft a general information brochure about the ASHSC – **Aho** (*introduced at the 11-12 May meeting*)
- e. Prepare certificate of appreciation for Robin McSharry, Mark Delozier and Rich Koehler - **Staff** (*introduced at the 23 July meeting*)
- f. Check with Boards and Commissions about policies pertaining to archiving correspondence and other internal documents not for public release – **Scher**

NEW ACTION ITEMS INTRODUCED AT THE 30 SEPTEMBER MEETING

- a. Prepare a certificate of appreciation for Jonathon Owen – **Staff**



- b. Request DGGs provide proposed text describing the role of their for the Commission's Rules and Procedures (under Article 4) – **Scher**
- c. Implement adopted PR 2015-3 – **Scher**
- d. Implement adopted PR 2015-4 – **Scher**
- e. Review proposed 2015 PR for a MOA earthquake scenario study and submit comments to Scher prior to the November meeting – **All**
- f. Check if/how other states provide civil liability protection to individuals participating in post-earthquake damage assessments - **Gravier**
- g. Call Superintendent of the Craig City School District about our 4 June letter (to ADEED) regarding the Trillium Earthquake Forecasting Project – **Scher**
- h. Contact BBFM (Anchorage) about the Anchorage School Districts' plans for RVS – **Scher**
- i. Contact former Commissioner Rich Koehler about his Alaska Earthquake Sources paper – **Scher**
- j. Draft a letter to Commissioner Hanley (ADEED) regarding the Commission's duties and working with ADEED – **Scher**
- k. Follow up with Emily Roland (University of Washington) about the status of her proposed western Alaska earthquake research project – **Scher**