MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING April 1, 2010

ASHSC Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission

I. OPENING BUSINESS

- Call to Order (John Aho, Chairperson); Roll call: Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, Laura Kelly, Gayle White, David Miller and Mark Roberts were present. Commission members David Cole and Rod Combellick were excused, and Gay Dunham and Roger Hansen were absent. April Woolery of the State Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys was present.
- The meeting agenda was approved.
- Introductions-Guests: Richard Koehler of the State Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys was present.
- Review and Approval of Minutes for the December 3, 2009 meeting: The minutes were approved with corrections.

II. BRIEFINGS

- Recent Seismic Activity of Interest-Hansen: Absent, no report.
- Health of the Alaska Seismic Networks-Hansen: Absent, no report.
- Shake Map Update-Hansen: Absent, no report.
- Tsunami Awareness Week (March 22-26) and Call-Down Feedback-Roberts: As planned, Commissioner Roberts called Chairman Aho during the drill to test commission member response. He was unable to reach the Chairman or Vice-Chair Kelly, but Rod Combellick was available. Commissioner Combellick was then able to contact the other Commission members. In general, the real code test went well. There were some glitches to work out, and the test provided a good opportunity to find and correct those problems. Upgrades to the emergency broadcast system should be complete by next year.
- Summary of the Witter Chile Report-Koehler: Rob Witter is a geologist with the State • of Oregon's Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). He traveled to Chile as part of a Geo-Engineering and Extreme Events Reconnaissance (GEER) Team funded by the National Science Foundation. The group documented ground failure and other geotechnical effects of the magnitude 8.8 earthquake that struck Chile on February 27th of this year. Seismic shaking impacted an area of about 370 miles (600 km) in length and 185 miles (300 km) in width, reaching across the border into Argentina. Multiple tsunami waves were generated, causing near-complete destruction of villages in low-lying coastal areas. Aftershocks as powerful as magnitude 6.9 were measured. Traditional adobe walls and tile roofs suffered the greatest damage, while wood frame structures appeared to perform well. The exception was in areas hit by tsunamis, as wood frame structures were vulnerable to inundation. Thanks to public education prior to the event and an organized government response, the country has made good progress toward recovery. A comprehensive GEER team report will be released in early April.
- Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection (APIP) Meeting-Aho: His earthquake briefing at the March meeting was well received. He was asked to give a similar presentation at Elmendorf AFB.

9:00 a.m.

9:10 a.m.

Municipality of Anchorage Geotechnical Advisory Commission (MOA/GAC) Activity Update-Aho: No conclusion has yet been reached on whether to continue to use the older. Harding-Lawson ground failure maps or to use the newer maps produced by the USGS. The MOA/GAC will seek public input as they consider possible building restrictions for zones with a high probability of ground failure. They are also working on goals for next year.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- Action Items: •
- Commission members should continue to look at the committees and decide where they would like to serve. Each member should take part in at least one of the committees.
- The next face-to-face meeting will be in Anchorage on May 26 and 27, 2010. There • will be no teleconference in early May. Items to focus on for the next meeting include post-earthquake activity, Gary Carver's white paper, schools issues, and a possible earthquake scenario involving Kodiak. Please send agenda items to Chairman Aho.
- Thank you letters (ACS and MTA): Commissioner Hansen is working on these.
- Chairman Aho will send the Joyner Lecture information to be posted on the website. •
- Potential new ASHSC member from Seward: ongoing.
- ASHSC report to WSSPC: Commissioner Hansen will follow up on this.
- ASHSC Chairman meeting with Legislature: it is getting late in the session to do this. •
- NIMS Online Training-Roberts: ongoing. ٠

IV. MEETINGS OF INTEREST

- SSA Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon, April 20-23, 2010 •
- ANSS NIC Meeting, May 19-20, 2010, Vancouver, WA •
- ASHSC Face-to-Face Meeting, May 26-27, 2010, Anchorage
- IRIS Workshop, June 9-11, 2010, Snowbird, CO •
- WSSPC Annual Meeting, July 10-13, 2010, Broomfield, CO
- 9th U.S. National & 10th Canadian Conference on Earthquake Engineering, July 25-29, • 2010, Toronto
- Joyner Lecture, Art Frankel/USGS, "Progress & Controversy in Seismic Hazard Mapping", Anchorage, AK, Fall of 2010
- Association of Engineering Geology (AEG) Meeting, Anchorage, Fall 2011.
- 10th U.S. National Earthquake Engineering Conference-Anchorage, 2014

V. CRITICAL DEADLINES

- WSSPC: Discussed above
- Meeting with Legislature: Chairman Aho will contact Melanie Lesh, DNR Legislative Coordinator, to see if this trip is feasible.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

- Recognition: Discussed above
- Future Briefings

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9:35 a.m.

9:40 a.m.

9:45 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

IX.

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- Budget Report-Woolery: The ASHSC budget has \$1,776.00 remaining.
- ASHSC Web Site Update Status-Woolery: There are still a few PowerPoint presentations that need to be forwarded for posting. Otherwise, the website is current.
- Next Meeting Date: Face-to-face meeting in Anchorage, May 26-27, 2010. • Commission members should focus on short, medium and long term post-event planning, as well as schools issues and the white paper for the Hazards Identification Committee.

be similar to the one he gave to the Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection.

Earthquake Scenario-Combellick: Excused, no report.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- Education & Outreach-Aho: He is arranging for Art Frankel to come to Anchorage to give a Joyner Lecture: "Progress & Controversy in Seismic Hazard Mapping". •
- continue work on the white paper. Chairman Aho encouraged committee members to complete their writing for the paper.
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- Response and Recovery -Roberts: This information was covered in earlier discussion. Partnership-Aho: He is working on a briefing for presentation at Elmendorf AFB. It will •
- Hazards Identification-Carver: He is still awaiting committee member response to
- They agree that while the legislation is more complex than we need, it can still be valuable to use as an example for developing legislation for Alaska.
- **Committee Reports** Insurance-White: Nothing to report at this time. Schools-Kelly: As mentioned under Future Briefings, Commissioner Kelly will work to set up a telephonic presentation by Yumei Wang for the next ASHSC face-to-face meeting. The state of Oregon has been very proactive in school seismic hazard mitigation. Commissioner Roberts would like to have the Anchorage school district's mitigation project leader listen in. Commissioner Kelly has discussed the Utah school legislation with Sam Kito of the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development.
- o Nothing to report at this time.
- Chairperson
- VII. REPORTS

9:50 a.m.

- MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING April 1, 2010
- Yumei Wang of the Oregon DOGAMI on school safety
- Mat-Su Prison Presentation
- MOA Emergency Operations Center Tour
- Monitoring of Large Earthquakes
- Utilities Risk Mitigation Approaches

- DOT inventory of bridges: photo inventory of types and weaknesses
- o Gas Pipeline potential investors: TransCanada, Denali and Enstar all have

- projects going related to the planned gas pipeline

- Warning and Coordination Meteorologists from NOAA
- Alaska Rail Road bridge upgrade
- Peter Haeussler on the Denali Fault
- Other suggestions should be forwarded to Chairman Aho

10:25 a.m.

X. GENERAL DISCUSSION

10:30 a.m.

• Public: None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

10:30 a.m.

• Commission member White moved, and Commission member Miller seconded to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.