

Chair: Barrett Salisbury, barrett.salisbury@alaska.gov 907-451-5974 (office, forwards to cell)

Admin: Theresa Harmon, DGGS

Please e-mail Barrett for video teleconference link

Public Call-in line: 907-202-7104, Code: 749 559 367#

Day 1 - Thursday, November 3

1. Opening Business

8:32 am

a. Call to Order (*Chair*) Barrett Salisbury

i. Roll call (*Admin*)

Present Samuel Bass, Thomas Bergey, Bryan Fisher, Laura Kelley, Nicholas Murray, Daniel Neuffer, Natalia Ruppert, Barrett Salisbury, and Sterling Strait.

ii. Guests

Dennis Jeney FEMA region 10 Flood Plain Compliant Specialist. Amanda Hertzfeld FEMA region 10, Jake Horazdovsky registered Civil and Structural Engineer, Dr John Thornley with WSP and Chair of Geotech Advisory Commission, Curtis Johnson Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Geohazard Coordinator.

iii. General introductions around the room

b. Ethics Act (*Chair*) - No comment

<http://www.law.alaska.gov/doclibrary/ethics/EthicsInfoBC.html>

c. Approval of the Agenda – Bryan Fisher approved and Natalia Ruppert Second

d. Review/Approval of August 30, 2022 Meeting Minutes - Natalia Ruppert approved Bryan Fisher second

e. Budget Update - There are funds for future in person meetings or education. Must be spent by the end of June

f. Public Comment - No Comment

2. Building Code Adoption and Enforcement

NEHRP award, project overview (*Salisbury*) - NEHRP Awards Grant can be used to contract a firm to help assess Alaska Needs /Compare with other States /Make Request based on findings. Building code and adoption enforcement issues overview for the meeting. Meeting goals will be to synthesize what is talked about in the next two days and begin to scope out the requests that will be sent to a contractor to tackle.

5 Minute Break at 8:47

a. Guest Presentations

- i. Jake Horazdovsky, Senior Civil and Structural Engineer—RESPEC, SEAAK **8:52 am**

Chugiak/Eagle River Post-earthquake findings and current political climate. Most of the homes within the ABSSA area withstood the 2018 quake very well. Houses outside the ABSSA including Chugiak and Eagle River did not do so well, most prevalent is - Sheer wall failure, homes did not have enough nails/staples or support. Anchorage has adopted the IRC but no way to enforce it.

Discussion - Earthquake resiliency and code enforcement plans with recommendations such as, extend the ABSSA to include entire Municipality of Anchorage.

Jake presented possible solutions to implementing change.

Discussion and Suggestions

5 Minute Break at 10:06

- ii. Dr. Scott Hamel, Professor and Chair—UAA Dept. of Civil Engineering **10:13 am**

Eagle River damage in the 2018 Anchorage earthquake, experimental findings.
Comparison of Seismic Reliability of Sheer wall construction

Discussion - Contractors are required to have continued education but there is no Framers Assoc for training most learn on the job. 1980 saw the most home construction. Many homes put up quickly and builders did not know what we know today about building an earthquake safe home.

*Wall test video

- iii. Dr. John Thornley, Senior Lead Consultant—WSP Golder, GAC **11:31 am**

2018 Anchorage earthquake takeaways and GAC response. Looking at 2018 earthquake info and sensor stations. Found that ground failure was high due to liquefaction factor (fill incorrect, house to near pond or gravel pit which was filled in and load displacement issues). Found far less damage because of building issues in the Anchorage ABSSA area. Adopting Building Code is a key, Code is a minimal building requirement not a high bar.

Discussion and Suggestions

Lunch

12:22 pm

2. Building Code Adoption and Enforcement, cont'd

1:30pm

Introductions with new guest arrivals Ross Noffsinger Engineering and Services Manager MOA, Wayne Bolland Plan Review MOA, Grant Gephart with Structural Plan Review at the City.

i. Ross Noffsinger, Engineering Services Manager—MOA

1:35 pm

- MOA perspective on current building code practices

Discussion and Suggestions – Must have Legislative act to adopt codes, exceptions for Villages. Possibly enforce codes thru Anchorage Home Builders Assoc, Bankers, Insurance Companies. Research what other state are doing. Hurdles are, the public does not like to be told what to do, cost, and enforcement. State of Alaska could miss out on Federal Funds from organizations like FEMA if we do not adopt building codes. FLASH (Federal Alliance for Safe Homes) is a powerhouse of communication. How to effect community now? Public outreach on education of hazards/public safety and outreach to review buildings for a T1-11 re-nail project. FEMA funds can go towards outreach.

Discussion - Using NEHRP grant funds to hire a contractor to research what other states are doing and assess Alaska's needs on seismic resilience. To answer the questions what is reasonable and what can Alaska do?

Barrett made motion to form a subcommittee focused on building code adoption and enforcement. Bryan seconded the motion. Barrett, Bryan, Sterling, and Natalia said they could also be on subcommittee

Adjourn

3:30 pm

Day 2 - Friday, November 4

1. Opening Business

9:00 am

a. Call to Order (*Chair*) Barrett Salisbury

i. Roll call (*Admin*)

Present -Thomas Bergey, Bryan Fisher, Laura Kelley, Nicholas Murray, Natalia Ruppert, Barrett Salisbury and Sterling Strait.

Excused – Sam Bass, Daniel Neuffer

ii. Guests

Dennis Jeney FEMA region 10 Flood Plain Compliant Specialist. Amanda Hertzfeld FEMA region 10, Jake Horazdovsky registered Civil and Structural Engineer, Rick Dembroski, Terry Murphy, Rai Simpliciano, De Anne Stevens Engineering Section Chief with DGGS

2. Commission Organizational Updates

- Barrett Salisbury presented information on West Susitna Mapping Project and fault lines.
- Natalia Ruppert exhibited slides showing where earthquakes occur in Alaska and the most recent 4 regions still having aftershocks. Review of other effects earthquakes have, such as landslides and tsunamis.
- Bryan Fisher gave a report on how it was a record year for natural disasters.
- Nick Murray provided a DOT update regarding funding and structural research projects.
- Sterling Strait spoke about an earthquake training for response and inspections for engineers and architects

10 Minute Break 9:54

FEMA BRIC

a. Guest Presentation

10:09 am

- i. Aurah Landau, Senior Transportation Planner—HDR Inc. and Tory Jackson, PE, Emergency Management Lead—HDR Inc.

Presented FEMA BRIC program: BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) It is not disaster specific; funds are available for project work. Tory gave a basic rundown of process for applying for funds. Sub applicants such as State Agencies will work with Applicants Such as States (AK DHS&EM) to submit the paperwork. Sub Applicants must have a FEMA approved and locally adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan. There is a layer of Evaluation Criteria for applications. Applications are due in December, be sure to secure matching funds and have community engagement efforts as soon as possible.

Discussion and Questions

No HMP in place for smaller disadvantaged communities. One of the problems is the lack of local engagement in these communities they feel what is required is not worth the work to get it. Try to multi-jurisdiction HMP, do a block of communities, and put them under one HMP umbrella (example recent storm in Western Alaska). FEMA recognizes the challenges putting together HMP, so they have brought on a permanent HMP planner to help with the process. Mandatory commercial and residential building code adoptions give points towards FEMA funding. FEMA made a BRIC building code activities handout specifically on how to do building code analysis. Can also reach out to HDR for partnership and support for Alaska. Public Education and outreach regarding what funding is available and why Alaska needs it, is key. Reach out to Legislators to get them engaged. Can also try to influence where FEMA statewide funds that are coming in are going, such as for seismic resilience construction.

Question on Meeting agenda - Can BRIC funds be a part of a multi-year building code study? *Not for a study specific plan only for the path to a project.*

Discussed what other funding is available for research, education, and projects like adopting a statewide building code. Bryan Fisher requested for the next commission meeting to have Anita Baker from the Division of Community and Regional Affairs give a presentation on the US HUDS grant disaster recovery program for the 2018 earthquake. Could be a potential source for T1-11 re-nailing program.

Lunch

by 11:47 am

3. Time for remaining discussions

1:00 pm

Review of the morning and goals.

Thank you and so-long to board member Laura Kelly Supervisory Engineer, CEU Juneau, US Coast Guard.

Discussion how to fill Laura Kelley's seat and 2 vacant seats
Next in person meeting plan for April/May, possibly in Fairbanks.

Adjourn

by 3:43 pm