

**MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARDS SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
HELD FEBRUARY 17, 2006**

I. OPENING BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
John Aho, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.
2. Roll call
Commission Members John Aho, Gary Carver, Rod Combellick, Linda Freed, Roger Hansen, Laura Kelly, Roger Schnell, Dennis Nottingham, and Michael Wilkinson were present.
Administrative Assistant Vickie Butherus, Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS) was also present.
Audience members and guests included: Pamela Bergmann, US Dept. of Interior; John Carmen, Alaska Mortgage Banker's Association (AMBA); R. Scott Simmons, DHS & EM, and David Cole, DOWL Engineers.
3. Approval of Agenda
Additions to the agenda (Combellick): update on status of House Bill 83, Western Seismic Policy Council letter, and media points handout. Revised agenda approved by unanimous consent.
4. Approval of January 10 Minutes
Commission member Freed MOVED to approve the Minutes as corrected. Seconded by Commission member Combellick. The motion passed by voice vote.

II. BRIEFINGS

1. Pamela Bergmann, Dept. of Interior – Agency Disaster Preparedness Pilot program: Every state and federal agency is encouraged to identify someone to be responsible for organizing a disaster preparedness program for their facility.
2. John Carman, (AMBA) – How mortgage companies address seismic hazard issues. Surprisingly, they don't. If a building is destroyed or suffers damage during an earthquake, the mortgage holder is still responsible for paying the mortgage.
3. John Aho, CH2M HILL and ASHSC – Atwood building seismic instrumentation.

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. Atwood Building tour of seismic instruments will be conducted at the close of the meeting. (Aho)
2. HB83 (Combellick)
Membership: length of terms may change with the new bill. Four members will serve 4-year terms, four members would serve a 3-year term, and three members would serve a 2-year term. The Boards and Commission's office will determine the individual terms. Members need not reapply for appointment after passage of HB83. They will continue on as is, but may be appointed to serve the terms indicated above.
3. List of Future Goals (All). These are ongoing items being addressed in the draft report:
 - Instant response: Individually contact organizations for resolutions in support of HB 83, and legislators
 - Short term: Complete report to Governor and Legislature
 - Long term: Address issues identified in report

4. Suggestions for future briefings: Commission member Carver suggested having somebody talk to the board about school seismic safety issues at the state level, somebody that has the overview of the state's utilities, especially electrical utilities. Commission member Freed suggested somebody at the Dept. of Education and their facility financing department. Other suggestions: Alaska Railroad. Alaska transportation (DOTPF). Scott Simons will be our guest speaker at the next in-person meeting, providing a briefing on development of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
5. Resolutions received to date:
 - a. City of Kodiak
 - b. RCAC – Prince William Sound
 - c. Geotechnical Advisory Commission, Municipality of Anchorage
 - d. City of Valdez
 - e. State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)
 - f. Kodiak Island Borough
 - g. Fairbanks Emergency Planning Committee
6. ASHSC Legislative Report Progress – still working on it. The report needs to be assembled as soon as possible for the Legislative session.
7. ASHSC Web Site – Looks great. Would like to see Alaska-Prepared Site included and have a link back to ASHSC site. As soon as the report is done, we can post it also.
8. ASHSC Charter Session – Proposed by Chairman Aho. Ongoing item for consideration and scheduling.

IV. COMMISSION MEMBER GENERAL DISCUSSION

Meetings have been about one per month. Quarterly meetings should be face to face, telephonic for other meetings to stay within budget.

For now, we do not want to make the budget an issue. The highest priority is to move HB 83 through the committee process and Senate.

Ongoing agenda items – Board members requested a report on seismic activity by Roger Hansen as a regular agenda item.

V. MEETINGS OF INTEREST

- Western States Seismic Policy Council, April 17, San Francisco; Commission members Combellick, Hansen, and Aho will attend.
- 8th US National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, April 18-21, San Francisco; Commission members Combellick, Hansen, and Aho will attend.
- BLM, conference on Bering glacier and regional tectonic processes, February 28- March 2
- AGU Chapman Conference on Seismic Potential of Alaska, May 11-14, Girdwood. Commission member Combellick is on the organizing committee.
- GSA Cordilleran Section Meeting, May 8-10, Anchorage
- Tsunami Society conference, May 23-25, Honolulu, Hawaii
- LEPC, Local Emergency Planning Committee Association, May 16, 17, Anchorage
- Fairbanks LEPC, June 7

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Next meeting date is March 29, 9 a.m., via teleconference at the LIO(s).

2. Commission member Schnell gave a presentation to the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory council about the SHSC. There were quite a few people there. They seemed to be very supportive and agreed to complete their resolution in support of HB 83, get it signed and distributed.
3. Commission member Freed indicated that Commission member Aho gave a wonderful presentation to the State Emergency Response Commission. They approved and signed a resolution in support of HB83. SERC was impressed that this commission can provide engineering and scientific background.
4. Updated strategy for support of HB83 – tracking it to Senate Finance Committee and letting people know when they may need to call in. There were some changes in the definition of tsunami. Rod sent a revised definition of seismic hazard (copies distributed to the Commission members) to Melanie Lesh, our Legislative Liaison.
5. Commission member Aho handed out some information on media contacts and talking points just in case a newspaper person calls.
6. WSSPC – Commission member Combellick handed out a letter from WSSPC board chairman and a WSSPC policy recommendation. Rod suggested that the SHSC members review the policy recommendation and at the next meeting develop a response to be taken to the WSSPC meeting. The first part of the letter invites the SHSC to become a voting member of WSSPC and to send a representative from the commission to the WSSPC meeting. Commission member Hansen volunteered to be the representative. Commission member Freed MOVED to appoint Hansen as the ASHSC representative for WSSPC; seconded by Commission member Carver. All in favor.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Budget
Budget report was emailed to all members. \$4,599.50 remains of the authorized \$10,000 for FY06 as of 2/14/06.
2. Public Comments
None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

1. Commission member Carver MOVED, seconded by Commission member Hansen, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.