

MINUTES OF THE ALASKA SEISMIC HAZARD SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
HELD September 18th, 19th, and 20th, 2007



I. OPENING BUSINESS

1. Call to order Chairman Aho called the meeting to order at 9:00am
2. Roll Call-Commission members John Aho, Gary Carver, Rod Combellick, Linda Freed, Robert Hicks, and Laura Kelly were present for meetings on the 18th, 19th and 20th. Roger Hansen, Kathy Hosford, and Dean Maxwell all had excused absences from these meetings. April Woolery, Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (DGGs) was also present.
3. Agenda approved with changes.
4. Guests who attended the ASHSC Meeting on September 18th were Jamie Roush, Natasha Ruppert, Seismologist, Dave West sitting in for L. Suleimani, Artak Martirosyan and Jamie Roush with the with AEIC.
5. Commission member MOVED seconded by Commission member to approve the minutes from August 23rd, 2007.

II. BRIEFINGS

1. Chairman Aho presented information on building instrumentation for the Frontier building, and the Atwood building in Anchorage.

Guest Speaker Briefings

1. Jamie Roush with AEIC (Alaska Earthquake Information Center) briefed the Commission on earthquake monitoring activities, the seismic threat in Alaska as well as overview of what AEIC does as far as monitoring the seismic threat. He also briefly summarized UAF's education outreach activity program and conducted a tour of the UAF seismology lab.
2. Natasha Ruppert briefed the Commission on the 2002 Denali Fault Earthquake which is noted as the most significant event in Alaska since the 1964 earthquake
3. Artak Martirosyan, spoke to the Commission on Shape map in Alaska.
4. No guests present for the ASHSC meeting on day 2.

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. The action item list was reviewed
2. Vacant Positions were discussed
3. ASHSC phone list was updated

IV. MEETINGS OF INTEREST

1. 14th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, 10/12-10/17/2007, Beijing, - China
2. WSSPC annual Meeting, Reno, NV 9/30-10/3/2007 joint with the International Code Council
3. ANSS National Steering Committee meeting 6/6-6/7/2007 (Waiting on Roger Hansen to give report on meeting)

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4. EERI Annual Meeting 02/2008
5. National Earthquake Conference in Seattle
6. 2014 National Conference
7. HU meeting in San Francisco 12/2007
8. SSA Meeting Santa Fe 04/2008

V. CRITICAL DEADLINES

1. FY09 Governor's budget to Legislature 12/15/2007 (ASHSC work plan and budget to DNR by late August/early September)
2. Final Report to the Legislature 01/01/2008
3. Draft Report to the legislature 12/01/2007

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Chairman Aho stated that the Homeland Security Department has a procedure for response and recovery after a disaster. He suggested that a closer look be taken at the post disaster procedure and that some coordination efforts need to be established. Chairman Aho also stated that Alaska should have a formal plan that tells how to handle the news media, the professionals that come in to survey damage, and state people working on damage assessment. Commission members discussed the idea of educating local government on post disaster procedures.
2. Commission members proposed a post event procedure that would involve issuing of emergency cards that people could show at post disaster events that would allow access to disaster areas. Commission member Freed stated that local government could issue such cards. Commission member Hicks stated that possibly local governments should be educated on managing incidents such as allowing scientists access to do assessments of the disaster.
3. Commission member Carver suggested that the Commission make up Alaska Seismic Hazard Safety Commission ID cards. That could be used like you would use a public safety pass. Commission member Freed stated that without a statutory change the cards would not mean anything from a response stand point. Commission member Freed also stated that the charter and the statute also does not give the Commission any authority she stated the Commission is only an advisory body. Commission member Hicks stated that the possibility of having a statewide recognized card for people who are experts that you could then train local officials to recognize as being someone who has been recognized by the state as helpful in different situations. Commission member Combellick stated that with issuing of an ID card there could be legal ramifications.
4. Commission member Combellick suggested that the Commission develop a glossary for terms such as response and recovery, risk versus hazard, recovery response, mitigation preparedness, etc.
5. Commission member Carver set up standards and procedures for post hazards events. He discussed with the Commission the plan for the Commission the first hour the first day, and the first week. Commission member Hicks suggested that an information packet and a media packet be ready and

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available to distribute throughout the state in the event of a disaster. Commission member Kelly suggested pre-establishing contacts with the media. Commission member Carver suggested a media spokes person be named to speak for the Commission and that that speaker should stay within his or her area of expertise. Commission member Hicks suggested being proactive with Commission responses when reaching out to the media. Commission member Carver suggested having a mechanism for the Commission to all get together as soon as everyone hears there has been a large event. Commission member Combellick suggested a Commission member phone list be established. Chairman Aho suggested creating an agenda for a disaster meeting.

6. Commission member Combellick suggested that the Commission include an appendix that contains the statutes that provides the authority to call when submitting the annual report.

VII. REPORTS

1. Scheduled reports
2. Committee Reports presented (see presentations on ASHSC website)
 - Insurance-Dean Maxwell (Excused absence, no presentation)
 - Schools-Laura Kelly has updated the work plan from a year ago and will e-mail it to Committee members. Work has begun on identifying and mapping at-risk facilities and adding them to a database with ages of facilities. Identified deliverables were an annual report and a map showing schools and peak ground acceleration. Need to develop draft legislation to secure funding for this project.
 - Earthquake Scenario-Rod Combellick outlined the need to prioritize scenarios in order to determine which ones to focus on. Public education is a continuing priority.
 - Education & Outreach-Kathy Hosford (Excused absence, Robert Hicks reporting) Committee member Hicks pointed out the need to develop a mission statement for the Education and Outreach Committee. He suggested that it should focus on seismic risk mitigation rather than immediate response. Laura Kelly shared one of her tools for public education: a short video from the CUREE website that shows how destructive an earthquake can be.
 - Hazards Identification-Gary Carver (No report)
 - Response, Recovery, & Loss Estimation-John Aho (No presentation for now, wanted to wait until new Committee members are appointed)
 - HAZUS Task Force
 - Budget and Legislative Issues John Aho

VIII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

Public: None

Commission Member:

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1. Commission member Kelly stated that the US Coast Guard has personnel that are trained to teach the ICS course at very high levels not with just the coast guard but statewide they are very well trained into the system. Commission member Kelly stated that the Coast Guard could give a presentation to the Commission
2. Commission member Combellick discussed the ASHSC budget request he stated that DNR has passed our budget request onto the office of management and budget in the governor's office so now it is under consideration now along with all the others. It has been recommended by the commissioner it is now in the hands of the governor and we will not know until late to mid October what the decision will be on the department's budget request.
3. Chairman Aho discussed with the commission what the LEPCA is along with
4. Chairman Aho discussed potential partnerships with the Commission. He stated that in a previous meeting potential monies from California Seismic Hazard were offered and that the Commission should check back into acquiring that money Chairman Aho stated he would be contacting Robert McCarthy the Director of the California Seismic Safety Commission to open the door and discuss the potential for a partnership. Craig Weaver (USGS) to talk with Commission about setting up something similar to CREW (Cascadia Region Emergency Workgroup) here in Alaska. The Alaska Fire Chiefs' Association was suggested by Linda Freed as another potential partner.
5. Committee member Gary Carver suggested that John Aho head a new subcommittee tasked with creating a group similar to CREW here in Alaska. David Cole was also suggested as a potential member for this subcommittee. Laura Kelly volunteered, as well.
6. Future presentations and briefings: Port Expansion, Ground Failure Study (when complete), Robert Fourget of FEMA.
7. Linda Freed suggests review of the Incident Command System (ICS) at the FEMA website. This is on-line training for emergency response.
8. Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act: discussion of this act and how Committee members should be aware of how it might impact them.
9. Vacant positions: Rod Combellick discussed vacant Committee positions with Dan Saddler in the Governor's Office. When a member's position expires, they may continue serving until that position is filled by the Governor's Office. The member in question should let the Governor's Office know whether they wish to continue serving. If they wish to be reappointed, they need to let the Governor's Office know. Dennis Nottingham's vacant position will be filled by Dave Cole, and Mike Roberts will be filling Scott Simmons vacant position (DMVA).

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Budget-No change since last meeting.
2. Next meeting will be a teleconference October 25, 2007 at 9:00 am.

X. ADJOURNMENT

1. Commission member Carver MOVED, seconded by Commission member Freed to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm September 20th.