

ALASKA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
AFFILIATE OF AMERICAN CONGRESS ON SURVEYING AND MAPPING
AFFILIATE OF NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS
MEMBER OF WESTERN FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

P.O. BOX 101465
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510



Board Meeting
May 19, 2001

ARR Board Room
327 West Ship Creek Ave, Anchorage

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Fretwell at 9:12 AM in the Board Room of the Alaska Railroad Anchorage headquarters building located on Ship Creek Ave.

A. Roll Call:

Attendance as follows:

President	- Mike Fretwell
President-elect	- Tuk Maakestad (absent)
Treasurer	- Jamie Milton
Secretary	- Martin Gutoski
WestFed Delegate "A"	- Bud Campbell
WestFed Delegate "B"	- George Strother
Past-president	- Bruce Brown (absent)
NSPS Governor	- Craig Savage
ACSM Vice President	- Sam Best (absent)

Chapter Presidents:

Anchorage	- Don Black (absent)
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Fairbanks	- Martin Gutoski
Mat-Su	- Fred Schwaderer (absent)
Kenai	- Scott McLane
Student Chapter	- (absent)

Committees:

Trig Star	- Ron Schwind (arr. At 9:40 AM)
Membership	- Ron Mitchell
APDC	- Paul Whipple
Standards of Practice	- John Bennett (absent)
Legislative	- Pat Kalen (absent)

2. **Approval of February 21, 2001 Board Meeting Minutes:**

George Strother noted changes to the draft minutes.

Motion: It was moved and approved the minutes of the February 21, 2001 Board meeting with the changes as noted.

3. **Presidents Report:**

Mike Fretwell apologized for not being at the annual meeting but his wife had made reservations for a vacation cruise and did not know that it was scheduled for the same time. He wanted to thank Tuk for stepping in at the last minute to chair the meeting in Feb.

Mike suggested that we may want to get copies of the Standards of Practice CD's to some of the municipalities for distribution. What needs to be worked out is the money collection. George Strother suggested to distribute copies at the chapter level. Mike noted that of the 250 that were produced he has about half of those left to distribute.

Mike has been working on legislative issues such as the minimum technical standards for surveying. He wanted to know if he could respond to issues like this without waiting for the Board to take action. Craig Savage and George Strother noted that the Board can deal with notification and defer to emergency meetings if needed.

Mike reported that ACSM will put on the Surveying and Mapping Conference for 2002. The rebates for the entrants was good this year and the discount for early registration fees did not adversely affect the total income.

4. **Treasurer's Report:**

Paul Whipple noted there was no distribution from the Surveying and Mapping Conference yet. Trig Star received a total of \$925 in donations but has \$1,450 in expenses, which has pretty well used up the surplus budgeted in Feb. He will kill the account for the voice mail to eliminate that expense since no one has been able to access it because they lost the access code to retrieve messages. Paul has no input yet on the NGS EDM Baseline cost.

Martin Gutoski said he will provide an update on the baseline class project later in the agenda. Craig Savage and George Strother noted the ACSM dispersal will be due soon.

Motion: It was moved and approved to accept the treasurer's report as submitted.

Paul needed a new corporate resolution for the new officers to sign the checking account.

Motion: It was moved and approved to appoint the following officers to be authorized to sign checks on the behalf of ASPLS with the account at First National Bank of Anchorage:

Craig Savage, Jamie Milton, George Strother and/or Mike Fretwell.

Paul welcomed aboard Jamie Milton as the newly elected treasurer.

5. **Chapter Reports:**

A. **Anchorage:** Don Black was not present to give a report.

B. **Fairbanks:** Martin Gutoski reported that the NGS EDM calibration technician class was held this week in Anchorage May 14 to 17 at the BLM Campbell Airstrip Office. Two others from Fairbanks attended the class, Bill Mendenhall and Larry King. There were a dozen attendees with the NGS technician, Audie Murray, from Virginia teaching the three day class. They remeasured the BLM baseline at Campbell Airstrip during the class. The equipment will be in Alaska for three weeks, so hopefully will be able to re-certify two existing baselines in Kenai and Juneau along with two new ones in Wasilla and Fairbanks.

C. **Mat-Su:** George Strother reported that Jamie Milton coordinated the Trig Star test to three valley schools. About 70 students took the exam, with each school costing about \$100 to administer. The EDM baseline was inspected by the NGS technician on Friday, May 18th in anticipation that the newly trained calibration crew can measure it next week.

6. **Delegate Reports:**

A. **NSPS:** Craig Savage passed out a written report from the March 24 conference in Las Vegas. Some of the topics dealt with blacklisting of contractors by federal agencies based on perceived instances of non-compliance with prior work. The adoption of ergonomic standards for survey personnel has been postponed. They are working on the height modernization for new geoid models. The ACSM Government Affairs Director, Kevin Flynn left for the BLM. The website has back issues of POB

magazine available on line. The Nevada society of surveyors has voted to join ACSM like ASPLS did except with a sliding scale of dues. George Strother interjected that the Maine surveying society has voted to join too. Mike Fretwell asked about the effect this may have with ASPLS prior deal. George noted that there will be no change for now. Craig indicated the dues input was disorganized by accounting problems resulting from the office move and will be straightened out with new ACSM management.

- B. West Fed:** George Strother handed out a written report from the March 16th Board of Directors meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada where there were about 1700 or 1800 participants. The West Fed treasury has over \$107K in the kitty. George reported that West Fed has convinced Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt to not shred BLM and USGS records but retain records beyond the period required by law. Mike Fretwell noted that BLM records are destroyed maybe in opposition to this policy. George announced that Craig Savage did not get elected as Vice President, but that John Fenn was the new West Fed VP. John will serve a two year term in that position and then will move on to President Elect and finally President for a total of a six year commitment.
- C. APDC:** Paul Whipple did not have a written report prepared but noted that items of interest have included DOT's standard language for design-build projects. Mike Fretwell noted that the ARR has taken heat from the legislature for some of the work he has let under these contract terms. Paul said the Municipality of Anchorage Public Works department has been reorganized by Mayor Werch. A final topic has been the issue of FEMA elevation certificates and the new International Building Code.
- D. ASMC:** Mike Fretwell noted the committee members will meet on May 25th to discuss the conference agenda. Martin Gutoski remarked that Audie Murray, the NGS EDM technician, will be available to put on a class in the use of a calibration baseline. Paul Whipple would like to see a segment for putting GIS/GPS on trial. George Strother remarked that he would also prefer some classes on business operations, personnel rules, or OSHA standards to be offered for the practical part of surveying. Craig Savage pointed out that this has been a subject for discussion with all ASMC committees, practical business aspects to deal with non-technical issues. Bud Campbell noted that speaking and writing courses are something surveyors should be versed on too. Mike indicated he would push for a tech session by John Bennett on the new Standards of Practice CD now offered. Mike is asking Jim Sharp to put on a segment about the Anchorage bowl coordinated GPS project he recently organized.

7. Committee Reports:

- A. Membership:** Ron Mitchell is taking over from George Strother his as membership chairman. Ron handed out the list of 161 current members and sent out 27 notices for renewal. A computer crash wiped out the email addresses. Ron is running out of

membership certificates and has a quote of \$285 for 200 and \$315 for 300 copies. Discussion ensued about whether we could print them on a color laser instead. Mike Fretwell agreed to have them printed out on his office machine. Ron needed more sustaining members plaques.

- B. Legislative Committee:** Pat Kalen was not present to give the report. However, Scott McLane presented the results of the AELS Board meeting yesterday on Friday. He requested a motion from ASPLS to develop minimum standards of care for as-built surveys of improvements within land boundaries. Scott said the AELS Board will be meeting again on Aug 23rd to deal with this issue, so he hoped ASPLS could support this action. George Strother asked what is the basis of this move by the AELS Board. Scott responded that it is in response to a consumer driven piece of legislation being considered under SB 212 and HB 227. George thought it would be more appropriate to first bring it up at the chapter level before taking action. Craig Savage asked about the hurry up nature of this, why not refer to the adopted minimum standards of practice of ASPLS in the Standards of Practice Manual? Much discussion arose on this subject, but no motion was made.

Scott discussed the topic of continuing education and consideration by the AELS Board to include GIS, photogrammetry and hydrological surveys as part of the practice of land surveying requiring professional registration. Scott also noted that the rewrite of the regulations for minimum work experience for the LS exam has removed the engineering related sciences equivalence for civil engineers. Another subject had to do with digital seal replication. The Yukon Territory of Canada has been working with the AELS Board on reciprocity under NAFTA. *George Strother asked Scott if he would prepare a article for the ASPLS newsletter.*

- C. By-Laws:** Sam Best was reached via teleconference about the revisions to Article VI, Sec. 3. c. concerning Dues and Assessments. George Strother thought that it would be better to add a subsection j. to that article for the ACSM joint dues at the Board's discretion since the affiliation may not be carried through next year if membership shows a decline due to the dues increase. Craig Savage noted that a change should be made instead for the dues to be set by the Board at the general membership meeting. Sam also talked about the change to Life Membership under Article III, Sec. 3.c. for the five year requirement. Sam also suggested changes to Article VIII, Sec. 1 for redundant language in the officers terms. Sam said he will work on draft language on these amendments to be submitted at the annual meeting for adoption.

D. Standards of Practice: No report was submitted from John Bennett.

E. Raffle: No report was submitted from Don Black

F. Trig Star: Ron Schwind handed out a report which will be submitted to the local newspapers about the winners and sponsors of the test given this spring. Ron

indicated Terry Irwin was the statewide coordinator for this exam, but he will not be doing the coordination next year. Ron needed a new person to setup for next year. He asked if Bill Mendenhall would be willing to run it next year. *Martin Gutoski will ask Bill at the next Fairbanks chapter meeting.*

G. Newsletter: Mike Zieserl was not present to give a report.

- 8. Continuing Business:** Mike Fretwell noted he is still working on the ASPLS statewide organization helping with local issues. Mike noted a letter he got from Larry King to the UAA Geomatics Board about their lack of help with the Trig Star exam. Craig Savage noted that after Larry's letter the UAA responded that they were too busy, budget strapped and trying to fill Stan Sears faculty position to help with the presentation. Larry did get a response from the UAA via email after their board meeting explaining their problem.

George Strother asked Mike about the record of survey problem with the Municipality of Anchorage on platting review requirements.

Martin Gutoski outlined the NGS EDM calibration technician class held earlier in the week. He discussed the \$2500 budgeted line item from the annual meeting last year by noting that so far the only expense will be for his for the travel and lodging to attend the class in Anchorage. He asked for the \$1054 to be reimbursed for that week, which will include travel and lodging for this current Board meeting too. Since Ron Schwind and Jim Sharp arranged for BLM and DOT to respectively pay for NGS to put on the class, the only other expense would be the \$500 fee for NGS to process the data from the five baselines in Alaska.

Motion: It was moved and approved to reimburse Martin Gutoski \$1054 for the travel and lodging to attend the NGS calibration class.

- 9. New Business:**

Craig Savage noted he is working on additional outreach with the UAA Geomatics department.

- 10. Announcements:**

Scott McLane announced that there will be a one day workshop on June 23rd for the AELS exam review. The State will notify the attendees from the list he provided to make arrangements for travel to the exam review session.

Next Board Meeting: The next Board meeting will be Saturday, August 25th at the ARR Ship Creek office.

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Martin Gutoski, Secretary ASPLS

These minutes are as approved by the
ASPLS Board at its August 25, 2001 Meeting.