



ALASKA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

AFFILIATE OF NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

MEMBER OF WESTERN FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

(907) 566-1622

P.O. BOX 101465

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510-1465

Board Meeting

USKH Transportation Annex
2600 Cordova Street, Suite 100

276-4322

May 20, 2006

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President-elect Tim Sprout called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

A. Roll Call:

Attendance as follows:

President	– Martin Gutoski (phone)
Past-president	– Michael Schoder
President-elect	– Tim Sprout (presiding)
Treasurer	– Dean Cimmiyotti
Secretary	– Michael Spangler
WestFed Delegate “A”	– Paul Whipple
WestFed Delegate “B”	– Richard Heieren (phone)
NSPS Governor	– George Strother (phone)

Chapter Presidents:

Anchorage	– Michael Miller
Fairbanks	– Nils Degerlund (phone)
Mat-Su	– Fred Schwaderer
Kenai	– Glenn Tinker
Student Chapter	– (absent)

Constitution/Bylaws	– (pending)
Standards of Practice	– John Bennett (absent)
Membership	– Jim Sharp (absent)
APDC	– Paul Whipple
Legislative Liaison	– Paul Whipple
Executive Secretary	– Vicky Sterling
Member	– Gary LoRusso
NADA: ACSM	– Pat Kalen

2. Approve Agenda

On a motion and second by Schoder and Strother respectively, the agenda was approved with the following amendments: move 10.d Strother Foundation with NSPS to 7.b; change 10.d to National Surveyors Week; add 10.e Correspondence.

3. Approve Previous Board Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2006

On a motion and second by Schoder and Whipple the minutes of February 15, 2006 were approved as presented.

President's Report – Martin Gutoski

Thanks to Tim for presiding and all for help coordinating this meeting while Martin tends to his health.

5. Treasurer's Report – Dean Cimmiyotti

Detail report was distributed with the following comments: The \$2,000 commitment to Talcott Fund has been paid; the Contingency item is for legal services; and the distribution of raffle proceeds has not been received yet. Also, many members paid dues for 2006 in December 2005 so the income from membership appears low on the budget sheet, which is based on the calendar year. Whipple noted that a check to NSPS for \$100 donation for speakers kit has not been cashed and is growing stale. Strother will inquire at NSPS.

6. Chapter Reports

a) Anchorage – Mike Miller: Chapter hasn't had much activity since the conference. The issue of problems arising because of unqualified people writing legal descriptions has been raised; a possible remedy would be legislation requiring a signature on all legal descriptions.

b) Fairbanks – Nils Degerlund: Chapter is in good financial shape. Still working to transfer account to different bank, to avoid confusion with state account. Chapter had a successful TrigStar program with Bill Mendenhall in charge. They are working on putting a Final Point in place for Paul Stutzman; and have been active in the Fairbanks North Star Borough Title 17 re-write. Taunnie Boothby (who works with Christie Miller at DCCED) will give a presentation to the chapter on the new elevation certificate changes, tentatively scheduled for June 27.

c) Kenai – Glenn Tinker: First meeting of year is scheduled for June 3. He was prepared to write a formal letter to Homer Electric Association over proposed right-of-way and easement changes, but the proposal was withdrawn quickly in response to outcry from the survey community so continued action was not needed.

d) Mat Su – Fred Schwaderer: Season has been successful. Only two schools participated in TrigStar, but 50+ students. They've had some great training sessions coordinated by Gary LoRusso, two of which qualify for continuing education credits; nice certificates have been prepared.

e) UAA Student Chapter – [open]: Schoder reported that he visited the student chapter in April and made a presentation prior to their trip to the national competition at NSPS conference. The Anchorage Chapter funds one student lunch per month and the students attend chapter meetings during school year.

7. Delegate Reports

a) NSPS Alaska – George Strother: A written report was distributed and Strother highlighted the following points: NSPS will distribute a white paper on the NAFTA MOU soon and requests states to advise their delegates how to vote. Strother was appointed to serve with NSPS Foundation treasurer and a trustee from Nevada on a committee to review the Foundation investments and investment policies and report back in September. Also noted that Craig Savage will run for Director and encourages all to support him. A Right of Entry Model Law, which strongly resembles Alaska's, raised lots of controversy – many surveyors did not want to give any notice for any survey – but eventually passed. Schoder noted that 3 regulations apply in Alaska: Right of Entry for Land Surveyors on fee land, Right of Entry for ADOT&PF for projects where ROW acquisition is planned, and Federal Right of Entry requirements for Indian Lands under 25 CFR 169.4. Strother also thanked Schoder for a donation that raised \$300 in a raffle to benefit Foundation.

b) Strother Foundation with NSPS/George Strother: Strother offered to set up a scholarship fund through NSPS Foundation with money inherited from his mother's recent passing, and will structure the award to encourage degree completion at an ABET accredited school in the Alaska university system. At the August meeting, Strother will propose that ASPLS eventually accepts responsibility for managing the scholarship.

c) WestFed – Paul Whipple/Rich Heieren: Next meeting will be June 24 in Anchorage at the Millennium. Due to prior commitments, Whipple needs a "social event coordinator" to make sure the delegates enjoy their trip to Alaska. Whipple requested feedback on how to acknowledge Bud Campbell for his contributions.

d) APDC – Paul Whipple: The APDC Client Contract Task Force sponsored a contracts seminar last Wednesday that was well attended (although Paul was the only surveyor); Two hours at end of day were devoted to copyright issues. He encouraged members to contact the APDC Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) Committee when they encounter RFPs that use price as a selection criteria. He thanked John Kerr for pointing out a solicitation recently – in helping with the reply, Paul learned a lot about where and how the practice of surveying is covered in federal and state statutes. The FNSB has issued an RFP that is not in direct violation but not aligned with QBS, and Paul wants to talk to Fairbanks chapter about educating the borough. The Legislative Liaison Committee (LLC) Fall Forum is set for September 20 and will focus on the gubernatorial race. Dale Nelson, LLC chair, and Sam Kito III, PE, APDC lobbyist, are coordinating in Anchorage and will assist in Fairbanks, too. The LLC sent letters about lack of support from state for university Geomatics program and got a sympathetic reply from Sen. Gary Stevens who is interested in working over summer on possible solution.

e) A/E/LS Board – Cliff Baker / Rich Heieren: The board meets in Fairbanks next week; current agenda is available on the web, and includes continuing education, and definition of land surveying. Board has been unhappy about how complaints are processed and wants Department of Law to be more aggressive. Whipple noted that AELS Board chair Ken Maynard attends APDC meetings.

Heieren noted that an open-book exam on jurisprudence would be offered online; and four new members have been seated (Landscape Architect, Civil and Mining Engineers, and Public). The board is looking for feedback on allowing on-the-job training to be counted toward the educational requirement to qualify for the exam; currently a student who works part-time can count school or work but not both toward the two-year requirement.

8. Committee Reports

a) Membership – Jim Sharp / Vicky Sterling: Sterling noted 181 members total, with 24 sustaining (9 individuals, 15 firms). Kudos go to Jim Sharp and Mike Spangler for a great job of outreach. The suggestion to accept credit cards for dues was investigated and dismissed as too cumbersome and costly.

b) Standards of Practice – John Bennett (absent): Schoder noted that website charges appear on his credit card, \$100 per year, and was recently renewed. Dean will look into changing the billing information. Sprout said that Bennett plans to add a Sustaining Member page to the web site to increase recognition.

c) TrigStar – Michael Miller: The program went well this year. Bartlett (Anchorage) student took first place, a student from Fairbanks took second, and one student from both cities tied for third. The request for national test has been submitted. Miller's file was inadvertently unavailable for details; he will forward a summary to Strother for NSPS and to ASD.

d) Raffle Committee – Mike Miller: Reconciliation with Benton Bay Lions Club on raffle will be finished Monday and a check forwarded to Cimmiyotti for deposit. A gift card from the raffle and a check, tickets, and calculator prizes for Fairbanks winners of TrigStar will be sent to Gutoski for delivery.

e) Legislative – Paul Whipple: HB 318 Limitation on Eminent Domain passed the legislature and is awaiting transmittal to the Governor; HB 328 Mixing Zone Ban died in House Resources Committee; HB 377 Exemption for A/E stamp for residential buildings up to 3 stories, was amended so it does not apply to certain wind and seismic zones; SB 271 Authorize NEPA primacy for Alaska for SAFE-T-LU projects passed the legislature and is awaiting transmittal to the Governor. Nothing is on the watch list yet for next session.

9. Continuing Business

a) ASPLS Newsletter – Martin Gutoski/Vicky Sterling: Gutoski suggested plan to send electronically to save printing and postage costs and offset loss of volunteer editor. Pros and cons were discussed. Spring-summer newsletter will be sent electronically as soon as possible after this meeting.

b) Continuing Education Regulations: Covered sufficiently in earlier discussion.

c) Mortgage Survey Standards: Carry-over item on agenda; deleted.

d) Survey Drawing Copyright Issues with ADEC and Boroughs: Schoder reported that ADEC has entered into a project to place a copyright notice on all drawings on file. Gary LoRusso has provided copies of letters to banks and other institutions telling them about the copyright / re-use issue and urged others to send letters similar to a model from South Carolina that explains the difference between public information and public property as applied to documents. Gutoski agreed to contact SC association to ask permission to use their letter as model; committee will bring draft letter to August meeting and consider enlisting APDC support. Schoder will ask ADEC to include posting a "do not copy copyrighted documents" sign by their copiers in conjunction with their ongoing project.

e) Conference at Fairbanks in 2007 (5 days March 19-23): Conference was pushed forward a week due to a national conference that posed conflict for NSPS representatives and potential speakers. Scheduling was discussed.

f) Board Member Training, BOD Insurance: Gutoski contacted NSPS representative about insurance and Strother confirmed with the state that she is a registered broker of such insurance in Alaska. Only

one quote for insurance can be open at a time, and Gutoski will pursue a quote via NSPS contact. Whipple noted that BOD training is an ongoing topic; Foraker Group and Lynn Curry have been identified as excellent local trainers in BOD responsibilities and liabilities. No action.

10. New Business

a) DNR Trails GPS – Tim Sprout: Mapping guidance from the DNR that is being used by FNSB was distributed. *Motion/second by Schoder/Spangler respectively directed Gutoski / ASPLS to write a letter to DNR objecting to the procedure of mapping trails without benefit of licensed surveyors.*

b) Certified Flood Plain Surveyor – Martin Gutoski: Discussion covered Train-the-Trainer training and online training from FEMA, and added Brian Raynes to list of interested members. *Committee will report in August.*

c) ACSM Report – Pat Kalen: Just back from Orlando, Kalen will write report for newsletter. Highlights included meeting with target speakers to ask for quotes / availability. He also reported on several meetings and noted that ACSM is a member in good standing of APDC. Kalen reported that the APDC LLC has sponsored successful forums in the past and that he will work with Lobbyist Sam Kito III to coordinate a forum in Fairbanks this year for a target date of September 21 or 22.

d) National Surveyors Week – Michael Schoder: Schoder was forwarded an email from Gutoski asking all states to send a representative to a ceremony in Washington, D.C., June 7 to honor sponsors of the resolution recently passed in Congress setting Surveyor's Week in March 2007. Sponsors included Sen. Ted Stevens. After discussion, Schoder suggested that ASPLS send a letter of appreciation to Stevens for his sponsorship. Gutoski will follow up and see if anyone will be near Washington; if not, letter will include apology that we were unable to be at the ceremony.

e) Correspondence – Paul Whipple: Mail included a written notice from NSPS about the forthcoming white paper on the NAFTA Mutual Recognition Document and request for position from state societies; and a Public Relations Guide from NSPS that was passed to Spangler for the record. Sprout provided a copy of the original DNR Platting Fees letter for the record and noted that there has been no reply.

11. Announcements

- ◆ Whipple noted that Craig Savage is listed as registered agent of ASPLS with outdated address, so ASPLS needs to ask if Savage wants to continue to be listed, and either update or replace contact information on file with State of Alaska. Gutoski to follow up with Savage.
- ◆ Whipple announced an ANCSA workshop on June 13-14 by Larry Lau, and will forward information to Chapter presidents to forward to their membership.
- ◆ Schoder noted that applications are being accepted for the Certified Federal Surveyor exam, and the first class will be limited (likely 100 – 150). Schoder is on the exam committee. The AKLS test committee will meet June 23, and needs more participants. Whipple noted that if the Alaska AELS Board adopts new definitions, we might need to add photogrammetry and other questions into exam.
- ◆ Kenai chapter member Tim Mullikin is moving out of state. Kenai chapter president will write letter of recognition for Tim. Gutoski will countersign the letter.

a) 2006-07 Meeting Schedule:

- ◆ Aug 19 (Sat) @ USKH Transportation Annex, 9 a.m.

◆ Nov 18 (Sat) @ USKH Transportation Annex

12. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded by Whipple / Schwaderer respectively to adjourn. No objections.
Adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Spangler, Secretary ASPLS

These minutes are as approved by the
ASPLS Board by E-vote June 2006