

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 21, 2004, USKH Board Room, Anchorage

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Michael Schoder called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. Those in attendance were:

A. Roll Call:

Attendance as follows:

President	– Michael Schoder
Past-president	– Tuck Maakestad
President-elect	– Martin Gutoski (proxy)
Treasurer	– Dean Cimmiyotti (absent)
Secretary	– Michael Spangler
WestFed Delegate “A”	– Paul Whipple
WestFed Delegate “B”	– Bud Campbell
NSPS Governor	– George Strother
ACSM President	– Sam Best (absent)

Chapter Presidents:

Anchorage	– Ken Ayers
Fairbanks	– Tim Sprout
Mat-Su	– Fred Schwaderer
Kenai	– Tim Mullikin
Student Chapter	– Brad Watts (absent)

Standards of Practice	– John Bennett (absent)
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Membership	– Ron Mitchell (absent)
APDC	– Paul Whipple
Legislative Liaison	– Pat Kalen
New AELS Board Member	– Cliff Baker
Executive Secretary	– Vicky Sterling

2. Approve Agenda

On a motion by Tuck Maakestad with second by Ken Ayers, the agenda was approved with one addition.

3. Approve Previous Board Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2004

On a motion by Ken Ayers with second by Tuck Maakestad, the minutes were approved as submitted. Mike Spangler noted that the minutes of November 17, 2003 have not been approved. Mike Schoder will follow up.

4. President's Report – Mike Schoder

Mike Schoder noted that he has a new work number, 271-2527, if necessary to reach him there. He started at BLM earlier this month. Please continue to use his Yahoo email address and cell phone number preferentially. He also said he has a plaque to give Pat Kalen in thanks for his years of service on the AELS Board and as a liaison to ASPLS. The award was tabled until Pat's arrival.

5. Treasurer's Report – Dean Cimmityotti

Dean forwarded his report to Mike Schoder and was excused due to a schedule conflict. The report was distributed. Paul Whipple noted that the CD is earning less than 1%. *On a motion by Tuck Maakestad with second by Ken Ayers, the report was approved as presented.*

6. Chapter Reports

Anchorage – Ken Ayers: Ken's written quarterly report was distributed. Highlights include: The chapter meets at 12 Noon the third Tuesday of each month at Sourdough Mining Company. The chapter donated \$360 to the Museum of Surveying in Michigan for their expansion. Nominations for President-Elect are being solicited. Michael Miller with DOT has volunteered to run. Elections will be in January. A detailed TrigStar report was submitted; the chapter solicited \$2,195, and has a balance of \$425.

Fairbanks – Tim Sprout: The chapter sponsored a joint 2-day workshop with IRWA that provided both profit and education; a highlight was a BIA presentation on access issues. The chapter had 4 schools participate in TrigStar. Their new meeting location at the WestMark seems attractive to members, and they plan to meet through the summer.

Kenai – Tim Mullikin: TrigStar has been the only recent activity of the Kenai chapter.

Mat-Su – Fred Schwaderer: Meetings have been small recently, but a big turnout is expected at the next meeting due to recent issue raised by a borough attorney who wants to be able to overlay a final plat on a preliminary plat and detect no difference.

Student Chapter – Brad Watts (absent): Mike Schoder noted that students had an opportunity to attend the Alaska ACSM conference and ACSM National, and saw a favorable comparison.

7. NSPS National Report – Craig Savage

Craig was absent; George Strother noted that he knows Craig is very busy as new President of NSPS. At this juncture, Mike Schoder paused to introduce Cliff Baker of Integrity Surveys in Soldotna, who was appointed to succeed Pat Kalen's seat on the AELS Board.

8. Delegate Reports

NSPS Alaska – George Strother: George's written report was distributed; please refer to the attached copy, which reports on many important issues. Items noted for follow up are NSPS Bylaws and the NSPS Map / Plat Contest: Mike Schoder will ask Sam Best to review changes to the NSPS national bylaws to see if they warrant any changes to state bylaws. Also, NSPS has requested copies of each state's Plat and Map contest rules so George is asking for a copy by June 1. George Strother was elected a Key Governor of NSPS at the recent meeting, for his work on TrigStar and other projects.

WestFed – Bud Campbell/Paul Whipple: Paul's detailed report was published in the spring newsletter. The next meeting is June 12 in Reno. Bud expects to be unable to attend, but no hot issues were expected on the agenda.

APDC – Paul Whipple: Paul recapped the issues APDC has followed this season: Building Safety Code consumed much energy, and nothing was done this session. HB252, the bill that authorizes AELS Board to administer Continuing Education requirements, is still on the Governor's desk awaiting signature. Paul asked the board to bring feedback to the August meeting concerning interest in participating in a board training session organized by APDC for its member societies. He also noted that APDC has a new Contracts Committee, headed by Dave Adams, to monitor issues with contract language and help members with issues such as uninsurable clauses. George suggested contacting Curt Sumner, who sits on a similar NSPS committee.

9. Committee Reports

Constitution and Bylaws – Sam Best (absent): Mike Schoder will ask Sam to follow up the NSPS changes.

Membership – Ron Mitchell/Vicky Sterling: Membership is up, and Vicky will send an updated list containing all fields to the Board. Vicky asked where to get blank Membership Certificates to print for new members; Mike Fretwell was suggested as a possibility. It was also noted that Ron needs to get Year Tags for the Sustaining Members' plaques. Paul Whipple volunteered to write a letter to firms soliciting sustaining memberships.

Legislative – Pat Kalen: Bills of interest this session included SB305 which would give the Railroad exemption from certain land use ordinances; SB382, which cleaned up eminent domain issues and applicability of local zoning; a joint resolution concerning submerged lands; and Rep. Harris's Survey Standards bill, which died in committee giving ASPLS another chance to adopt standards of practice that address the gap in so-called mortgage surveys and thus circumvent legislation.

Standards of Practice – John Bennett (absent): Mike Schoder presented an email from John concerning moving the website to its own ISP.

A motion by Bud Campbell with second by Ken Ayers was made to authorize up to \$150 per year for web hosting, including registration of a domain name. Motion was approved.

In discussion, getting a "good deal" and selecting a straightforward URL were encouraged.

TrigStar – George Strother: George hasn't received data from all the chapters so didn't have an overall compilation yet; participation appeared similar to last year. Last year's winner placed second, by only 20 seconds, this year. George asked for the names of Proctors, in order to thank them publicly, and will forward a spreadsheet to chapters for reporting on their programs. Cadence Bond at Skyview High on the Peninsula won this year. Ken Ayers noted that he doesn't know of anyone who got the last question and George agreed to forward Ken's concern that NSPS provides a test that the students have a reasonable chance of passing. Tim Mullikin expressed interest in seeing money/prizes distributed deeper than the top three.

Ken Ayers noted that the Anchorage chapter tabled a motion to give their \$425 TrigStar balance back to the state treasury to support next year's program, and in discussion it was agreed that a policy document is needed for how state prizes are funded. George Strother and Ken Ayers volunteered to work on a policy document.

George noted that he would be out of state during the test again next year, so wants to find a chairperson who will be here for the test.

Raffle Committee – Steve Buchanan/Paul Whipple: No report at this time. Mike Schoder urged action.

2005 ASMC Conference – Tuck Maakestad/Mike Schoder: Tuck distributed a handout with preliminary information. Dates are February 22 – 25, 2005. Most committees have members, except the Map/Plat/Student competition and the Hall of Fame. The committee has begun meeting from Noon to 1 at AeroMap on the second Wednesday of the month. Volunteers welcome! Tuck noted that the conference will be promoting ASPLS membership; they are seeking more exhibitors, especially GIS; and considering discounts to encourage large organizations and firms to send large groups.

10. Continuing Business

ASPLS Newsletter – Mike Zieserl (absent): Mike Schoder expressed appreciation for Mike's good work on the newsletter and looks forward to having enough web space to make the newsletters available there. Next issue likely will be in the fall.

AELS Board – Pat Kalen/Scott McLane/Cliff Baker: Mike Schoder presented a plaque to Pat for his service on the board and as a liaison to ASPLS. Pat reported that his last official act was to attend the NCEES Western Zone meeting, even though the board would not fund his participation. He is asking ASPLS to consider reimbursing his costs of \$1,800. He felt it was important to be there considering the challenge California has mounted to the NCEES Model Law and urges Scott and Cliff to continue to follow the issue at the national level. A written report will follow. Pat's invitation was accepted, and the next NCEES Western Zone meeting in May 2005 will be in Anchorage.

NCEES Model Law – Ken Ayers asked who is supporting the NCEES Model Law. Pat Kalen explained that the question of licensing photogrammetrists is on the AELS Board agenda, and that Alaska Statutes have included photogrammetrists in the definition of Surveyor more than 25 years, so the board is discussing adopting portions of the NCEES Model Law that concern licensure of photogrammetrists. ASPLS has previously endorsed adoption. Based on discussion, presidents were asked to poll their chapters again.

Also, see discussions of AELS Board and Continuing Education.

Continuing Education (CE) Requirements – Pat Kalen noted that HB252, which authorizes the AELS Board to administer CE requirements, passed at the end of session. The only change anticipated is

that the Engineers might ask to be included – ASPE has voted to endorse CE. Pat noted that the proposed state law generally adheres to the NCEES Model Law section on CE.

AK PLS Exam Review – The review will be tomorrow, May 22, at the Hilton Hotel Alpine Room.

Asbuilt/Mortgage Surveys – In order to circumvent a bill by Rep. Harris and amendments by Rokeberg that would legislate standards written by realtors and bankers, ASPLS must include standards for such surveys in the Standards of Practice that the AELS Board can cite in taking action against low quality and/or unethical “mortgage surveys.” Discussion revealed disagreement. The ASPLS Board reviewed a draft residential mortgage survey standard drafted by Scott McLane and Pat Kalen at the February 2004 board meeting that followed the Annual Meeting. Pat Kalen will provide Mike Schoder an electronic version of the draft for distribution to the general membership through the Chapters for consideration. There will also be an effort to find standards written by the Valley chapter about 10 years ago. It is the President’s desire to discuss the proposed standards in depth at the August 21 meeting, and get approved standards prior to year’s end.

11. New Business

Registration Requirements/Revisions to 12 AAC 36 – Mike Schoder attached correspondence to the agenda in which Tom Knox commented on a section of the statute that is not proposed for revision.

UAA School of Engineering Advisory Board/Geomatics Representation – This new advisory board has an open seat. Initial concern about representation was alleviated by better understanding of the scope and make-up of the board. Anyone interested is encouraged to pursue the seat.

Schedule Next Board Meetings – Saturday, August 21, at 9 a.m. will be the next meeting. Location is tentatively set for the BLM office, NW corner of 32nd Avenue and C Street. November 20 is the target for the winter meeting.

Utility Locates for Design Surveys – Inability to get utility locates for design surveys is an increasing problem nationwide and was raised by Tim Mulliken. This will be discussed further at the August meeting, and members will gather information for consideration. George Strother offered to get feedback from Kansas, where he understands legislation was introduced to deal with the issue, and suggested that ASPLS may want to look for a legislator to sponsor similar legislation here.

12. Announcements

George Strother noted that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has proposed a \$250 fee for pre-plat meetings, which used to be free. It was noted that the MOA has also raised the plat filing fee substantially.

Ken Ayers asked if there is a chapter active in Juneau. Mike Schoder will contact current members in Southeast to see if they can at least cooperate to sponsor TrigStar and attend the ASMC; the group may be too dispersed for regular meetings to be practical.

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Spangler, Secretary ASPLS

These minutes are as approved by the
ASPLS Board at its August 21, 2004 Meeting.