

ALASKA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

AFFILIATE OF NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

MEMBER OF WESTERN FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

P.O. BOX 101465
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510



Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
August 11, 2007

USKH Transportation Annex, 2600 Cordova St., Anchorage

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Martin Gutoski called the meeting to order at 9:25. Those in attendance were:

Roll Call:

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

Rich is also AELS Board member

Local Chapter Presidents:

Anchorage	- Michael Miller	Present
Fairbanks	- Larry Durfee	Telecom
Mat-Su	- Fred Schwaderer	Present
Kenai	– Tom Latimer	Excused
UAA (non-voting)	– Kay Tanner	Present

Committee Chairs, Members and Guests not named above:

Geomatics Student Advisor – Bob Curley
Exec Assistant – Vicky Sterling

2. Approve Agenda and Minutes of May 19, 2007

Agenda was accepted with no objections.

Motion to approve minutes of May meeting passed with no objections.

3. President's Report and Comments

President Gutoski thanked all for patience during delay establishing teleconference connection with Fairbanks.

4. Treasurer's Report

Dean Cimmiyotti distributed report for reference. He noted need to send \$600 additional disbursement to NSPS; disbursement check to Kenai Chapter hasn't been cashed; and he plans to amend report format to note the amount (income) received for current year dues and budget received in November or December of the previous year. On a motion / second by Schoder / Spangler:

Motion to amend budget/treasurer's reporting calendar to start April 1 and end March 30 as of April 1, 2008, passed with no objections.

5. Chapter Reports

- a) Anchorage – Michael Miller: No meeting last month or news since May meeting.
- b) Fairbanks – Larry Durfee: State/national TrigStar winner Sedona Price from Fairbanks attended June meeting, and in July they had a roundtable discussion on continuing education issues. Chapter plans a picnic at Pioneer Park, Moose Creek Pavilion, from 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday, August 25.
- c) Kenai – Roger Imhoff for Tom Latimer: Excused (Latimer out of state, Imhoff's flight cancelled due to weather).
- d) Mat-Su – Fred Schwaderer: Chapter continues to discuss platting issues and is working on a joint meeting with APWA tentatively set for Aug. 29 with speakers to include representatives of the City of Wasilla and Mat-Su Borough. The Center of Population monument looked good when he checked recently, and he will check again before the state fair opens. He also noted that a City of Wasilla project recently obliterated several of the baseline monuments. Michael Miller noted that NGS has a representative in Alaska now.

Schwaderer will notify NGS rep, and Gutoski will write letter to City of Wasilla about the significance of the loss and the time, effort and costs associated with establishing the monument.

- e) UAA GSA – Kay Tanner: Noted that the GSA locker was broken into last spring. The culprit got their cash box and keys to student lockers, and went through the student lockers. The cash box had \$400 to \$500, and a student lost a digital camera. They got a new flat file for maps and plats, and need to assemble it. A student social is planned in late September, sponsored by ASPRS. The GSA wants more speakers this year; Strother volunteered to speak about NSPS. Also noted that NSPS awards scholarships and has had few applicants from Alaska. Whipple noted that West Fed sometimes provides travel assistance for students to attend national

conference and suggested they consider submitting a request for travel to the ACSM national conference in Spokane in March. Spangler suggested ASPLS form a committee to promote scholarship information to the students in a timely manner. Strother asked about funds donated by chapters for student travel to Fairbanks for conference.

Tanner will confirm amounts received and spent and consult with chapters about any overage.

6. Delegate Reports

- a) NSPS – George Strother: Meeting packet included NSPS letter concerning a locate service in Minnesota and asked if anyone has heard reports of them or a similar service operating here. None heard. George will participate in NSPS Lobby Day on September 27, followed by meetings through October 1.
- b) West Fed – Rich Heieren / Paul Whipple: No meeting since May report. Next meeting is November 15 in Las Vegas; both will attend.
- c) APDC – Paul Whipple / Michael Schoder: Next year's budget is being developed, and no change in dues is anticipated. The Fall Forum may be pushed into November this year by the Special Session. They continue to work the Design/Build stipend issue; the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is not on board with stipends, so APDC wrote to the Alaska District and asked them to consider stipends for D/B proposals. Noted the importance of getting our pending bills moving immediately due to the short session. APDC is always looking for newsletter submittals. Also currently looking to fill two seats on Anchorage School District Capital Request Advisory Board; volunteers? APDC also has a monthly report from AELS Board; Bo Brownfield is currently attending.

7. Committee Reports

- a) Membership – Jim Sharp: Meeting packet included written report. The committee has tracked and welcomed new licensees; state total is 584.
- b) Legislative – Paul Whipple: Little activity between sessions. Seeking way to be more proactive in getting funding for the university engineering and geomatics programs. The APDC also is planning to contact Rules committee chairman before session starts to assuage any concerns that could delay moving HB151 out of committee.
- c) Standards of Practice / Website – John Bennett (absent): Schoder noted the site is a good presence; he often gets inquiries from people who found his name there. He will continue to have the hosting fee renewed against his credit card for reimbursement if desired.
- d) Alaska Surveying and Mapping Conference – Martin Gutoski: 2008 conference will be February 23 – 29 at the Sheraton Anchorage. Theme is Alaska's People – Alaska's Land – Geospatial Resolutions. The conference will spend \$250 for annual subscription to use Survey Monkey for conference feedback.

Gutoski will mention taking Plat & Map contest winners to NSPS National at next ASMC meeting. Strother asked to consider sending winning Plats and Maps to Spokane ACSM meeting in March and suggested an article for Alaska Designs.

- e) TrigStar – Michael Miller: Sedona Price, the state and national winner from Fairbanks, will attend ACSM conference in Spokane in March. Difficulty of third question on test was focus

of discussion; often it is so difficult that it discourages students and scares them away. Strother noted he just pre-took next year's exam and third question is better than recent years; also noted, we are not required to use the questions provided to select the state winner. Washington chapter writes its own third test.

Miller to draft letter regarding third question and send to Gutoski in coming week.

- f) Copyright Issues – Gary LoRusso (absent): There has been chapter-level discussion of a Texas business that is offering to pay a fee to the owner for the right to post as-builts on-line.
- g) GIS – Pat Kalen (absent): Gutoski noted that Kalen is working on it.
- h) Utility Locates – John Kerr (absent): Noted that Kerr didn't realize this was considered a state committee. In last report he indicated next step would involve hiring an attorney.

Schoder will raise concern to APDC about consequences of utilities refusing to provide locates for design surveys.

- i) By-Laws – Vacant:

8. Continuing Business

- a) AKLS Exam Review – Sixty percent pass rate noted: 10 passed, 6 failed. New registrants were involved in review. Heieren noted the AELS Board has adopted a formal policy to exempt the AKLS from the “five-year/five-time” rule because there are no provisions for an applicant to comply.
- b) AELS Board – Rich Heieren: He expects a regulatory project concerning copyright issue to be out for public notice in next 12 months. Noted the AG's recent opinion that a board cannot listen to public testimony on an issue after the public comment period closes; this was invoked when engineers wanted to testify in opposition to continuing education. CE will be required of all registrants for the next cycle. He noted the Technical Review Committee includes 2 board members in investigations; 17 cases with average age of 2 to 3 years are open, of which 4 have been referred to the AG's office and resulted in civil actions filed against 3 surveyors. Board budget is in good shape, may result in fee reduction. The question of making the Landscape Architect a permanent voting member of the board was voted again at this week's meeting, and passed (Heieren and Baker abstained). A statute change is needed to implement it. The board defined its policy for interpretation of the education requirement to qualify for the AKLS exam to mean 60 total semester credit hours with 30 credits in purely survey curriculum. Table also allows BSCE to sit for AKLS, which Heieren hopes to strike. Next meeting is November 8-9 in Anchorage. Compliments were extended to Heieren and Baker for getting the copyright regulation change on the radar; members are urged to testify in support when the public notice appears. Board seeks feedback on new Reference Manual for Building, Planning and Public Safety Officials (especially regarding overlap of practice), and the draft definition of surveying.
<http://www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/pub/buildingofficemanual.pdf>
- c) ASPLS Newsletter – Martin Gutoski: Has been relying on APDC newsletter and putting off publishing our own due to cost of printing and mailing and lack of volunteer editor. Discussion emphasized need to communicate with members directly, regardless of format; some information that should be shared isn't appropriate to distribute through APDC; remote members who cannot download large newsletter files; and value of hard copy to leave in

office lobby, mail with invoices etc. Heieren noted that the AELS Board annual report could be forwarded.

Tanner to announce need for volunteer to edit newsletter at first GSA meeting; some stipend could be arranged.

- d) Geomatics Advisory Board – Bob Curley: The board had two meetings before summer break to discuss program syllabus, and is requesting feedback from professional community to define the body of knowledge a graduate needs. He recently attended a North American Surveyor Educators’ Conference and they too are trying to define the Body of Knowledge. They will revise syllabus in coming week and put out for comment. Noted that enrollment in lower division courses is good, but only a handful takes 300/400 level courses: only 20 graduates since 1998, with 6 this year.
- e) By-laws Change Request from Membership Committee – Jim Sharp (excused): Changes are proposed to extend requirement for life membership from 5 to 20 years of membership in ASPLS.

Change will be circulated formally for vote by board at November meeting and distributed to membership with the Teller Committee ballots.

- f) Education Committee: No chair; chapters seem to be providing opportunities.
- g) Final Point for Brad Washburn: Gutoski noted that Washburn biographer Mike Sfraga plans Denali climb in 2009 and would place monument; Whipple noted that mountaineer John Guiden is also interested in coordinating on final tribute to Washburn. Schoder asked if NSPS Final Point is appropriate symbol of recognition since Washburn wasn’t a member. No hurry to resolve.

9. New Business

- a) Links on ASPLS website for CE courses by others – Question has arisen whether to post; agreement that if we decide to add links for CE opportunities they would include a disclaimer that the link is provided as a resource only, and up to each individual to determine if course meets their CE requirements.
- b) NSPS Geocaching project – Noted that some states are participating; Alaska chapters have shown little interest.
- c) NSPS “Locating Company” Issue – Covered under item 6.a).

10. Announcements

- a) Next meeting – Saturday, November 10, USKH Transportation Annex, 2600 Cordova St.
- b) Verify committee chairs – Spangler will update agenda to include all standing and current ad hoc committees.
- c) Opening of Nominations for Officers – Positions of President-Elect and Secretary are open, and a West Fed seat. Sprout is working on nominations. The ballot and budget approval are on agenda for November.
- d) ASPLS Registered Agent – Whipple noted that Craig Savage is currently the registered agent for the corporation (with the State of Alaska), and we should keep this on radar if Savage will lack presence or interest to continue into retirement. Schoder volunteered.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Spangler, Secretary ASPLS

These minutes are as approved by the
ASPLS Board on November 10, 2007