



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

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Board Meeting BLM Yukon Building, 3150 C Street, Anchorage, Alaska Saturday, August 21, 2004, 9 a.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Michael Schoder called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Those in attendance were:

A. Roll Call:

Attendance as follows:

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

Chapter Presidents:

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

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Standards of Practice | – John Bennett |
| Membership | – Ron Mitchell (absent) |
| APDC | – Paul Whipple |
| A/ELS Board | – Scott McLane/Cliff Baker |
| Constitution/By-Laws | – Sam Best |
| Executive Secretary | – Vicky Sterling |
| Guests – UAA | – Steve Buchanan, Don Davis |

2. Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approve Previous Board Meeting Minutes – May 21, 2004

The draft minutes reflected minor changes returned via email. George Strother noted that Item 12 on page 5 should say “proposed” rather than “instituted.” Minutes were approved with suggested changes and will be forwarded to John Bennett for posting on the website.

President’s Report – Mike Schoder

Waived.

5. Treasurer’s Report – Dean Cimmiyotti (by Paul Whipple)

A written treasurer’s report was distributed and is filed with the minutes. Paul Whipple noted that the checking account is getting low, but shouldn’t need attention this quarter. *George Strother made a motion with second by Ken Ayers to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.*

6. Chapter Reports

a) Anchorage – Ken Ayers: Ken’s written report was distributed and is filed with the minutes. The chapter has been meeting monthly and has been discussing the mortgage survey standards, utility locates, continuing education requirements, and the Center of Population monument. He also noted that the chapter treasury is in good shape and they are considering disbursement(s).

b) Fairbanks – Tim Sprout: Tim noted that meeting attendance has increased. They have been discussing some local issues concerning quick plats and access (easement waivers), as well as the utility locates and mortgage survey standards.

c) Kenai – Tim Mullikin: Mike Schoder reported for Tim, who is ill, and distributed a report sent to the meeting via fax, which is filed with the minutes. The Kenai chapter has not been meeting over the summer, but solicited comments on the mortgage survey standards and forwarded comments.

d) Mat-Su – Fred Schwaderer: George Strother reported from Mat-Su. Their chapter couldn’t find anyone who has approached the utility supervisors about utility locate services, and plans to try. He noted that the borough platting actions have been interesting, due to staff turnover and an oral policy change that has not been provided in writing. The Chapter sent a letter expressing concern to the borough platting officer. George said the Mat-Su Chapter also has a strong treasury.

e) Student Chapter – Brad Watts: (absent)

f) Southeast Chapter – Mike Schoder sent an email to ASPLS members in Southeast asking for input on the mortgage survey standards and soliciting interest in activating a chapter, but got no replies. Paul Whipple offered to place follow-up calls to a couple of members he knows in Southeast.

7. NSPS National Report – Craig Savage

Absent, no report.

8. Delegate Reports

a) NSPS Alaska – George Strother: George encouraged members to sign up for the ACSM governmental affairs newsletter, which is available electronically. Mike Schoder asked George to send the information and a link to the ACSM website to Mike Zieserl for the pending newsletter.

b) WestFed – Bud Campbell/Paul Whipple: Paul distributed a written report, which is filed with the minutes. Most of the time at the latest meeting was spent discussing NAFTA. Eight scholarship

recipients were announced, one of whom is from UAA (Buku Saliz). Next meeting is September 25 in San Francisco.

c) APDC – Paul Whipple: Paul distributed a written report, which is filed with the minutes. The APDC Legislative Liaison Committee’s Fall Forum is coming up on October 13 and will focus on building codes. Mike noted that he had objected to the publication of draft minutes in the APDC newsletter after his first meeting, and the policy has been changed. He encouraged members to forward governmental issues for consideration by APDC.

Ken Ayers asked if APDC is commenting on the Title 21 rewrite in Anchorage and encouraged members to read it and consider the significant implications of some of the proposals, such as the retention of tree canopy or delineation of wetlands on plats. Mike Schoder asked Ken to attend the next APDC board meeting to discuss Title 21.

George Strother noted that the Mat-Su borough is undertaking a rewrite of their road construction manual; the department of public works has only one registered civil engineer remaining and suggested this was a possible issue for APDC to address. The chapters are urged to copy APDC on any letters sent to government agencies.

d) AELS Board – Scott McLane/Cliff Baker (absent): Mike Schoder noted that he has received several inquiries since the education requirement was added to licensure, about how to get licensure via comity. There seems to be no waiver for the educational requirement, even for long-time practitioners licensed in other jurisdictions. Surveyors also are having difficulty identifying how to satisfy the requirement for “2 years of significant course work.” Don Davis reported that he also gets calls at UAA from surveyors who want to know what courses they need to take to satisfy the state registration requirements. Paul Whipple noted that many board seats have turned over recently, which presents a new opportunity to explore the issue and perhaps find a way to qualify surveyors to sit for the Alaska portion of the exam and receive registration by comity. Mike Schoder will ask Cliff Baker and Scott McLane to attend the next board meeting, and also asked presidents to take the issue to the chapters and see how the membership feels.

9. Committee Reports

a) Membership – Ron Mitchell/Vicky Sterling: Mike Schoder noted that we need to check the state website for new LSs. Vicky reported she still needs blank membership certificates and Paul Whipple volunteered to get some printed; Vicky will provide one to use as a template. Mike Schoder will follow up with Ron on plaques and letters for sustaining members.

b) Standards of Practice – John Bennett: John noted that he has been trying to notify all state societies of our new URL but is having trouble reaching some due to anti-spam software. George Strother noted that ACSM and WestFed secretaries will help forward within those organizations. John also noted that further website enhancements are coming in the fall.

c) TrigStar – George Strother: George distributed a written report, which is filed with the minutes. The program was very successful, although participation was down slightly from last year. There were 15 schools, 334 students, in the program. George encouraged all chapters to select their TrigStar coordinator soon and get started in September. He also reminded that he needs a state coordinator this year because he will be out of state during the test; Ron Schwind was assumed to be the volunteer but after the meeting it was discovered that Ron will not be available. George advised the UAA guests that the TrigStar coordinators could hand out information about the UAA Geomatics program during school visits, if brochures or other information is available.

d) Raffle Committee – Steve Buchanan/Paul Whipple: Paul noted that he hasn't had time to audit the box related to the raffle permit. Mike Schoder offered to audit the box. Ken Ayers noted that Jerry Lewis offered to be one of the two members to take the test for the permit. Steve Buchanan offered to help with the raffle. Mike Schoder will work with Jerry Lewis to get the permit. Raffle income is needed.

e) 2005 ASMC Conference – Tuck Maakestad/Mike Schoder: Mike reported that he and Tuck have been attending the meetings, and Mike is arranging the short courses. He is looking at "Protecting the Dashed Line" by Ron Schuler, and "When the Manual is Silent" by Matson, and something by Brian Cooper such as "Being a Survey Department Manager" or "Business Practices for Surveyors." Ken Ayers requested Certified Surveyor Technician (CST) testing during the conference, and volunteered to arrange proctors and send information to Mike Zieserl for the newsletter.

Mike Schoder asked chapters to consider nominees for the Hall of Fame, and was asked to forward a list of past inductees for general information.

Mike Schoder reported that the 2004 conference made about \$9,000 net profit. *Ken Ayers made a motion, with second by George Strother, to direct Mike Schoder to push for \$2,000 disbursements to the member organizations. After discussion, a friendly amendment was offered by Ken Ayers and accepted by George Strother to increase the amount to \$2,500. Motion passed.*

Mike Schoder requested names and addresses of ACSM, NSPS, and WestFed delegates who should receive invitations to the conference. George Strother will forward the NSPS names and addresses. The conference will be February 22-25, 2005 at the Anchorage Hilton. John Koltun of URISA is chair.

f) UAA Geomatics Program – Don Davis/Steve Buchanan: Don noted that enrollment is up 17% already this year and he is still enrolling new students. They are in crisis mode, with an immediate need / authorization to replace one GIS instructor and a need for two more instructors. Don and Steve are both teaching extra courses and courses are over-booked. They also said that UAA has \$160,000 in new equipment from Trimble this year, and has received the largest gift Trimble has ever given.

Don Davis noted that the new educational requirement associated with licensure has generated a number of inquiries, which he cannot answer.

In response to questions, they said the lack of resources could result in some probationary marks on an upcoming ABET review and Steve Buchanan agreed to send a list of university administration contacts to Mike Schoder so ASPLS can send letters of support for the geomatics program and urge the university to provide resources to expand the program.

Don Davis noted that he also wants to develop a survey mentorship program, and he has sent articles to Mike Zieserl for the newsletter about a mentorship program, and about the gifts from Trimble.

10. Continuing Business

a) Residential Mortgage Survey Standards: President Schoder passed the gavel to John Bennett in order to participate in discussion. A draft standard with edits by the Anchorage Chapter was distributed for reference and is filed with the minutes. Mike said he sent a copy of the draft to the board of realtors and got no reply, and that the state board needs to take a stand: Rep. Harris promised that he won't re-introduce legislation imposing standards if ASPLS adopts standards. John Bennett asked for the results of chapter reviews. Fairbanks would support the draft; Kenai wanted the phrase "does not constitute an improvement to the property and" stricken from the preamble. *John Bennett made a motion, with second by Paul Whipple, to adopt the draft with the amendments proposed by*

Anchorage Chapter. Mike Schoder offered a friendly amendment, accepted by John and Paul, to include the edit suggested by Kenai. Motion passed. Mike Schoder will edit the draft standard document and redistribute to chapters.

b) ASPLS Newsletter – Next Issue cut-off August 25: Mike Schoder reminded everyone to follow up and send articles to Mike Zieserl by next Friday. George Strother encouraged chapters to send reports.

Mike Schoder requested that minutes of this meeting be distributed and approved electronically, rather than waiting for the November meeting.

c) NCEES Model Law: It was noted that Scott McLane is working with the Attorney General on a draft. *Paul Whipple made a motion, with second by Ken Ayers, to table discussion of the NCEES Model Law until the AELS Board reports on it. Motion passed.*

d) Continuing Education Requirements: Mike Schoder will see if the AELS Board discussed this at their recent meeting, and it was noted the NCEES Model Law provides a good base.

e) Land Surveying Examination Review Workshop: Mike Schoder reported that the review meeting was very positive. There will be no fall exam, so the next review meeting will be sometime next May.

f) Center of Population Monument: This will be installed at the new railroad depot at the Palmer Fairgrounds. The monument will be on a piece of granite, with a view of Pioneer Peak. Mike Schoder is hoping for a public dedication ceremony in September.

11. New Business

a) Temporary Delegation of President Duties: Mike Schoder discussed his plans to be out of country October 1 – November 5 with President Elect Martin Gutoski and Past President Tuck Maakestad, and announced Tuck has agreed to fill in as President if anything requiring action arises in Mike's absence.

b) Utility Locates for Design Surveys: Mike Schoder received only two comments in response to his article about the difficulty of getting utility companies to locate their improvements for design surveys and problems that arise when utilities are not properly located prior to final design: Someone from MEA said their policy wouldn't change, and someone from DOT asked to be kept informed. Mike distributed comments he got in response to a web bulletin board posting (copy filed with minutes). Mike reported that APDC encouraged taking the issue to the utility regulatory commission. This item will remain on the agenda under continuing business.

c) Registration by Comity: As discussed under 8.d) AELS Board and 9.f) UAA Geomatics Program, the educational requirement is creating questions. This will be on the agenda in November.

d) Schedule Next Board Meetings: The next meeting will be November 20, the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving, at the same location: BLM Yukon Building, 3150 C Street.

e) Plea from Florida LSs: Mike Schoder mentioned the email he forwarded to board members recently seeking donations to help Florida surveyors in the aftermath of Charley. Given the reserves available to the state and chapters, the chapters were urged to poll their boards electronically to expedite donations. Mike Schoder will also send an article to Mike Zieserl for the newsletter.

12. Announcements

George Strother asked Mike Schoder to forward the ASPLS letters of support of the UAA Geomatics Program to APDC President Dale Nelson with a request that APDC echo that support on APDC letterhead.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Spangler, Secretary ASPLS

These minutes are as approved by the
ASPLS Board electronically as of September 7, 2004.