

MISSOURI SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Oasis Hotel, Springfield, Missouri

September 29, 2023

MINUTES

President Ray Riggs called the meeting to order and welcomed the membership to the 66th Annual Meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 7, 2022 meeting were reviewed by Secretary-Treasurer Mark Wiley. **A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as printed. On a vote, the motion passed.**

Financial Report: The financial report was reviewed by Mark Wiley showing an overall balance of \$249,792.43 and a checking account balance of \$106,520.22. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial report as presented. On a vote, the motion was approved.**

REGISTRATION BOARD: Mark Nolte, Chair, presented the Registration Board report. He reported that the three members recently attended the NCEES meeting and reviewed the results of the recent professional activities and knowledge study for the PS exam and recommending what, if any, PS divisional examinations were feasible. However, during the final review it was determined that the motion was out of order. The board of directors reviewed the committee's recommendations at their August meeting and approved the motion to develop a PLS exam module. A new business item presented that proposed the council develop and implement a PS exam consisting of four separate modules.

STATE LAND SURVEYOR'S REPORT: Scott Faenger, State Land Surveyor, submitted a written report. Highlights from the report include the LSP is currently operating with 11 full time employees. He recently filled his GIS position with Rick Staudinger and also hired Army intern, Adrian LaRue. He is starting his classes to become a PLS. This past spring they took possession of two trucks and a Ford super-crew and a Dodge Ram. These vehicles replaced some of the other vehicles.

The mission of the Repository Section is to acquire all recorded surveys, county survey records, any official unofficial surveys from state or federal agencies, donated private records or any other historical survey records that can be obtained from all 114 counties and the City of St. Louis, annually. The goal is to scan, index, and provide access to those records in a timely manner to the Land Surveying profession, public or anyone with an interest in these records. During the past fiscal year, the Repository processed 14,835 documents (1,231 of those are corner docs) to be added to the Land Survey Index (LSI) and the Corner Master Index (CMI) databases, an average of 1,827 documents per month. A total of 37,968 orders was received through online orders, an average of 3,164 orders per month.

Restoration of the USPLSS corners continues to be one of the primary goals and objectives of the Field Surveys Section. The county surveyor cooperative and private surveyor Co-op contracts resulted in the restoration of 205 corners during FY23. There was a total of 1,231

corner documents submitted to the Land Survey Program this past year.

At this time, LSP has 20 active land survey investigations; 19 investigations were completed last year and 14 new investigations were added to the project list. Land Survey investigations were completed by in-house staff in a number of counties resulting in the reestablishment and restoration of 96 USPLSS corners. In FY23, LSP recovered 336 control marks and collected 307-4 hour sessions on those marks to help with the transformation tool.

He reported that the field surveys section also maintains 11 electronic distance measurement (EDM) baselines, positioned throughout the state and this past year, 65 EDM calibrations were submitted and processed through the EDM instrument calibration and comparison website, 17 of those for certification. They are in the process of updating their corner document form to accommodate the information required for the new Missouri State Plane Coordinate System.

NSPS DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mike Zahner reported that the Fall NSPS meeting was held in Cleveland Ohio and the GIF meeting was held in Orlando. He reported that NSPS is making recommendations on the NCEES Model Law on their website. He provided a handout on the Geodesy Workforce Crisis that is threatening the National Defense. Because the Federal Government withdrew its support for academic geodesy, it has resulted in significant loss of university programs offering geodesy. While other counties have invested in their own systems, they have exceeded the capabilities of the US GPS system. It was recommended that the states request Congress and the Federal Government take immediate action in the form of supplemental funding to support what remains of academic geodesy programs in the US and attract US citizens to these programs. For more information on this, please contact JB Byrd at jbyrd@mscapitol.com. It was also suggested that MSPS enact a task force or committee to study Workforce Development. He also reported that de-regulation of licenses is still being pushed on the national level and the Davis Bacon Act is pushing the regulation to track and pay prevailing wage.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Annual Meeting: Representatives from the two chapters welcomed attendees to the conference.

County Surveyors Committee: Jerry Wood, chair, absent. Gerald Bader reported that they have been working on the final point for Norman Brown and there is a celebration of Life scheduled for October 6. Everyone is asked to dress like Norman when attending.

CST Committee: Norman Ellerbrock, chair, submitted a written report noting that he would like to try to have a CST exam on a Saturday soon. NSPS now provides the exams and training for the CST exam. As of January 1, 2023 this exam is online and therefore the exam has been growing in popularity. The CST Board is now working on a study guide for the exam. A new benefit is that when someone takes the CST exam they automatically receive NSPS membership. He also reported that he is not the Chair of the NSPS committee.

Education Committee: Chairman Dan Govero reported that the 2024 Spring Workshop will be

by Kris Kline on Before you Dig (Surveying and the Cemetery), Power, Water and Sewer, Understanding Utility Easements, Deeds and Descriptions and Prescriptive Easements. It will be held on a Thursday and Friday in 2024 at the Lodge of Four Seasons.

It was reported that there is a subcommittee that is working with State Technical College to find a way to add three more hours to the current 12 that is being offered. The committee is made up of Ray Riggs, Dan Govero, Dick Elgin, Terry Westerman, Francis Duncan, Kellan Gregory, and Chris Ferguson.

David Sherrill reported on SIUE and their LS and Geomatics programs noting that they have several currently enrolled. They received \$250,000 worth of equipment and have two drones and have a strong advisory board. They are offering 24 hours of surveying programs and will have scholarships and endowments. He also reported that Ray Riggs and Kevin DeSain are on the Advisory Board.

History Committee: Matt Thomas, chair reported that he would have a presentation on Saturday on the Osage Treaty Line. He is also investigating a presentation on the Santa Fe Trail for 2025 in the Kansas City area. They would like to recreate the running of the Missouri western boundary in the Kansas City area. This will be done with the help of the Kansas City Metro and Southwest chapters of MSPS. He also reported that there is a Surveyors Rendevous in Iowa in September 2024.

Legislative Committee: Lynne Schlosser, lobbyist, reported on the drama that occurred in the Capitol during the 2023 session. There were 2,200 bills filed and 55 passed. MSPS passed the Missouri Coordinates bill and it became effective in August 2023. Sen. Karla Eslinger will be awarded the Legislative award from MSPS at the awards luncheon. She reported that Mark Nolte will be running for a house seat in 2024. She also reported that the Interior Designers will have a Stamp and Seal bill in the 2024 session.

Membership Committee: Robert Anderson announced that a written report was in the meeting handouts and that membership numbers were at 919 as of September 11, 2023 which includes all membership categories.

Newsletter: Don Martin, editor, absent. A written report was submitted for the packet on the various articles written for the newsletter as well as the members who authored these articles.

Awards/Nominating Committee: Ray Riggs reported on the nominations for each office and the results of the election and awards are below:

Bob Anderson as President
Chuck Quinby as President-Elect
Mark Wiley as Vice President
Chris Ferguson as Secretary-Treasurer
B. Austin DeSain as a Board Member
Kellan Gregory as a Board Member

Award winners from the luncheon are:

Surveyor of the Year - Jess Moss
Robert E. Myers Service Award - Mike Zahner
Legislative Award - Senator Karla Eslinger

PAC Committee: Bart Korman, co-chair, reported the balance in the PAC account was \$2,104.28. Profits from the golf tournament will be deposited to the PAC account.

Public Relations Committee: Charles Quinby reported that the sales booths will have new hats and dress shirts and everyone has a coupon in their packets. He will be adding polo shirts for the Spring meeting.

Scholarship/Trigstar Committee: Gerald Bader, chair, announced that the Scholarship Committee had given out one nontraditional scholarship to Sarah Lovelady of Joplin and the Missouri Trig Star winner was from southwest Missouri.

Standards Committee: Phil Grout reported that the Standards committee will be looking at the revised Chapter 60 language and the LSP corner documents will have to be revised.

Technology/GIS Committee: Jess Moss and Travis Tomson, co-chairs, had no report.

Young Surveyors/Mentoring: Kellan Gregory, chair, reported that he will be attending the NSPS Young Surveyors sessions in the spring in Washington DC. The committee is also looking into doing more mentoring.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Metro: No report.

St. Louis: Phil Grout reported that the chapter has eight corporate sponsors and more than 40 members. They have been able to put a banner at the State Tech in the gym and they are in the process of updating their website. He reported that on October 18 BFA will host a picnic at the Riverfront park and will be doing a session at the Soulard Stone that was recently discovered.

Southwest: Sarah Lovelady reported that the chapter had 97 attend the annual summer conference. She reported that they have 26 members and gave two scholarships and they have had two retirements.

Ozark: Jack Dill reported that their memberships are down and that they have PDU workshops when they have chapter meetings.

Southeast: No report.

Central: No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Workforce Development Committee: A motion was made and seconded to establish a workforce development committee. On a vote this motion was approved. J. Bernie Baldus volunteered to chair this committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.