

DNR Survey Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2020

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Zoom Format

801 88th Ave. SE, Tumwater, WA. 98501

Board Members Present:

Paul Galli, PLS, Government, **Chair**
Tim Kent, PLS, Rural
Bruce Dodds, PE/PLS, Multi-Discipline
Gary Letzring, PLS, Urban
Martin Paquette, PLS, Education

Staff Present:

Pat Beehler, PLS
Bob Knuth, PLS
Dennis Studeman

Invited Guests:

Sam Mutt, PLS, WCCS liaison
Tom Barger, PLS, LSAW liaison
Vicky Dalton, WSACA liaison
Casey Kaul, WSACA liaison
Richard Larson, Washington Board of Registration

Audience Guests:

Tamara King, Snohomish County, Survey Project Lead
Kris Horton, PLS, City of Olympia, City Surveyor
Walt Dale, PLS, Benthin & Associates

Meeting began 8:29

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=Agenda item number

1 Chair Paul Galli called the meeting to order.

- Meeting format explained
- Introductions
- Richard Larson assistant director to the Board of Registration introduced.

2 The minutes of the October, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.

3 Monument Removal/Destruction Permits update

a Bob Knuth (PLSO) reported 109 LCRs, 94 Permit Applications, 80 completion Reports were indexed to WebXtender.

4 Report from Auditor's Recording Committee liaison to the SAB

Vicky Dalton reported:

a • Nothing from the Auditors.

b Gary Letzring Liaison to WSACA reported:

- Some discussion on confusion with local agencies amending plats. PLSO communicating with Pierce County Recorder could have been better. Further comment follows. See focus discussion on amending subdivisions below.
- Gary would like his "Correcting a Minor Scrivener Error" article approved by the SAB. Further comment follows.

5 Update on RCW 58.20 Washington Plane Coordinate System

Pat reported:

- The changes required to prepare for the 2022 Terrestrial Reference Frames Datum has passed and will become effective on June 10th.
- The changes bind Washington State to all future revisions to the NSRS.

6 LSAW Liaison to the SAB

a Barger reported:

- LSAW Board of Directors 5/16 meeting to be remote (even though voted down prior to COVID19)
- Continued interest in Amending Survey Maps by LSAW members
- WSDOT still working on GPS on Benchmarks – Yakima Division

b Low distortion stakeholder committee

- NATRF 2022 Task Force LDP's have been included with NGS application

7 April 24, 2020

WCCS Liaison

- a Sam reported:
- The WCCS conference in Chelan was well attended and included good presentations on records, scanning, and principles of R\W vacations.
 - Next conference is planned for January 2021
 - WCCS is having success on coordinating meetings to prevent overlap with SAB and BOR
 - Conversations on the BLA Draft Model Ordinance continue.

8 Amendments to WAC 332-120 monument

- a Status Pat Beehler reported:
- WAC 332-120-040 amended to reference Washington Plane Coordinate System, adoption set for June 2nd.
 - WAC 332-120-020 definitions, 332-120-060 completion requirements, and 332-120-080 Memorandum of Understanding process, will be a permanent rule on May 24th.

9 Update on the monument preservation\PLSO funding bill.

- a Pat Beehler Reported:
- DNR is considering support for this bill.
 - Individual members may consider contacting their representatives in support of the legislation.
 - Goal is to change the funding for PLSO and create a statewide monument preservation program.

DNR Report**10 Public Land Survey Office**

- a Pat B. reported:
- The 02A account took all of the inter-agency and intra-agency charges for this fiscal year as two deductions. These charges were posted in February and March. They were concerning because of their size but after full research was done all charges appeared to be legitimate.

PLSO Staff

- b Bob K. reported:
- Himself, five and one quarter full time staff.
 - David Icenhower's acceptance of the vacated LS2 position in the PLSO was announced and David provided an introduction and background on himself.
 - The new permit to remove or destroy a monument will be posted to the PLSO website soon.

c Records

- Historic survey collections from TMI, WSRS, Bracy and Thomas have been accepted by the PLSO. McGinnis collection is waiting to be picked-up as soon as the PLSO has returned from telework.

- Pat Beehler mentioned the cooperation between the State Archives and the PLSO to update microfilm held by the SOS. Bob reported that rolls of microfilm have been converted and this process will continue.

d Speaking with one voice

- The topic of the SAB and the PLSO speaking with one voice was addressed. Bob relayed information on a communication issue.

e Outreach\Training

- The PLSO is reaching out to the Planning Association of Washington.
- The PLSO outreach to the Realtors Association is bearing fruit. The PLSO is getting research requests from citizens referred by realtors.
- A surveyor wanted to know why there is no dedicated place for epoch realization on the LCR form. SAB is satisfied with the form.

Proposed revision to WAC 332-130-020.

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The SAB reviewed two options for amending signature definitions for the Surveyor's Certificate in WAC 332-130-050. After lengthy conversation, and feedback after the meeting by the Board of Registration, three decisions were made.

- Two surveyor signatures are required on every survey map. One on the stamp and one on the certificate.
- The Recorder's offices around the state will not be responsible for review of signatures on survey maps.
- **No further discussion on this topic will be undertaken by the SAB** unless the relevant RCW has been changed.

12 BLA Draft Model Ordinance

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- Sam and Walt Dale are going to communicate to allow the WCCS to prepare a survey for their members concerning the Draft.

13 Outreach on monument destruction

The consensus of the meeting is:

- There is no effective enforcement mechanism in the law to protect monuments.
- Education resources can be found and should be modified for individual audiences.
- Local agencies have the ability to add monument protection and or replacement to their franchise agreements.
- The monument preservation legislation proposed will go a long way to mitigating some of the problems.

14 Amending an inerrant subdivision with local jurisdiction policy changes.

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Bob provided an explanation of some of the issues:

- Subdivision conditions by local agencies dating back many decades were placed on the face of survey maps. These conditions are out of date with public policy leaning toward infill.
- Not all local agencies have surveyors on staff.
- Documents being submitted to Auditors\Recorders in letter format.
- PLSO\SAB have been providing guidance to Recorders around the state that only a map may be used to amend a map.
- Bob has written case by case exception advice to Pierce and King Counties to mitigate past guidance and allow for recording of non-map sized subdivision amendment documents.

The discussion was put on hold until the focus time.

15 **Book and Page in the Auditor's certificate.**

- Vicky Dalton explained that almost all counties are using Auditor file numbers rather than Book and Page for recording maps.
- The SAB members acknowledged that this is true and found no issue with the current evolution for recordings.
- Vicky warned that surveyors are particularly set against change and that groups like the SAB will hear complaints.
- The SAB acknowledges that the book and page issue will require a change to RCW 58.09.080 and relevant WACs.

16 **Review of Liaisons**

- Bob proposed adding a Planners Association of Washington liaison.
- The SAB agreed.

Focus discussion BLA Draft Model Ordinance

Focus discussion on survey map amendment guidance going forward

- Walt Dale explained that RCW 58.17 requires municipalities to file a map after their process to make a public record of changes.
- Bob was concerned whether DNR had the authority to provide guidance to recorders on subdivision recording processes given the exception to the Survey Recording Act provided in RCW 58.09.090(1)(c)
- The SAB reassured Bob that DNR does have that authority.
- The outcome of further discussion was that the PLSO\SAB guidance stands and that Recorders around the state should reject subdivision map updates or changes of any kind regardless of the source in any format other than survey map.

17 **Did you know? Articles.**

- Gary Letzring's paper on amending subdivisions by record of survey is approved by SAB for the websites.
- Paul Galli's Did You Know article on indexing of surveys is approved for addition to the website.

18 **Concerns and requests by Recorders for a change to "graphic representation" WAC 332-130-050.** April 24, 2020

- Based on the review of the did you know article above the SAB supports Auditors and Recorders rejection of surveys based upon incomplete, non-text indexing information.
- Bob will make a mailchimp announcement for this decision.

19 **Format of the Surveyor's Certificate RCW 58.09.080**

- In future discussions this will be listed among possible amendments to the Survey Recording Act.

20 **Plan next steps: Future meeting(s) dates/locations**

Format and dates to be determined.

Meeting closed 1500

Assignments

- Members involved with BLA Draft Model Ordinance will continue working between now and the next meeting.
- Bob will contact Richard Dickman about the liaison for IRWA.
- PLSO will create and maintain a list of possible updates to RCW 58 and associated WACs.