

Survey Advisory Board (SAB) Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 27, 2023

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm

**Meeting held at the Public Land Survey Office
801 88th Ave SE, Tumwater, WA 98501 and via Teams Conference**

SAB Members Physically Present:

Bruce Dodds, PE-PLS, Chair – **Multi-Discipline**

Paul Galli, PLS – **Government**

Gary Letzring, PLS – **Urban Surveying**

Bob Morse, PLS – **Education**

PLSO/DNR Staff Physically Present:

Pat Beehler, PLS – DNR Survey Manager

David Icenhower, PLS – Manager, PLSO

Ann Alves, LSIT – PLSO Staff

Dennis Studeman – PLSO Staff

Liaisons Physically Present:

Kim Eisenbacher – WSACA (Pierce County Auditor)

Liaisons Present Via Teams:

Thomas Barger – LSAW Liaison

Guests Physically Present:

Rose Johnson – Pierce County Recorder Section

Rich Larsen, PLS – Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (BRPELS)

Guests Present Via Teams:

Lucas Lymangrover, PLS – DNR

Ken Swindaman – Kitsap County

Larry Signani, PLS – NV5

Ken Paul, PLS – Retired

Gavin Schrock, PLS – City of Seattle

Rudy Kitzan, PLS – RFK Land Surveying, Inc.

Alan Mooers, LSIT – City of Bellingham

Lee Moua – Clark County Public Works

Call to Order

1. Chair Bruce Dodds called the meeting to order shortly after 8:00 a.m.
 - The Board members introduced themselves.
 - Guests were asked to self-introduce.

Brief Items and Reports

- **Approval of January 26, 2023 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as published.**
- **Monument Removal/Destruction Permits and Records update:**

Ann Alves reported that since the January 26 meeting:

 - Received **44** LCRs (65 in previous period)
 - Processed **62** Permits to Remove or Destroy a Monument (68 in previous period)
 - Processed **47** Completion Reports (112 in previous period)
- **PDH Program** - David Icenhower reported no changes at this time.
- **Report from Auditor's Recording Liaison** from Washington State Association of County Auditor's (WSACA) to SAB:
 - Kim Eisenbacher reported that there is nothing new.
- **SAB Liaison to WSACA:**
 - Gary Letzring reported that there is nothing new.
- **Report from Land Surveyors' Association of Washington (LSAW) Liaison:**
 - Tom Barger reported that the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (BRPELS) has asked for assistance regarding WAC amendments pertaining to "intelligent interpretation" and the definition of "surveying" as it relates to topographic surveys. These topics will be discussed at the next meeting of the LSAW Board of Directors (BOD).
- **Report from Washington Council of County Surveyors (WCCS) Liaison:**

- Paul Galli reported that the WCCS is pretty much dormant at this time.
- Update of GPS Guidebook 2004:
 - Bob Morse introduced Gavin Schrock, PLS, of the City of Seattle, and Larry Signani, PLS, of NV5, as volunteers to help with technical aspects of the GPS Guidebook.
ACTION ITEM
 - Bob will get together with Gavin, Larry, and Bob Green, PLS, before next meeting to solidify how they will coordinate the work.

DNR Reports

Public Land Survey Office

02A Account

Pat Beehler reported:

- Fund Balance and Financial Trend (**see attached report**).
- The latest revision to WAC 332-150-030 to add \$36 to the current \$64 survey recording fee will take effect on July 1, 2023.

Records indexing

Dennis Studeman reported that since the last meeting, the PLSO has indexed:

- 6263 Total Indexes
 - a. 2805 Current Surveys
 - b. 3458 Historic Surveys

Donated Records

Ann Alves reported:

- Richard Cambern
- More of Jerry Olson
- Rich Norris – Contains Roger Lovitt records. We've received some records and will plan to pick up more soon

- We are finished scanning the City of Bremerton donated field books and the hard copies will be turned over to State Archives.

Record collections waiting to be picked up:

- Worley – out of Tri-Cities.
- Stratton – Tri-Cities

Outreach/Training

David Icenhower reported:

News and information sent via Mail Chimp

- NGS Webinar Series:
- CORS Installation, Operation, and Maintenance Best Practices
- Announced the approval by the Board of Natural Resources of the amendment to WAC 332-150-030 – Recording Fee Survey Map Surcharge increase from \$64 to \$100.
- Announced that Bellingham Technical College was searching for a Geomatics Instructor.
- Announced that the PLSO has completed indexing all King County recorded plats in our WebXtender database.

LSAW

- David presented to the South Puget Sound Chapter of the LSAW about the PLSO history and operations on March 9th.
- David and Dennis are planning on presenting to the LSAW North Puget Sound Chapter about the PLSO on May 23rd.

Board of Registration liaison

- David and Pat met with the BRPELS staff on March 23rd and discussed the possibility of amending WAC 332-130-080(3) regarding reporting of “method of mathematical analysis used in achieving a stated relative accuracy.”

Active Items

- **Monument Preservation**

- Paul Galli reported that County Road Administration Board (CRAB) has a new requirement wherein County Roads Departments must have a monument preservation program. Paul hopes that we can perhaps work with CRAB to help strengthen the individual county programs.
- Tom Barger reported that City of Seattle Parks is now adding text on the engineering plans to alert contractors to the need to file for Permits to Remove Survey Monuments.
- Tom also reported that Carla Merritt has retired and that Ken Swindaman is picking up as the surveyor representative to the 811 group.

- **Model BLA Ordinance**

ACTION ITEM

- Bruce will edit the Model BLA once more to suggest a requirement that a land surveyor write the legal description but not mandate a survey be recorded since there are circumstances where that is not warranted.

- **Monument Preservation Legislation**

- Pat Beehler reported that someone on the outside of the DNR would need to get a bill introduced by a senator or house member in order to move forward with any monument preservation program legislation. That needs to be done prior to the 2024 legislative session.

Old Items

ACTION ITEM

- Pat Beehler reported that he had spoken with DNR Legal Affairs as requested regarding “constructive notice” of monument replacement documentation. The answer is that documents filed with and maintained by the DNR are “public records” and provide “public notice”, but not “constructive notice.”

New Items

Pat Beehler proposed:

- A revision to WAC 332-130-080(3) to require a statement of accuracy achieved to be shown on recorded surveys. (**see attached**)
- A revision to WAC 332-120-060(4) & (5) and -070 deleting the requirement to file a Record of Survey upon resetting a survey monument. (**see attached**)
- The Board approved of Pat starting the process to make these WAC amendments.

Rich Larson reported:

The BRPELS Survey Committee is working on a proposal to revise WAC 196-29, Professional Practices, to mandate retention standards for precision calculation data.

Ken Swindaman requested:

The SAB/DNR should review WAC 332-130 in its entirety, not just in a piecemeal fashion.

Future Meetings (locations to be determined)

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- July 27, 2023 – location to be determined
- October 26, 2023 – location to be determined
- January 25, 2024 – location to be determined

Changes to the Board Membership

- Bruce ends his term of Board membership on June 30th. The DNR is actively searching for replacement for the vacated position.
- The next Chair of the SAB will be Gary Letzring beginning July 1, 2023.

Adjourn

- Bruce Dodds adjourned the meeting at about 12:00 p.m.