

# MISSOURI SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Sheraton Westport Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri

October 14, 2016

## MINUTES

President Jim Mathis called the meeting to order and welcomed the membership to the 59th Annual Meeting.

Minutes of the October 9, 2015 meeting were reviewed by Secretary-Treasurer Chris Wickern. **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 Mr. Wickern showing an overall balance of \$186,276.29. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial report as presented. On a vote, the motion was approved.**

**REGISTRATION BOARD**: Mike Flowers presented the registration Board report in the absence of Mike Freeman and reported on the passing rate for the most recent PLS and LSIT tests. He reported that there were currently 876 surveyors licensed in Missouri and 294 Corporation licenses. The Certificate of Authority cost has been reduced from \$100 to \$50. He reported that long time Executive Director Judy Kempker was making plans to retire but will work on a part time contract basis for the Board - three days a week for five additional years.

He reported on the number of complaints that the Board reviews and civil penalties and announced that the time to take the PLS test had been extended to 1.25 hours. The Board also voiced their plea for legislation to increase the education requirements. He reported that the Governor's office was still in possession of the new Minimum Standards regulations and probably would not do anything with them until a new Governor was elected.

**STATE LAND SURVEYOR'S REPORT**: Darrell Pratte submitted a written report on personnel, projects, rulemaking and the budget.

Personnel: He reported that the Program was fully staffed with 14 full-time employees; three in administration and standards, four in the land survey repository and seven in field surveys.

Projects: The Secretary of State Archivist continues to refurbish old maps from the LSP vault. GLO field note books have been scanned. The Cooperative Corner Restoration programs netted 183 corners restored for \$250 each. There are currently 28 active land survey investigations.

The Land Survey Program is helping the NGS build a better geoid model allowing land surveyors to derive orthometric heights from the GPS observations with greater confidence. The LSP is tying all the GPS observable status control marks to the MoDOT's virtual reference system.

Rulemaking: The Missouri Department of Agriculture's version of the Minimum Standards for

Property Boundary Surveys has been approved by the Governor's office; however, the proposed rule issued by the Department of Insurance is still being reviewed by the Governor's office.

Budget: Revenue to the Land Survey fund for FY 2015 was approximately \$1.1 million with expenses about \$1 million. Surplus in the Land Survey Program account last year was almost \$23,000 leaving about \$1 million in the Fund with \$400,000 in the Land Survey Revolving Fund.

**NSPS GOVERNOR'S REPORT:** Missouri Governor Troy Hayes reported that the CST Committee was encouraging more participation and the committee was looking for volunteers to proctor the exam. Volunteers are needed from Springfield and St. Louis areas. He reported that he attended the March NSPS meeting in Washington, D.C. but could not attend the Phoenix meeting last month.

Curt Sumner, Executive Director of NSPS reported on the Joint Membership Program noting that only two states were not participating (California and Arkansas). He reported that each state has provided their concern on the number of new licensed surveyors around the country. NSPS is developing a future surveyor task force to deal with this dilemma. He reported that NSPS would be taking over the Cfed program and he discussed a problem with the Realtors Association and the practice of surveying. He reported on the NAD22 legislation and noted that information was on the NSPS website and he invited everyone to tune into the NSPS Radio Show. In addition he reported that NSPS attended the National School Counselors Association meeting to try to find a way to recruit young students to be surveyors. He reported that the 2017 Boy Scout Jamboree would be held in West Virginia and the chairs lived in Missouri, Wil and Shelly Clark.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Annual Meeting:** Dan Govero reported he thought the program was going to be good and the facility was good as well. The 2017 meeting will be held in Springfield Missouri at the Ramada Oasis Conference Center

**County Surveyors:** Loyd Todd, absent, no report.

**CST Committee:** See NSPS Governor's report above.

**Education Committee:** Chairman Dan Govero reported that the planning for the 2017 Spring workshop planning was complete and Jeff Lucas and John Matonich would be speaking.

**GIS/Vision 21 Committee:** Jon Cole, Chairman, had no report.

**History Committee:** Stan Emerick reported that the search for the original Boundary Line (west Missouri state boundary) was still ongoing and the event at the Fort Osage with the Seminar and the dedication of the monument was very successful. He will follow up on this with an article for the newsletter and will put the link on the website.

**Legislative Committee:** Jim Anderson reported that there was a committee meeting on September 15 and three things were recommended to the MSPS Board.

1. Introduce a bill to change Chapter 327 to eliminate the letters of reference (same bill that was introduced last year).
2. Introduce a bill that would change the education requirement from 12 hours to 16 hours and legal aspects to six hours.
3. Work with the Recorders Association to pass a bill that all legal descriptions must be signed with a name and/or exhibit with a title block.

He reported that the committee was still compiling bad legal descriptions to present to the Senators and Representatives.

**Membership Committee:** Robert Ubben announced that a written report was in the meeting handouts and that membership numbers have been stable for the last couple of years remaining at around 630 PLS members.

**MoDOT Committee:** Earl Graham had no report.

**Newsletter:** Don Martin, editor, absent, no report.

**Awards/Nominating Committee:** Adam Teale announced that awards would be presented at the luncheon.

He reported the following slate of officers and directors for 2016-2017. Joe Clayton ascended to President.

It was moved and seconded to elect Gerald Bader as President-Elect by acclamation. The motion passed. There were a motion and a second to elect Chris Wickern by acclamation to the position of Vice President. This motion also passed.

Mr. Teale reported that the nominees for the Secretary-Treasurer position were Susanne Daniel and Michael Gray. A ballot was distributed for members to vote on these positions as well as the Board of Directors terms that ended in 2019. Those nominated for these positions were: Debrah Wolfe, Ray Riggs, Kevin Flood and Ron Heimbaugh. After the written vote, Susanne Daniel was elected to serve as Secretary-Treasurer. Ray Riggs and Ron Heimbaugh were elected to the Board of Directors.

**PAC Committee:** Richard Barr reported a balance of \$3,054.28 in the PAC account.

**Public Relations Committee:** Charles Quinby reported hats were on sale in the PR booth by the registration area. He reported that denim shirts were available as well as hats. He would be getting new items for the Spring Workshop in 2017. He also reported that the St. Louis Chapter was doing a raffle to raise funds for their organization.

**Publications Committee:** Stan Emerick reported that he was trying to organization and assist

with information for the website and newsletter to improve the MSPS digital fingerprint.

**Scholarship/TrigStar Committee:** Susanne Daniel reported there were four applications for scholarship, however they did not meet the criteria and therefore no scholarship was given. The non traditional scholarship went to Amber Lowe, a student at Rolla Tech that was studying drafting.

It was reported that there is a national Trigstar scholarship available for \$5,000 and it is in the process of changing from awarding to a high school graduate to a first year college student.

**Standards Committee:** Chris Wickern reported that he is acquiring input from the American Land Title Association and standardized subdivision regulations are coming in September.

**Young Surveyors/Mentoring:** How to get people interested in the career of Surveying is the thrust of this committee and they are looking into a new fund to give scholarships to LSITs and PLSs.

## **CHAPTER REPORTS**

**Metro:** Jeff Means reported that the Metro chapter had redone their bylaws and submitted them to the Secretary of State. They had appointed new directors and set up a bank account. They will have a meeting to encourage surveyors to join in January.

**St. Louis:** It was reported that they had three or four education sessions in 2016 and were having an auction to raise funds for the chapter.

**Southwest:** Joe Clayton reported that this summer the chapter had their 10<sup>th</sup> annual summer workshop. They had set a stone for the Osage Treaty Line and awarded a scholarship to Kyle Eubanks to attend classes at Linn State Tech.

**Central:** Jon Cole reported that the chapter had met and would be looking into the City of Columbia's new zoning regulations

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Dimensions:** Mike Flowers reminded everyone that they would receive .5 PDUs for reading the Board's newsletter.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**None.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.