

Wisconsin County Surveyors Association, Inc.

Minutes of the WCSA August 5 2022, BOD Meeting
 Wisconsin Rapids, WI – Wood County Courthouse



Board of Directors Attending

Ryan Duckart	Brown County	Tom Leslie*	Brown County
Bryan Meyer	La Crosse County	Laurence Johns	Vernon County
Tom Carlson	Dunn County	Rob Merry	SEWRPC
Wade Pettit	Clark County	Joe Nelsen	Trempealeau County

WCSA Members/Others Attending (*online)

Tony Dallman	Lincoln County	Cody Brommerich	Jackson County
Brian Gross	Oconto County	Terry Lueschow	Seiler Instruments
Corey Hughes	St. Croix County	David Decker	Marathon County
Dean Roth	Eau Claire County	Tim Brueggeman	Jackson County
Dale Hewitt	La Crosse County	Adam Dekleyn	Wood County
Glen Schaefer*	Retired	Lucas Meier*	Washburn County
Mick Heberlein*	WDOT	Catlon Phelps*	Barron County
David Vogel*	SCO	Dan Ploeger*	Sawyer County
Dan Frick*	Dane County	Gregg Batzer*	Dunn County

President Ryan Duckart called the Board meeting to order at 10:02 am

Thank you to Wood County for hosting the meeting & Adam Dekleyn for picking up the refreshments which were donated by Seiler Instruments (Terry Lueschow)

Introductions were made by members in attendance (“What is your favorite food on the grill?”)

Additions to the Agenda: Discuss “Sale or exchange of lands between parcels” (Item #4)

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the Minutes from the May 6, 2022 Board meeting

Secretary’s Report: Tom Leslie reported on preparing the last Board minutes; emailing updated paid dues list & related paid map to members, updated/revised the WCSA website and passed along any updates from Mick at WDOT. Minutes and agendas are added to the website about a week before next meeting for downloading via a link sent in any future meeting reminder emails. As always, let me know if you want to see something added (or removed). Nothing else to report at this time

Treasurer’s Report: Tom Carlson gave the following report:

Wisconsin County Surveyors Assoc. Inc. Treasurer’s Report - August 5, 2022

Current Balances (Westconsin Credit Union)

Balances as of August 1, 2022

Checking.....	\$5,137.85
Savings.....	\$5,668.99

Expenditures 2022

<u>3013</u>	1/3/2022	Tom Leslie (Secretarial Services – 1 st Qtr.)	\$700.00
<u>3014</u>	1/18/2022	WLS Foundation (Bucky's Challenge)	\$250.00
<u>3015</u>	1/31/2022	Wisconsin Towns Association (Dues)	\$175.00
<u>3016</u>	1/31/2022	National Assoc. of Co. Surveyors (Dues)	\$100.00
<u>3017</u>	1/31/2022	WLS Sustaining Membership Dues (Void)	\$360.00
<u>3018</u>	2/7/2022	Championship Awards (Brenda's award) (Void)	\$94.39
<u>3019</u>	3/18/2022	Cody Steines (BOD Mtg. refreshments)	\$23.59
<u>3020</u>	4/1/2022	Tom Leslie (Secretarial Services – 2 nd Qtr.)	\$700.00
<u>3021</u>	4/19/2022	Championship Awards (Brenda's award)	\$94.39
<u>3022</u>	7/1/2022	Tom Leslie (Secretarial Services – 3 rd Qtr.)	\$700.00

Total Expenditures 2022 **\$2,742.98**

Deposits 2022

1/13/2022	Dues Payments	\$750.00
1/14/2022	Dues Payments	\$600.00
1/20/2022	Dues Payments	\$1,200.00
2/3/2022	Dues Payments	\$400.00
2/16/2022	Dues Payments	\$200.00
3/3/2022	Dues Payments	\$350.00
3/11/2022	Dues Payments	\$100.00
3/24/2022	Dues Payments	\$150.00
4/2/2022	Dues Payments	\$150.00
5/3/2022	Dues Payments	\$50.00
5/24/2022	Dues Payments	\$150.00
6/3/2022	Dues Payments	\$100.00
6/27/2022	Dues Payments	\$100.00

Total Deposits in 2022 **\$4,300.00**

2022 Dividends – Checking Account

1/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.18
2/28/2022	Dividend	\$0.21
3/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.25
4/30/2022	Dividend	\$0.23
5/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.23
6/30/2022	Dividend	\$0.47
7/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.45

Total Dividends received in 2022 **\$2.02**

2022 Dividends – Savings Account

1/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.48
2/28/2022	Dividend	\$0.43
3/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.48
4/30/2022	Dividend	\$0.47
5/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.48
6/30/2022	Dividend	\$1.16
7/31/2022	Dividend	\$1.20

Total Dividends received in 2022 **\$4.70**

Total postage stamps used in 2022 **9**
(Book of 20 purchased on 3/17/2021)
(3 stamps left)

Dues collected for 2022 through August 1, 2022 **\$4,200.00**

On May 15, 2022, an option for making dues payments with a credit card was added to the “Shop” dropdown menu on the WSLs homepage giving members another method for paying dues.

Report Respectfully Submitted,



Tom Carlson, Dunn Co. Surveyor
Treasurer

41 of 72 Counties are current members (58%)

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports

WLIC Report:

- Nothing to report at this time (no meeting in a while)

Correspondence:

- Ryan discussed his letter to US House Representative Tom Tiffany supporting the proposed FLAIR Act. The acronym stands for Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform and would require the Federal government to have an accurate inventory of lands owned. The Act should improve Federal land management, resource conservation, environmental protection, and use of Federal real property, by requiring the Secretary of Interior to develop a multipurpose cadastre of Federal real property and identifying inaccurate, duplicate, and out-of-date Federal land inventories
- Laurence Johns discussed an email he received concerning the legality of selling a landlocked parcel. He contacted Renee Powers to get her opinion. She stated there are no statutes that prohibit the sale of such parcels, but there is quite a bit of case law on the subject (see §82.27(6) dealing with land locked parcels). Many local ordinances do require that access is provided
- NACS is holding the first of several County Surveyor Roundtable Discussions (via zoom) on August 16 @ Noon (CST), and moderated by NACS Central Director Patrick Veraguth, with topics to include:
 - What is NACS?
 - What does NACS currently do for its members and what new resources can we provide to better serve the members?

- What is the importance of a County Surveyor?
- How do we promote the importance of a County Surveyor to maintain existing positions and establish the position in additional counties?
- What role can the County Surveyor play in recruiting new Surveyors into the profession?
- Discussion on mobility of license and license requirements by state

Education Segment

Mick Heberlein, WDOT: “County Coordinates on PLSS Finder”

- Discussion included:
 - GPS on BM update
 - As of mid-July, there are approximately 3800 observations with 2810 stations considered ‘completed’ by National Geodetic Survey (NGS)
 - Mick’s monthly status update emails will resume in August and he plans to continue monthly updates through the December 31, 2022 deadline
 - Statewide support for this project has been overwhelming
 - Users are encouraged to continue observations and submit them to NGS via OPUS Share before the deadline so they can be included in the NGS database when the 2022 datum is released
 - Now is the time to obtain observations on additional local stations not previously observed
 - Questions- contact Mick Heberlein 608-243-5994 or email mick.heberlein@dot.wi.gov
 - Mick continues to include county surveyors in Geodetic Surveys email responses to utilities for WisDOT Work in the Right of Way Permits
 - Potentially many section corners and reference monuments affected by utility work along state highways
 - County surveyors included to be sure that they are aware of project and potential disturbance of corner monuments
 - 2022 Datum Release by NGS
 - NGS announced that the release of the 2022 Datum will likely be sometime in 2025. (Glen was correct when I incorrectly stated during the meeting that it would be 2024. THANKS GLEN)
 - Release will also include most of the planned transformation tools, but likely not all of them
 - The 2022 Datum and its release was the subject of a June, 2022 NGS recorded webinar Interested users are encouraged to watch the webinar.
 - Link to webinar: [It’s 2022 - Are You Done Yet? | NGS Webinar Series | National Geodetic Survey \(noaa.gov\)](#).
 - NGS took the initiative to remove “Derogatory” Names from NGS products
 - NGS’s effort was begun prior to a similar endeavor currently being done by the Department of Interior
 - Primary impact is the removal of station names that are or can be considered derogatory to ‘reasonable’ people
 - This initiative came to the attention of WisDOT when station designations for two stations in Vernon County were changed to the Permanent Identifier (PID). Station stamping was removed from datasheet and images were altered to cover station designation
 - This should only affect a very small number of stations (if any beyond these two)
 - Contact Mick if you discover another station that has been changed or have any questions
 - WisDOT was told that we can name stations whatever we want, but NGS does not have to publish it

Old Business

1) Status of County Surveyor Offices

- Brown County is still searching for a County Surveyor
- Counties can't offer enough in way of salary to generate much interest in open positions
- Corey Hughes is new County Surveyor for St. Croix County
- Dale Hewitt is the new Assistant County Surveyor for La Crosse County
- SCO County Surveyor online info should be up-to-date

2) PLSS Workgroup

- Not much to report at this time (insert cricket chirping here)
- Still working on the Tomah school corner setting event – contacted Berntsen for possible special monument but they do not seem very interested. Any plaque used should contain the corner information. Perhaps a metals class could produce some sort of monument/medal
- Bryan Meyer will reach out to the PLSS Workgroup and check out what's going on

3) Panel Discussion at ROD Conference

- Held on June 7, 2022 in Pewaukee. Bryan Meyer, John Casucci, Jeff De Muth and Jim Sehloff were part of the panel
- John Casucci created a spreadsheet with results from contacting state ROD offices about CSM review process, what's acceptable, what's not. Not all counties participated, but it's a good start

4) Sale or Exchange of Parcels

- Dave Decker was contacted by people around the state and it is quite apparent that there are many differences between how Counties handle sale or exchange. None are perfect, but it would be advantageous to have more consistency between offices
- Dan Frick discussed what's happening in Dane County (court case). This may have consequences around that State, no matter what the outcome. Land division ordinances are everywhere: towns, villages, cities and counties, and depending on how you read the Statutes, these ordinances may be deemed in violation. Check out §66.10015(4) and §75.06(9)
- CSM review, CSM requirements, parcel vs lot, contiguous lands, deed review, adjoiners were also discussed. Have Counties taken this too far?? Status quo for now until challenged
- This would make an excellent topic for an upcoming seminar and/or Institute session

New Business

1) Corner Maintenance Cost (Bounty Program)

- Email from Jeremiah Erickson from Monroe County. Do counties have a reimbursement program in place? Just looking for input from other counties on how they handle this, if at all
- Some Counties do not like others remonumenting corners so they handle these themselves
- Some counties also pay for coordinates as part of the remonumenting
- Company costs to remonument a corner are often more than what is being compensated, although statutorily the surveyor is required to replace what is missing, compensation or not

2) County Surveyor Information

- Laurence Johns asked about out of area surveyors coming in and not finding out what the requirements are for this particular county. Is there a way to get information out Statewide concerning this? Some surveyors do check before working in the county, but not the norm
- Questions are not a bad thing, it's better than not asking at all
- Perhaps more info on the County websites stating that "If you are surveying in this county, please contact CS first" or something similar

3) Land Division Court Case

- This was discussed earlier in the meeting. Appeal was filed in late July but no news since – Dan will keep the group updated
- Tom L will get Dan’s email onto the WCSA website

4) Center of Section in Walworth County

- Rob Merry discussed an issue in Section 6 (which makes it a little tougher) with an old monument and witnesses that were obliterated by a local farmer. There is basically no evidence of a corner being set. One survey did reference a “computed point” but that’s all that can be found
- The dilemma is this: Does he set the corner at the prorated north/south line as a recent tie sheet would indicate or does he set the corner at the traditional intersection of opposite quarter corners, or does he not need to set a corner at all since no surveyor/deeds reference the corner location?
- Has anyone ever heard of setting a center of section on a prorated distance between the north and south ¼ corners? Everyone agrees Rob should not set anything at this location at all
- *“If you want to create a problem, just throw a pipe in there!”*

Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 12:28 pm

Next up: Annual Membership Meeting



Friday, January 27, 2023 at 10:20 am



WSLS Annual Institute

Wisconsin Dells – Kalahari Resort