



# Wisconsin County Surveyors Association, Inc.

Minutes of the WCSA Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, January 27, 2023

Kalahari Resort—Wisconsin Dells, WI



## **Board of Directors Attending**

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

## **WCSA Members/Others Attending**

Glen Schaefer	Retired	Matt Johnson	Douglas County
Dan Frick	Dane County	Sam Wenz	Chippewa County
Dan Pleoger	Sawyer County	Jason Towne	Burnett County
Dale Raisleger	Brown County	Steve Grady	Seiler Instruments
Brad Heuer	Rock County	Dick Leistikow	Dodge County
Justin Meyer	Taylor County	Jeremy Hildebrand	Sheboygan County
Pete Kuen	Fond du Lac County	Bob Meyer	Taylor County
James Anderson	Forest County	Aaron Austin	Lafayette County
Lucas Meier	Washburn County	Mick Heberlein	WisDOT
Josh Prentice	WSLS President	Dave Decker	Marathon County
Tony Dallman	Lincoln County	Jason Bolz	Manitowoc County
Dave Tlusty	JET Enterprises	Cody Brommerich	Jackson County
Brad Buechel	Calumet County	Brian Gross	Oconto County
David Yurk	Shawano County	David Vogel	SCO
Terry Van Hout	Outagamie County	Joseph Glodowski	Waupaca County
Ron Jaspersen	Buffalo County	Gary Dechant	Juneau & Monroe County
Dean Roth	Eau Claire County	James Hebert	Hebert Land Surveying
Brad Tisdale	MSA	Jessica Van Buren	Shawano County
Jason Houle	Leica Geosystems		

*This list does not depict Zoom meeting participants and thus may not constitute an exhaustive record of all meeting participants/observers.  
(You're always on the list Glen)*

**President Ryan Duckart called the meeting to order at 10:20 am**

- Introductions were made with no additions to the agenda

***Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the January 28, 2022 minutes as presented***

## **Secretary's Report** (Tom Leslie):

- Prepared minutes for the four quarterly meetings and one annual meeting; distributed any informational emails, literature, links, etc with Board and membership; coordinated with David Vogel on informational updates to the online SCO county surveyor directory; updated the WCSA website including agendas, minutes, publications, meeting schedule changes, and any other updates as needed

## **Treasurer's Report** (Tom Carlson):

- See Treasurer's Report attached to the end of the minutes for more detailed information

***Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Secretary & Treasurer Reports as presented***

**WLIC Report (Cody Brommerich):**

Cody reported there was a lot of discussion generated at the November 2022 meeting on the upcoming changes to personal information shown on government websites (Shield Act, Daniel's Law, CRIS). The discussion included:

- Proposed federal Confidential Records Identity Shielding (CRIS) legislation and possible legislation at the state level. Shielding is like the records never existed, while redacting is blocking out personally identifiable information from the records
- Twenty states have passed similar legislation and six states have legislation pending, but no legislation introduced in Wisconsin yet. Enacted legislations will vary from state to state. Several states have legislation that were quickly created and whisked through, but unfortunately were not well thought out and have created real problems for many organizations
- Possible ramifications of this sort of federal or state legislation, such as how to shield information that is already public, whether it would be possible to maintain county GIS online, whether archived versions of data would need to be taken down, and the possibility of downstream negative impacts
- The Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association is concerned with preventing "unworkable" versions of this legislation from passing. Cheryl Berken, Brown County ROD, is very involved in this right now, and is speaking to as many groups as she can to get the word out that to affected organizations (including this year's Institute) that this is coming sooner than later, and Wisconsin needs to be prepared

**Correspondence:**

- Glen Schaefer sent an email with a link to an article that may be of interest to GPS users:  
<https://www.gpsworld.com/gps-interference-harms-the-economy-national-security-and-everyday-people/>
- Bryan Meyer announced that he wrote an article called "Shaping Wisconsin – The county role in land use decisions" for the upcoming February 2023 edition of the Wisconsin Counties Association magazine. Tom L will get a link on the website as soon as it's available

**Education Segment:**

**GPS on Benchmarks latest update — Mick Heberlein, WisDOT**

- See Mick's latest email report attached to the end of the minutes for more detailed information. New deadline is Sept. 30, 2023 with a projected 2025 conversion. Please check if any re-observations are needed in your county
- Mick also mentioned to contact him if you need orange cones to place around your HARNs stations/marks as they work much better than the old posts, which he can also replace if needed
- Thank you to David Vogel for getting the CORS points updated on the SCO website

**Old Business:**

**1) Status of County Surveyor Offices:**

- Dan Pleoger, Sawyer County is retiring in April 2023. Hopefully the County will refill the position
- Mike Romportl reported that the Oneida County news is discouraging as there are no plans to refill the County Surveyor position – perhaps part time would work?
- Winnebago County is in the process of creating a Condominium Review. This is the perfect time to get a County Surveyor in there and do the proper review!

**2) 2023 PLSS Forum:**

- It's been a few years since the last Forum and getting started up again has been difficult. Past members of the group are retiring – new energy is needed

- Perhaps UWSP could help? They have done an excellent job with the Institute for many years. Or what about WCSA - do we champion this? Or Towns Association? Someone needs to step up
- Past forum dates were in March – move to fall to give more time to plan?
- Ryan will talk to Terry Van Hout from the WSLs Foundation for possible support
- Funding from where?
- Board members possibly made up of ROD, RPL, County Surveyor, Title industry, Town's Assoc
- Created an AD HOC Committee on PLSS Forum with Dan Frick as Chair, and including Laurence Johns, Dave Decker, Bryan Meyer and Ryan Duckart
- Perhaps Bryan could draft a follow up to his latest article and explain what PLSS Forum is and does?

### 3) GPS/Onyx Issues:

- ONYX is a phone app that purports to find your property corners for you. The big problem is that there are reports of people using this app and moving their corners to where the phone is telling them it should be located
- There are no "White Papers" out there that deal with this issue. Ryan D said WSLs does have a draft letter but it is in need of revising/updating/rewording. He will check on the progress and report back
- Perhaps Steve Sorenson, Institute presenter and Attorney, should have a look at the paper? This stuff is just the tip of the iceberg – no incentive for the app owner to remove it so it's here to stay for now

## New Business:

### 1) 2022 WCSA BOD Report

- See full report at the end of the minutes

### 2) SCO Updates:

- After some group discussion, David Vogel agreed to implement the truncation of coordinates for non-survey grade information on the SCO website

### 3) Election of Directors:

- President Duckart read the list of candidates nominated for the Board of Directors for 2023:

President	<b>Ryan Duckart</b>	Brown County
Vice President	<b>Laurence Johns</b>	Vernon County
Past President	<b>Bryan Meyer</b>	La Crosse County
Treasurer	<b>Tom Carlson</b>	Dunn County
Secretary	<b>Tom Leslie</b>	Brown County
Directors	<b>Rob Merry</b>	SEWRPC
	<b>Joe Nelsen</b>	Trempealeau County
	<b>Wade Pettit</b>	Clark County

- ***A motion was made, seconded and approved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of candidates as presented. Congratulations!***

## Other Business:

- 1) 2023 WCSA meeting dates: March 23 at Wade Pettit's syrup production facility; May 5 in Wisconsin Rapids; August 4 in Neillsville and November 3 in Wisconsin Rapids. Information email will be sent to members within a week of upcoming meeting and the schedule will be added to the website
- 2) Virtual coverage of the WCSA meetings will be provided as deemed necessary. WSLs and NWTC will help with getting these set up (equipment, technical expertise) if needed. NWTC has a new, updated OWL for us to use at the May 2023 meeting – sound quality has been improved

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 11:50 pm

