



Wisconsin County Surveyors Association, Inc.

Minutes of the WCSA November 4, 2022 BOD Meeting
Neillsville, WI – Clark County Courthouse



Board of Directors Attending (*online)

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

WCSA Members/Others Attending (*online)

Tony Dallman	Lincoln County	Cody Brommerich	Jackson County
Brian Gross	Oconto County	Terry Lueschow	Seiler Instruments
Dale Raisleger	Brown County	Dale Hewitt	La Crosse County
Dean Roth	Eau Claire County	Gary Dechant	Juneau/Monroe County
Glen Schaefer*	Retired	Mick Heberlein*	WDOT
David Vogel*	SCO	Jeremy Hildebrand*	Sheboygan County
Gregg Batzer*	Dunn County		

President Ryan Duckart called the Board meeting to order at 10:00 am

Thank you to Clark County for hosting the meeting & to Wade Pettit for picking up the refreshments and Howard Herrild from NWTC for the use of the Owl virtual assistant

Introductions were made by members in attendance (*“How many years in Surveying?”*)

There are no additions to the agenda

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the Minutes from the August 5, 2022 Board meeting

Secretary’s Report: Tom Leslie reported on preparing the last Board minutes; updated/revised the WCSA website with latest membership map 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). SCO is the place to quickly get the latest contact information on County Surveyors. There is a link on our website

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

Wisconsin County Surveyors Assoc. Inc.

Treasurer’s Report - November 4, 2022

Current Balances (Westconsin Credit Union)

Balances as of November 1, 2022

Checking.....	\$4,639.13
Savings.....	\$5,672.81

Expenditures 2022

<u>3013</u>	1/3/2022	Tom Leslie (Secretarial Services – 1 st Qtr.)	\$700.00
<u>3014</u>	1/18/2022	WSLS 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	WSLS 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
<u>3023</u>	10/1/2022	Tom Leslie (Secretarial Services – 4 th Qtr.)	\$700.00
Total Expenditures 2022			\$3,442.98

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	
8/10/2022	Dues Payments	\$100.00	
9/21/2022	Dues Payments	\$100.00	
Total Deposits in 2022			\$4,500.00

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	
8/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.44	
9/30/2022	Dividend	\$0.43	
10/31/2022	Dividend	\$0.41	
Total Dividends received in 2022			\$3.30

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
8/31/2022	Dividend	\$1.20
9/30/2022	Dividend	\$1.17
10/31/2022	Dividend	\$1.45
Total Dividends received in 2022		\$8.52

Total postage stamps used in 2022 **10**
(Book of 20 purchased on 3/17/2021)
(2 stamps left)

Dues collected for 2022 through November 1, 2022 **\$4,400.00**

Report Respectfully Submitted,



Tom Carlson, Dunn Co. Surveyor
Treasurer

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

WLIC Report:

- Cody Brommerich reported on the last WLIA Quarterly meeting held last week in Sheboygan. Highlights include: Several council positions will be available at the end of the year if interested; 2023 WLIP Grants will award \$70,000 Strategic Initiative grants to eligible counties due to very high revenue made from recorded document fees. 2024 is not known but will probably go down to \$40,000; discussion on Lidar status throughout the State including several counties having Lidar projects in 2022. Much of the State is QL2 already, with 10-12 counties doing QL1 projects. USGS has plenty of money to fund these projects, thus the abundance of counties having projects done recently; discussed hydrography & wetland projects around the State; discussed the Wisconsin Shield Act and the potential impact it may bring to all the related businesses, government agencies, and the public
- Tom Leslie discussed the Daniel’s Law being proposed at the Federal level, being part of a 400+ page Omnibus bill getting fast-tracked through the House and Senate. Everything is still being discussed, but it could hold government agencies (and perhaps the actual employee) accountable if things are not done in a certain time period, or miss a document or a name, so this could have very big ramifications. PRIA local is having their next meeting in Weston next Wednesday, Nov. 9 (Madison is Tuesday, Nov. 8). Tom will send the flyer to those who are interested. The meetings are attended by ROD, RPL, Title industry, Fidlir representative and generate some very good discussion, as well as getting updated information from the attending groups
- Tom also discussed what is being done in Brown County when a confidentiality request is received. Right now, the county has around 200 people on that list. An email reply is sent to each participant, stating this request is just for the “Brown County Property Search” website – there are many, many more websites where this information can be obtained. In theory, a search by the *omission* of a name on the parcel could be used. Nothing is going to remove all personal information – the internet does not forget. Maybe the plug needs to be pulled on the public information online?? Hopefully Wisconsin’s reaction to the upcoming Daniel’s Law will be well thought out and include all the players (ROD,RPL, Real estate, assessors, banks, title companies) at the discussion table

Correspondence:

- Glen Schaefer forwarded a letter relating to the Ligado issue. The letter is to the FCC and is signed by numerous US Senators and urges the US to rethink allowing Ligado to operate as currently planned. Terry Lueschow stated that Ligado should not influence the newer GPS equipment, according to the latest information available
- Bryan Meyer recently attended and presented on the Lost State Line at the Minnesota Association of County Surveyors Land Surveying Annual Conference on October 21, 2022 in St. Cloud, MN. It was held more in the style of a Chapter Seminar and not the WSLI Institute. It is held, in part, to hopefully inspire young surveyors to get involved. It was well attended by surveying students (22 out of 85 participants). Bryan also mentioned that one of the organization's committees (Geotechnical?) is very interested in taking our concerns on the Lost State Line issue and bringing it forward to the right people in the Minnesota government. It won't be a quick fix, but at least it is moving forward. Sounds like a Boundary Line Agreement is needed.
- Survey Reports: Are there any Counties that receive these? What do you do with them?
 - Tom Carlson has had a few over the last year – he files them like normal surveys. Usually two sheets, one is the map, one is the report (exhibit)
 - La Crosse County is working on developing a Survey Report template to use for their projects, where a normal Plat of Survey may not be sufficient. Brian shared one of their reports and related map to give those attending a better idea of what they are doing
 - Survey reports should be used when new pipe are NOT being set (just show what's out there)

Education Segment

Mick Heberlein, WDOT: "Update on GPS on BM"

- See email report from Mick at the end of the minutes (pdf)

Old Business

1) Status of County Surveyor Offices

- Brown County has hired Dale Raisleger as the new County Surveyor
- Oneida & Langlade Counties are still without a CS – and may not refill those positions. Perhaps speaking with Mike and Dave and getting their thoughts on this?
- Should WCSA get more involved in contacting these counties and expounding the benefits of having a County Surveyor? Bryan offered to help Ryan draft a letter to these two counties to encourage them to seek a replacement for County Surveyor
- County Executives and County Boards are an important part of hiring County Surveyors. A few years ago, WCSA had information discussions with Manitowoc County when they were first thinking of hiring their first County Surveyor since 1967
- Perhaps using WLIC in some way to help enlighten those Counties that do not have CS? Somehow tie this in with their funding requirements (CS on the Board) as well as other financial repercussions. It certainly seems it would be in their best interest to support CS

2) PLSS Survey Control Finder/E4 Statewide PLSS Database

- David Vogel gave an update on Control Finder and Statewide database. Some of these changes were made after previous discussions with our group at the August WCSA meeting, including:
 - Changed color coding on horizontal accuracy/coordinate class (Survey grade is now shown as bold green), all else should be red
 - Removed any of the attributes from the pop-up window that do not have attribute values in the database, making it easier to read and understand
 - Changed attribute field name for Easting & Northing coordinates to now include that search term, emphasizing that these are for search features and not taken as gospel
 - As far as truncating numbers for non-survey grade information, David brought this up again today to see if more discussion is needed. Most in attendance agree that if the information

not Survey Grade, the numbers should be rounded off or truncated at the decimal place. David has concerns about rounding off or changing the numbers, so truncating would probably work best in this situation (maybe add “±” at the end, a kind of qualifier)

- E4 Statewide PLSS website released the database on October 4, 2022 and is ready for download. 263,444 County contributed corners as well as approximately 67% of PLSS lines were used in the creation of the map. Work is still being done, with hopes of having it all updated asap. Parcel/property/boundary lines that are sent in are not changed in any way
- 2033 PLSS Forum – any plans to revive this? Usually planned for March/April time frame. SCO has many ongoing & upcoming projects and may not be available to help as in previous years. Perhaps a consultant could be hired by SCO, but things are preliminary right now, so more information will be forthcoming. More discussion needed at the Institute meeting. *Perhaps contacting the Group and see where people are at, if still interested, and a possible 2023 Forum? Funding - Welch Group?*
- Updates are done as needed/warranted right now. Updates are not done on an annual cycle, but that has been discussed. It really depends on what is happening in the Counties with updates, changes in location on website, etc.
- **A motion was made, seconded and approved to request that SCO (David Vogel) truncate all non-survey grade coordinates at the decimal point**
- David will discuss requested change(s) with c-workers and find out if and how these changes can be made, and how quickly
- Disclaimers, disclaimers, disclaimers

3) WCSA Spot at the WSLs Surveyors Institute

- The Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, January 27 from 10:20 am – Noon at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. WSLs will be sending out the Institute flyer soon with more info
- Dean Roth is scheduled to present at the Institute on Friday morning from 8:20 am – 10 am using the permanent time spot for WCSA presentations (PLSS related)
- Create a list of potential future presentations – be prepared!
- Institute Committee would be the ones to discuss getting a permanent WCSA presentation time slot to go along with our set time slot for WCSA Annual meeting

New Business

1) eRecording Concerns

- *What is the process?* Signatures have to go through an eRecord vendor; remote online notarization (currently there are 4 companies); a hybrid of wet signatures and digital signatures can be done; scans are recorded as jpeg images, which may lead to some less than perfect images. Cheryl Berken, Brown County ROD, will be speaking at the upcoming Institute – check it out and ask questions
- *How does the ROD know if the County Surveyor has seen the CSM being recorded if they do not sign off on the CSM?* The best way to have the County Surveyor to see a CSM before recording is to have something in that allows for that in the local ordinances
- *What happens if the scan turns out to be of poor quality? We won't know until it has been recorded* Unless the person accepting the scanned image notices the quality, it may be hard to get that scan replaced once recorded. In Brown County, the ROD will ask us once a month to check out the scans of plats, condos and subdivisions to make sure they are good quality
- Bryan Meyer discussed an email he recently received from Dave Addison, WLIO Board. The email discusses some of the issues with electronic recording, including:
 - 72 Counties – 72 Kingdoms, each doing things their own way, some good, some not
 - Standards are needed – sooner than later as this is not going away. Perhaps a meeting with ROD Association to discuss needed standards?
 - Legibility of the submitted document – sometimes it's a copy of a copy, and really depends on the settings being used for each scanner
 - Color is an issue when scanning and printing – not all scan in color

- Hatching/thin lines, small text, shading – often lost in scans when compared to the original document

(The last hour or so of the meeting was recorded but there was no sound, so using handwritten notes, which do not completely cover all that was discussed – sorry for the inconvenience)

2) GPS/Onyx Issues

- Jaymi Kohn, Taylor County ROD, drafted an email that was forwarded to Bryan that expresses concerns about a newer phone app called Onyx. An increasing number of customers are coming into his office because neighbors are using this app and moving the property corners. He asked if we, WSLs or any other survey related organization would have a “white paper”, brochures, or opinions on this. Other states are having very similar issues. Jayme was encouraged to contact her County Surveyor (Bob Meyer) and discuss the issue
- Brian did some digging and did not find any white papers on NSPS or WSLs websites. *Perhaps the WSLs Government Affairs Committee could take on this issue and develop a “white paper or brochure to create some talking points that the land surveying community could use to dissuade people from using phone apps to locate property lines?* This would be useful to RODs, Property Listers, Assessors, Real Estate agents, attorneys, GIS people and others

3) WCCO (Wisconsin County Constitutional Officers Association)

- The group is organized to provide timely and accurate information to legislatures that affect county constitutional officers in the state of Wisconsin, and help educate the members in order to better serve the public. The group is comprised of county clerks, register of deeds, treasurers, and other constitutional officers
- County Surveyors were Constitutional Officers at the start of Wisconsin statehood
- Do they want WCSA to join the group? Is it only for elected officers? More information is needed

4) Old Surveys

- What do you do when you receive a box (or boxes) of surveys from a surveyor or surveying company? What if most of the surveys have a signature but no stamp/seal? After some discussion, most people agree that they would index them in the survey files as normal

5) CSM Review of Road R/W

- If road records indicate a curve but a CSM in for review shows it as straight lines, what can you do as the reviewer?
- Laurence Johns sent Ryan an email concerning right-of-way, more specifically about two Supreme Court rulings affecting ownership of right-of-way. Laurence will discuss more at Institute meeting
 - Spence v Frantz 195 Wis 69 (<https://cite.case.law/wis/20/425/#p432>)
 - Gove v White 20 Wis 425 (<https://cite.case.law/wis/195/69>)

6) WCSA Board of Directors Nominations for 2023

- Nominations are being taken for 2023 Board Members – every spot is up for election
- Must be Board Member to run for President Elect
- Everyone currently on the Board will run again for 2023 – Nominations will also be taken in person at the Annual Meeting in January

7) WCSA Friend of Wisconsin Land Surveying Award

- Anyone with a nomination should contact Secretary Tom Leslie and he can get you the forms to use. Deadline is December 16, 2022
- Tom L will work on getting a list of all previous awards winners onto the website

Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 12:48 pm

Next up: Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, January 27, 2023 at 10:20 am

WSLS Annual Institute

Wisconsin Dells – Kalahari Resort



16 year old George Washington as a Surveyor

From: [Heberlein, Mick - DOT](#)
To: [Heberlein, Mick - DOT](#)
Subject: Update for GNSS Observations on passive Wisconsin Height Modernization (Wi-HMP) Stations November, 2022
Date: Monday, November 7, 2022 4:31:35 PM

CAUTION External Email: Be safe with links and attachments. Please report bad messages

Please share as appropriate
Date: 11/7//2022

The National Geodetic Survey (NGS) has announced another extension for the deadline to include GPS on BM observations as part of the release of the 2022 datum (below). The new deadline is September 30, 2023. More information is available at <https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GPSonBM/>

A link to the WisDOT GPS on BM status Map:
<https://wisdot.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9f00da9c32da4e519bd035591abc09c9>

In the Wisconsin Height Modernization (WI-HMP) Program, there are approximately 5,288 Vertical only stations and 3,553 stations with a Horizontal component for a total of 8841 stations

Many observations have been done that do not yet appear on the NGS OPUS share map nor GPS on BM PRIORITY MARK LIST below

OPUS Share Solutions per NGS OPUS share Dashboard (Based on Observation Date)

Shared Observations prior to January, 2021	474
Shared Observations 2021	3447
Shared Observations 2022 as of 10/3/22	493

Total 4414

OPUS Share Solutions per NGS OPUS share Dashboard (Based on Date observation was accepted by NGS)

Shared Observations prior to January, 2021	345
Shared Observations 2021	3297
Shared Observations 2022 as of 10/3/22	772

Total 4414

Notes

- All shared observations by WisDOT and Partners
- Includes non-WI-HMP stations

Date	Total Shared Observations
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	Based on NGS accepted date
September 8, 2020	66
December 3, 2020	157
January 4, 2021	345
February 1, 2021	430
March 1, 2021	606
April 1, 2021	755
May 1, 2021	971
June 1, 2021	1143
July 6, 2021	1443
August 4, 2021	1752
September 1, 2021	2299
October 1, 2021	2708
November 1, 2021	3000
December 1, 2021	3370
January 1, 2022	3643
February 4, 2022	3845
March 2, 2022	3970
August 8, 2022	4139
September 1, 2022	4208
October 3, 2022	4292
November 7, 2022	4414

10 Km NGS GPSONBM Hexagons Completed

NGS has divided the entire nation into a series of 10 Km hexagons. One goal of the WisDOT's GNSS Observation on passive stations project is to get one observation in every Wisconsin 10 KM hexagon. There are 1843 hexagons in Wisconsin. Hexagons that are DONE are a result of either an OPUS share station observation or a station submitted to NGS via Bluebooking within a hexagon.

Date	10 KM Hexagons Completed	% Completed	10 Km Hexagons Remaining
September 8, 2020	447	24.3%	
November 30, 2020	571	31.0%	
January 4, 2021	584	31.7%	
February 1, 2021	609	33.1%	
March 1, 2021	718	39.0%	
April 1, 2021	760	41.3%	
May 3, 2021	897	48.7%	
June 3, 2021	978	53.1%	

July 2, 2021	1083	58.8%	
August 3, 2021	1300	70.6%	
September 2, 2021	1510	82.0%	
October 4, 2021	1618	87.8%	
November 1, 2021	1688	91.6%	
December 1, 2021	1737	94.3%	
January 4, 2022	1757	95.3%	86
February 3, 2022	1768	95.9%	75
March 2, 2022	1775	96.3%	68
August 8, 2022	1777	96.4%	66
September 7, 2022	1777	96.4%	66
October 17, 2022	1777	96.4%	66
October 31, 2022	1778	96.5%	65

Note: All remaining hexagons contain non-Wisconsin Height Modernization NGS stations, vertical only benchmarks or are have stations that are not GPSable.

GPS on BM PRIORITY MARK LIST (NGS)

NGS has produced a prioritized list of bench marks where additional GPS data would be helpful to help define the new 2022 Geoid model. Providing GPS on stations with leveled elevations will help to relate the GPS derived ellipsoid height with the leveled elevation of these marks. The stations on the Priority List are chosen by computer generated algorithms based on station location and metadata without regard to its status as a WI-HMP station. Currently, there are about 15,000 NGS benchmarks (both WI-HMP stations and non WI-HMP) in Wisconsin. Most non WI-HMP stations have relatively little current survey value, but may have important older surveys tied to them.

Date	Number of stations on list	Number of stations Completed	Percent of NGS Priority Marks Completed	Approximate % of 3553 Horizontal WI-HMP Stations
9/8/2020	2968	674	22.7%	19.0%
11/30/2020	3162	806	25.5%	22.7%
1/11/2021	3284	891	27.1%	25.1%
2/11/21	3395	949	28.0%	26.7%
3/1/21	3622	1054	29.1%	30.0%
4/1/21	3718	1107	29.8%	31.2%
4/28/21	4033	1272	31.5%	35.8%
5/24/21	4205	1397	33.2%	39.3%
6/29/21	4455	1565	35.1%	44.0%
7/30/21	4582	1646	35.9%	46.3%
8/23/21	5281	2134	40.4%	60.1%
9/20/21	5545	2448	44.1%	68.9%
11/1/21	5720	2689	47.0%	75.7%

11/29/21	5774	2846	49.3%	80.1%
12/7/21	5780	2861	49.5%	80.5%
1/4/22	5790	2931	50.6%	82.5%
1/18/22	5802	2982	51.4%	83.9%
2/8/22	5802	2998	51.7%	84.4%
3/1/22	5808	3041	52.4%	85.6%
8/1/22	5807	3080	53.3%	86.7%
8/23/22	5807	3126	53.8%	88.0%
10/11/22	5807	3164	54.5%	89.1%

Not updated

Notes

- Not all Wi-HMP stations are currently on the BM PRIORITY MARK LIST
- The vast majority of observations are on WI-HMP horizontal stations, but not all.
- NGS adds additional stations to the BM PRIORITY MARK LIST after certain stations are observed
- BM PRIORITY MARK LIST Spreadsheet typically updated once a month

ORIGINAL HARN STATIONS (OR REPLACEMENTS) DONE One goal of the WisDOT's GNSS Observation on passive stations project is to get two observations on all original HARN stations or their replacements in Wisconsin. There are 80 Stations in total. The original HARN stations are a higher accuracy station and provided the initial control from which all other horizontal stations in Wisconsin were surveyed from.

Date	HARN Stations Completed	% Completed
March 1, 2021	49	61.3%
April 1, 2021	53	66.3%
May 3, 2021	59	73.8%
June 3, 2021	60	75.0%
July 6, 2021	69	86.3%
August 2, 2021	71	88.8%
September, 2, 2021	74	92.5%
October 1, 2012	76	95.0%
November 1, 2021	76	95.0%
December 1, 2021	78	97.5%
January 1, 2022	78	97.5%
February 3, 2022	78	97.5%
March 1, 2022	79	98.8%

Remaining (0): MILWAUKEE GPS has been destroyed.

List of Non-WisDOT Partners (that I am aware of) that have or are planning to submit OPUS Share observations

J.W. Austin Associates of Minocqua, Vernon County, LaCrosse County, Dodge County, Dunn County, Brown County, Sheboygan County, Washington County, Burnett County, Manitowoc County, Jackson County, Clark County, Sawyer County, Fond du Lac County, Oneida County, Washburn County, Lincoln County, Rock County City of Madison, Landtech Surveying of Oconomowoc, Seiler Instruments, Leica Geosystems, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, DJ Henkel and Associates, LLC, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC), Ayres and Associates

THANK YOU ALL,
Mick

*Mick Heberlein, PLS, PS, CFedS
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