

# Survey Advisory Board (SAB) Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 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:**

Gary Letzring, PLS, SAB Chair – **Urban Surveying**

Bob Morse, PLS – **Education**

Gunnar Fridriksson, PE-PLS, Chair – **Multi-Discipline**

Paul Galli, PLS – **Government**

## **SAB Members Present Via Teams:**

Erielle Lamb, PLS – **Rural Surveying**

## **PLSO/DNR Staff Physically Present:**

Pat Beehler, PLS – DNR Survey Manager

David Icenhower, PLS – Manager, PLSO

Dennis Studeman – PLSO Staff

## **Liaisons Physically Present:**

Kim Eisenbacher – WSACA (Pierce County Auditor)

Casey Kaul – Auditor Recorders (Pierce County Auditor)

## **Liaisons Present Via Teams:**

None

## **Guests Physically Present:**

Derek Pohle, PE – County Road Administration Board (CRAB)

Alex Walczyk, PLS, - DNR

## **Guests Present Via Teams:**

Walt Dale, PLS – Past SAB member

Lucas Lymangrover, PLS – DNR

Bob Green, PLS

Kevin Gaunt, PLS

Ryan Tessier – DNR

Jeff Lynch, PLS – City of Vancouver  
Bruce Dodds, PE/PLS – Past SAB member  
Todd Emerson, PLS – WSDOT  
Ken Swindaman, PLS – Kitsap County  
Larry Signani, PLS – NV5

## Call to Order

- Chair Gary Letzring 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 April 27, 2023 meeting minutes.** The minutes were approved as published.
- **Monument Removal/Destruction Permits and Records update:**

Dennis Studeman reported that since the April 27 meeting:

- Received **57** LCRs (65 in previous period)
- Processed **302** Permits to Remove or Destroy a Monument (62 in previous period)
- Processed **99** Completion Reports (47 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:
    - Survey recording fee has gone up to \$100 as of July 1, 2023
    - An additional \$100 will be added to survey recordings on January 1, 2024.
    - The recording fees for liens were reduced from \$39 to \$18 on July 23, 2023.
    - Torrens system was eliminated in Washington State as of July 3, 2023.
    - Property Records Industry Association (PRIA)
      - Held first meeting on July 7, 2023 with 70 in attendance
      - Group plans to hold quarterly meetings

- Next meeting (virtual) September 19, 2023, during WSACA conference.
  - Putting forth legislation to “clean up” small issues
    - Pat asked if the \$100 fair housing fee requirement could be eliminated for land survey recordings through this “clean up” bill. Casey will bring this question back to the PRIA group.
  - WSACA conference is September 18 – 21, 2023 in Leavenworth. Casey asked on behalf of Vicky Dalton for David to talk about PLSO current affairs.
- **SAB Liaison to WSACA:**
    - Gary Letzring reported that there is nothing new.
  - **Report from Land Surveyors’ Association of Washington (LSAW) Liaison:**
    - Tom Barger, PLS, was unable to attend, however, he wrote the following email to the SAB, liaisons, and DNR staff, which David Icenhower read aloud:

“LSAW Liaison will not be able to attend today due to conflicting work schedule. Will check recording and submit report after our to LSAW BOD meeting August 8<sup>th</sup>.

Hot topic in local chapters is the proposed revisions to WACs. My personal feeling is that there is a need for more clear definitions of the proposed changes and educating the wider community on current RCW/WAC requirements. LSAW conference and local chapters can help with this endeavor, considering not all PLS, LSIT, nor those working in the discipline of Land Surveying are members of LSAW. The BORPELS may be able to help with education and outreach as well.

Regards,

Tom”

- **Report from Washington Council of County Surveyors (WCCS) Liaison:**
  - Pat Beehler reported as Treasurer that there is \$38,000 in the bank, but the group seems dormant at this time.
- Update of GPS Guidebook 2004:
  - Bob Morse met with Larry Signani, Gavin Schrock, and Bob Green (called in) on May 26, 2023 to discuss guidebook revision workflow.
  - Bob gave update on proposed revisions.
  - **ACTION ITEM**
  - Bob will get together with Gavin, Larry, and Bob Green, PLS, before next meeting to

continue coordination and define the scope.

## **DNR Reports**

### **Public Land Survey Office**

- **02A Account**

Pat Beehler reported:

- PLSO is underspending about \$1,000 each month.
- PLSO current balance is \$346,000, but administrative charges take from the account at a variable rate each month.
- We should see a bump in income in September due to the survey recording fee increase, although, recording levels are down statewide.
- **See attachment 1** report for details.

- **Records indexing**

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

- **5,273** Total Indexes
- **3,205** Current Surveys
- **1,701** Historic Surveys
- **57** LCR's
- **310** Permit and Chip Seal related

- **Donated Records**

David Icenhower reported:

- Received **Richard Cambern** collection – out of Everett.
- Received donated records from **City of Olympia**.
- Received USACE map from Gary Letzring of the realignment of the Puyallup River.

- **Outreach/Training**

David Icenhower reported on News and information sent via Mail Chimp:

- NGS Webinar Series:
  - Using Emergency Response Imagery from NOAA
  - Benefits and Challenges of Transitioning to the Modernized NSRS
  - Welcome to the Alpha Zone: A Preview of State Plane 2022
- Pre-proposal Statements of Inquiry (CR-101s) concerning possible amendments to WAC 332-120-060 & -070 and WAC 332-130-080(3).
- Notices of Proposed Rule Making (CR-102s) concerning amendments to WAC 332-120-060 & -070 and WAC 332-130-080(3), and announcement of a Public Hearing meeting on August 23, 2023.
- LSAW
  - David Icenhower and Dennis Studeman presented info on survey related RCWs and WACs, PLSO records, and WebXtender, to the North Puget Sound LSAW Chapter on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Renton Technical College.
  - Pat Beehler presented info on survey related RCWs, WACs, and PLSO records to the South Central LSAW chapter on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Kennewick Irrigation District office.
  - Pat Beehler reported that Ben Petersen, PLS, is gathering information on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Survey Recording Act. Accordingly, Dennis Studeman has sent a tally of recorded maps in our system to Ben, being about 300,000.

## **Active Items**

- **Monument Preservation**
  - Paul reported that he is working with the BRPELS on monument preservation program. BRPELS does not know if they want to produce a “best practices” document or some other product.

- **Model BLA Ordinance**

- Gary Letzring reported that Bruce Dodds provided him an updated version of the Model BLA wherein he suggests a requirement that a land surveyor write the legal description and for a surveyor to set lot corners, when warranted.
- Walt Dale reported that he is still the Chair for the Model BLA Ordinance. Work on this project is not always visible, but progress is being made in the background.
- Gary stated that he would stay involved as the Survey Advisory Board's point of contact for this project.

- **Monument Preservation Legislation**

- Gary has been unable to contact his senator regarding monument preservation legislation.
- Pat Beehler reported that the DNR has set aside an agency request, but if the bill gained traction, the DNR would support it.

## Old Items

- A revision to WAC 332-120-060(4) & (5) and -070 to require a Record of Survey upon resetting a survey monument. (**see attachment 2**)
  - Pat reported that the main difference in the language of this proposal since the last SAB meeting is that a requirement to file a Record of Survey was to be removed but since then the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (BRPELS) asked the DNR to leave that requirement in the WAC. The latest language reflects this change.
  - Pat also reported that he had heard opposition from the North Puget Sound Chapter of the Land Surveyors' Association of Washington (LSAW) regarding leaving the mandate to file an ROS when replacing a monument in the WAC.
    - Bob Morse stated that he has received similar comments of opposition.
  - **ACTION ITEM COMPLETED:** Pat reported that the DNR's Assistant Attorney General (AAG) concluded that the DNR records are "public records" but do not provide "constructive notice".
    - Paul reiterated his concerns regarding the fact that the DNR is not an office of record and thus there is a lack of "constructive notice" pertaining

to records held by the DNR.

### **ACTION ITEM**

The PLSO will update the completion report form to include more information, similar to the information on an ROS.

- Casey mentioned that the Recorder's group is working on a "clean up bill" and that the filing Land Corner Records (LCR) without a fee could perhaps be codified within that legislation.
- A revision to WAC 332-130-080(3) to require a statement of accuracy achieved to be shown on recorded surveys. (see **attachment 3**)
- Walt Dale interjected that he had been involved in the original positional tolerance rules and he does not see why we are making the proposed change as he does not believe that it adds any benefit.
- Bob Morse reported that surveyors in his area don't see the purpose of this WAC amendment and they don't see that there is any benefit to changing this rule.
- Gary Letzring and Paul Galli also questioned the purpose of this proposed amendment and don't really see that any value will be added.
- Kevin Gaunt, PLS, President of Inland Empire chapter of LSAW stated that his chapter surveyors do not see a need for this amendment and question the value thereof.

### **New Items**

- Briefing from Count Road Administration Board (CRAB)
  - Derek Pohle, PE, of CRAB reported on the status of their County Monument Preservation program within each county. (see **attachment 4**)
  - He recommended that the PLSO/SAB use the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and the American Public Works Association (APWA) as avenues for communication with the cities concerning monument issues.

### **ACTION ITEM**

- Paul will craft a *Did You Know* article targeted toward all surveyors to inform them of the new County Monument Preservation requirements.
- Discussion of Engineers doing survey work

- Paul and Pat gave compelling evidence to show that Engineers are not legally able to perform Land Survey work.
- Pat pointed out that the term “engineer” is stricken within the proposed amendment to WAC 332-120-060.

### **ACTION ITEM**

- Pat will contact the DNR AAG to get an opinion on whether engineers can perform survey work.
- Discussion of whether a Record of Survey is required, or even allowed, if no survey was performed on the ground.
  - Paul read the definition of “Survey” found in RCW 58.09.020(3): "Survey" shall mean the locating and monumenting in accordance with sound principles of land surveying by or under the supervision of a licensed land surveyor, of points or lines which define the exterior boundary or boundaries common to two or more ownerships or which reestablish or restore general land office corners.
  - Some jurisdictions demand a recorded map even when a land survey did not occur, but the surveyor should make it apparent if the product is NOT a survey.
- Welcome and thanks to Gunnar Fridriksson, PE/PLS, who is the newest member of the SAB representing the Multi-Disciplined segment of the Professional Land Surveying community.

### **Future Meetings**

- October 26, 2023 – Location tentatively set to be at the City of Bremerton.
- January 25, 2024 – location to be determined
- April 18, 2024 – location to be determined

### **Adjournment**

- Gary Letzring adjourned the meeting at about 11:40 p.m.

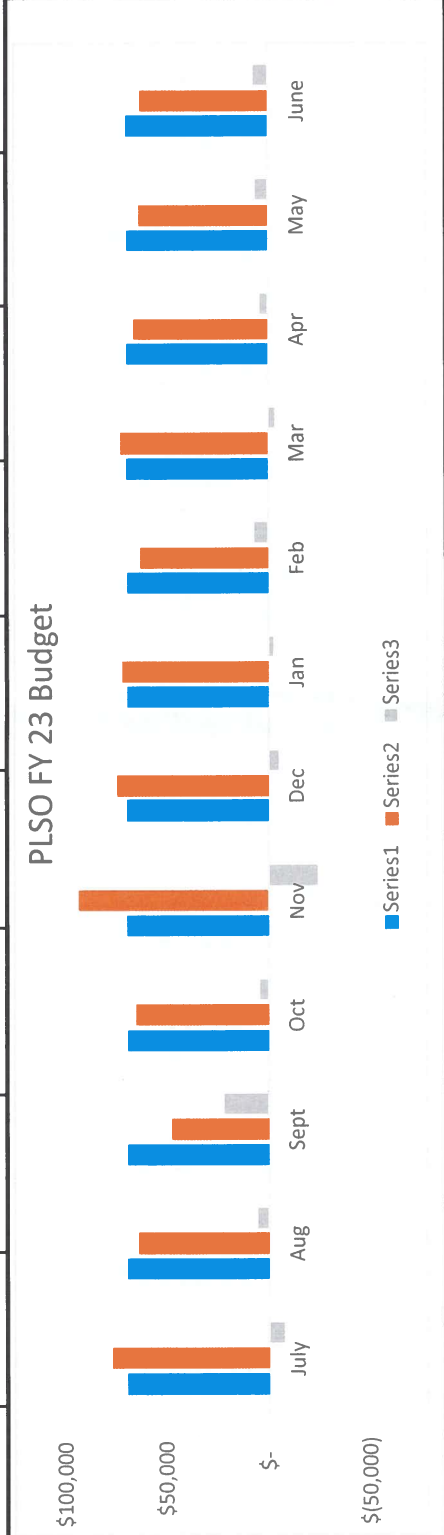


**02A - SURVEYS & MAPS ACCOUNT**

**PLSO FY23 (Budget \$830,500 = \$69,208/Month)**

		2022												2023												PLSO Budget (12 Months)			
Month		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total	Monthly Average	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total	Monthly Average
Budget		\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 830,496	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 69,208	\$ 830,496	\$ 69,208
Expense (Obj. A-J)		\$ 76,846	\$ 63,926	\$ 47,393	\$ 64,988	\$ 93,218	\$ 74,299	\$ 71,746	\$ 62,571	\$ 72,485	\$ 65,494	\$ 63,313	\$ 62,401	\$ 818,680	\$ 68,223	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 62,401	\$ 818,680	\$ 68,223
Budget - Expense		\$ (7,638)	\$ 5,282	\$ 21,815	\$ 4,220	\$ (24,010)	\$ (5,091)	\$ (2,538)	\$ 6,637	\$ (3,277)	\$ 3,714	\$ 5,895	\$ 6,807	\$ 11,816	\$ 985	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 5,895	\$ 6,807	\$ 11,816	\$ 985
Fiscal Year to Date		\$ (7,638)	\$ (2,356)	\$ 19,459	\$ 23,679	\$ (331)	\$ (5,422)	\$ (7,960)	\$ (1,323)	\$ (4,600)	\$ (887)	\$ 5,008	\$ 11,816			\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 5,008	\$ 11,816		
FTEs		7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00			7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00		

PLSO FISCAL YEAR TO DATE		Budget	\$ 830,496
		Expense (Obj. A-J)	\$ 818,680
		Budget - Expense	\$ 11,816
		Variance Percentage ±	1%
		Budget Variance	\$ 11,820
PLSO BIENNIUM TO DATE		Budget	\$ 1,660,996
		Expense (Obj. A-J)	\$ 1,525,228
		Budget - Expense	\$ 135,768
		Variance Percentage ±	8%



		2022												2023												PLSO Finances FY 23			
Month		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total	Monthly Average	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total	Monthly Average
ROS Fee Revenue		\$ 72,346	\$ 70,674	\$ 81,088	\$ 67,407	\$ 65,979	\$ 63,995	\$ 78,573	\$ 53,400	\$ 51,071	\$ 60,288	\$ 51,904	\$ 68,864	\$ 785,590	\$ 65,466	\$ 72,346	\$ 70,674	\$ 81,088	\$ 67,407	\$ 65,979	\$ 63,995	\$ 78,573	\$ 53,400	\$ 51,071	\$ 60,288	\$ 51,904	\$ 68,864	\$ 785,590	\$ 65,466
PLSO Expense		\$ 76,846	\$ 63,926	\$ 59,185	\$ 64,988	\$ 93,218	\$ 74,299	\$ 71,746	\$ 62,571	\$ 72,485	\$ 65,494	\$ 63,313	\$ 62,401	\$ 830,473	\$ 69,206	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 62,401	\$ 830,473	\$ 69,206
ROS Fee - expense		\$ (4,500)	\$ 6,748	\$ 21,903	\$ 2,419	\$ (27,239)	\$ (10,303)	\$ 6,827	\$ (9,171)	\$ (21,414)	\$ (5,206)	\$ (11,409)	\$ 6,463	\$ (44,882)	\$ (3,740)	\$ (4,500)	\$ 6,748	\$ 21,903	\$ 2,419	\$ (27,239)	\$ (10,303)	\$ 6,827	\$ (9,171)	\$ (21,414)	\$ (5,206)	\$ (11,409)	\$ 6,463	\$ (44,882)	\$ (3,740)
YTD		\$ (4,500)	\$ 2,248	\$ 24,151	\$ 26,569	\$ (669)	\$ (10,973)	\$ (4,145)	\$ (13,316)	\$ (34,730)	\$ (39,937)	\$ (51,346)	\$ (44,882)	\$ (44,882)	\$ (3,740)	\$ (4,500)	\$ 2,248	\$ 24,151	\$ 26,569	\$ (669)	\$ (10,973)	\$ (4,145)	\$ (13,316)	\$ (34,730)	\$ (39,937)	\$ (51,346)	\$ (44,882)	\$ (44,882)	\$ (3,740)

		2022												2023												PLSO Finances FY 23			
Month		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total	Monthly Average	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Total	Monthly Average
OFM Revenue Report		\$ 72,346	\$ 70,674	\$ 81,088	\$ 67,407	\$ 65,979	\$ 64,326	\$ 79,285	\$ 53,671	\$ 51,323	\$ 60,288	\$ 52,497	\$ 68,864	\$ 787,748	\$ 65,646	\$ 72,346	\$ 70,674	\$ 81,088	\$ 67,407	\$ 65,979	\$ 64,326	\$ 79,285	\$ 53,671	\$ 51,323	\$ 60,288	\$ 52,497	\$ 68,864	\$ 787,748	\$ 65,646
PLSO Expenses		\$ 76,846	\$ 63,926	\$ 59,185	\$ 64,988	\$ 93,218	\$ 74,299	\$ 71,746	\$ 62,571	\$ 72,485	\$ 65,494	\$ 63,313	\$ 62,401	\$ 830,473	\$ 69,206	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 63,313	\$ 62,401	\$ 830,473	\$ 69,206
Admin & Other Expenses		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 45,076	\$ 44,552	\$ 17,185	\$ 5,866	\$ 9,327	\$ 23,351	\$ 10,162	\$ 11,646	\$ 17,376	\$ 13,490	\$ 198,031	\$ 16,503	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 45,076	\$ 44,552	\$ 17,185	\$ 5,866	\$ 9,327	\$ 10,162	\$ 11,646	\$ 17,376	\$ 13,490	\$ 198,031	\$ 16,503	
OFM Expense Report		\$ 76,846	\$ 63,926	\$ 104,261	\$ 109,540	\$ 110,403	\$ 80,164	\$ 81,074	\$ 85,923	\$ 82,647	\$ 82,993	\$ 80,689	\$ 79,841	\$ 1,038,306	\$ 86,526	\$ 76,846	\$ 63,926	\$ 104,261	\$ 109,540	\$ 110,403	\$ 80,164	\$ 81,074	\$ 85,923	\$ 82,647	\$ 82,993	\$ 80,689	\$ 79,841	\$ 1,038,306	\$ 86,526
OFM revenue - expense		\$ (4,500)	\$ 6,748	\$ (23,173)	\$ (42,133)	\$ (44,424)	\$ (15,838)	\$ (1,789)	\$ (32,252)	\$ (31,324)	\$ (22,705)	\$ (28,192)	\$ (10,977)	\$ (250,558)	\$ (20,880)	\$ (4,500)	\$ 6,748	\$ (23,173)	\$ (42,133)	\$ (44,424)	\$ (15,838)	\$ (1,789)	\$ (32,252)	\$ (31,324)	\$ (22,705)	\$ (28,192)	\$ (10,977)	\$ (250,558)	\$ (20,880)
OFM Fund 02A Balance		\$ 592,525	\$ 599,273	\$ 576,100	\$ 533,967	\$ 489,543	\$ 473,704	\$ 471,915	\$ 439,663	\$ 408,340	\$ 385,909	\$ 357,718	\$ 346,741			\$ 592,525	\$ 599,273	\$ 576,100	\$ 533,967	\$ 489,543	\$ 473,704	\$ 471,915	\$ 439,663	\$ 408,340	\$ 385,909	\$ 357,718	\$ 346,741		
BTD Balance change		\$ (92,642)	\$ (85,894)	\$ (109,067)	\$ (151,200)	\$ (195,624)	\$ (211,463)	\$ (213,252)	\$ (245,503)	\$ (276,827)	\$ (299,532)	\$ (327,723)	\$ (338,700)			\$ (92,642)	\$ (85,894)	\$ (109,067)	\$ (151,200)	\$ (195,624)	\$ (211,463)	\$ (213,252)	\$ (245,503)	\$ (276,827)	\$ (299,532)	\$ (327,723)	\$ (338,700)		
BTD Percent Change		-14%	-13%	-16%	-22%	-29%	-31%	-31%	-36%	-40%	-44%	-48%	-49%			-14%	-13%	-16%	-22%	-29%	-31%	-36%	-40%	-44%	-48%	-49%			

**WAC 332-120-060 Project completion—Perpetuation of the**

**original position.** (1) After completion of the activity that caused the removal or destruction of the monument, a land surveyor ~~or engineer shall~~ must, unless specifically authorized otherwise:

(a) Reset a suitable monument at the original survey point or, if that is no longer feasible;

(b) Establish permanent witness monuments easily accessible from the original monument to perpetuate the position of the preexisting monument.

(2) Land boundary survey monumentation required by this chapter ~~must shall~~ meet the requirements of the RCW 58.09.120 and 58.09.130.

(3) After completion of the remonumentation, the land surveyor ~~or engineer shall~~ must complete the report form required by this chapter and forward it to the department.

(4) A record of survey or land corner record shall be completed ~~as required by the Survey Recording Act~~ to document the remonumentation in the public record. The department must

index the completion report in its land survey records database and make a copy available to the public online.

(5) A land corner record must be completed as required by the Survey Recording Act, RCW 58.09.040(2), to document the remonumentation of a general land office corner.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 58.24.040(8). WSR 20-10-003, § 332-120-060, filed 4/23/20, effective 5/24/20; WSR 94-06-034 (Order 617), § 332-120-060, filed 2/25/94, effective 3/28/94.]

**WAC 332-120-070 Application and completion/permit forms.**

All applications and completion reports must be ~~completed~~ on forms provided by the department and follow ~~theing~~ instructions provided by the department. ~~Completed applications shall be filed at the department.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 58.24.030, 58.24.040, 58.09.050, and 58.17.160. WSR 10-09-011, § 332-120-070, filed 4/9/10, effective 5/10/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 58.24.040(8). WSR 94-06-034 (Order 617), § 332-120-070, filed 2/25/94, effective 3/28/94.]

**SAB meeting minutes  
July 27, 2023  
Attachment 2**

**WAC 332-130-080 Relative accuracy—Principles.** The

following principles of relative accuracy are provided to guide those who may be analyzing their work by these procedures.

(1) Relative accuracy means the theoretical uncertainty in the location of any point or corner relative to other points or corners set, found, reestablished, or established. A standard of relative accuracy can be achieved by using appropriate equipment and implementing field and office procedures that will result in a 95 percent probability of achieving the accuracy required.

(2) In the application of a relative accuracy standard, the surveyor must consider the established land use patterns, land values of and in the vicinity of the surveyed parcel, and the client's intended use of the property. Higher levels of precision are expected to be used in situations necessitating higher accuracy.

(3) Each land boundary survey ~~should~~analyzed using relative accuracy must contain a statement reporting the relative accuracy achieved and identifying the method of mathematical analysis used in achieving a stated relative accuracy.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 58.24.030, 58.24.040, 58.09.050, and 58.17.160. WSR 22-04-049, § 332-130-080, filed 1/27/22, effective 2/27/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 58.24.040(1). WSR 90-06-028 (Order 568), § 332-130-080, filed 3/1/90, effective 4/1/90; WSR 89-11-028 (Order 561), § 332-130-080, filed 5/11/89; Order 275, § 332-130-080, filed 5/2/77.]

**SAB meeting minutes**  
**July 27, 2023**  
**Attachment 3**

# Survey Monument Preservation Policy

## Suggested Minimum Content

Survey monuments are public domain and belong to all of the citizens of Washington State. RCW [58.24.040\(8\)](#), RCW [36.86.050](#), and [332-120](#) WAC require county road departments to manage and protect survey monuments located within the county road rights of way. No survey monument shall be removed, destroyed or have reasonable access impeded before a permit is obtained from the DNR. The County Engineer, as a licensed professional engineer in the State of Washington, can be held accountable for improper survey monument protection perpetrated by the county road department.

It is recommended your agency adopt a Survey Monument Preservation Policy or Plan addressing the following outline:

### Purpose

‘The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Department understands its duty to protect and preserve survey monuments within the county road right of way when performing any type of work, but in particular construction projects and pavement preservation projects where there is a risk that monuments could be disturbed or covered.’

### Relevant Statutes

The DNR has rule making responsibility regarding survey monument protection within Washington State. RCW 58.24, RCW 58.09, 332-120 WAC.

The Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors has regulatory over individual professional engineers and land surveyors regarding monument protection...but lacks authority over public agencies. RCW 58.09, 332-120 WAC, 196-27A-030(5) WAC, RCW 58.04.015.

The CRABoard has regulatory authority over Counties/county road departments regarding “provisions of law relating to county road administration and the standards of good practice”. RCW’s 36.78.070(3), 090(1)(b), 100, RCW 36.86.050, RCW 58.09, 332-132 WAC, 136-50-050(5) WAC.

Training of Staff – the importance of and the law regarding survey monuments and your policy

Engineering Staff  
Survey Staff  
Maintenance and Operations Staff

## Survey and Engineering Community Engagement

Procedures for private surveyors, engineers, or others to report issues encountered with survey monuments within the county road right of way. i.e. buried monument in a paved surface, damaged case and cover, etc.

The County does have a duty to address legacy issues from past road department practices once identified.

Procedure for correcting identified legacy issues. i.e. raising, monument case and cover, assessing for disturbance and notification of SOR if possible.

## Procedures for Maintenance and Construction Projects

Records research – Due Diligence. Record Keeping if applicable.

Physical Site Inspection

Procedures for Protection During Operations

DNR-PLSO MOU for surfacing operations

Follow DNR's available permitting procedures and options for disturbing, destroying, resetting, and completion reporting for Survey Monuments. Survey Recording Act.