

# DNR Survey Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2018

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Oxford Suites

4051 Meridian St. Bellingham, WA 98226

## Board Members Present:

Walt Dale, PLS, Urban, **Chair**  
 Tim Kent, PLS, Rural  
 Martin Paquette, PLS, Education  
 Paul Galli, PLS, Government  
 Bruce Dodds, PE/PLS, Multi-Discipline  
 Member Designee, Gary Letzring PLS

## Staff Present:

Pat Beehler, PLS  
 Bob Knuth, PLS

## Invited Guests:

Sam Mutt, PLS, WCCS liaison  
 Tom Barger, PLS, LSAW liaison  
 Diana Bradrick, WSACA liaison  
 Stacy Henthorn, Auditor's Office, Whatcom County

## Audience Guests:

Chris Jepson, PLS, R.T. Jepson and Assoc. LSAW, NW Chapter President  
 Bob Prater, Skagit County Public Works  
 George Raper, PLS  
 Alex Selman, WSDOT  
 Bob Morse, PLS City of Bellingham  
 Jesse Allan, Whatcom County Public Works  
 Kathy Bell, City of Bellingham Planning  
 Two unidentified attendees.

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=Agenda item number

- 1 **Chair Walt Dale called the meeting to order.**  
 Pat Beehler announced Gary Letzring as the new Urban Member of the SAB.  
 Pat Beehler announced Bob Knuth as Manager of the PLSO.

- 2 The minutes of the October, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

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**3 Monument Removal/Destruction Permits update**

a John Gasche (PLSO) supplied a written report that 100 Permit Applications and 25 Completion Reports were processed since the last meeting (Oct 2018 – April 18,2019), which included 795 monuments.

b John Gasche supplied a REVISED APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO REMOVE OR DESTROY A SURVEY MONUMENT” form. The Board approved the permit as provided.

**4 Report from Auditor’s Recording Committee liaison to the SAB**

Diana Bradrick reported:

- a
- Senate Bill 5641 passed. Online notarization for Washington.
  - HB 1923 was amendment with two-dollar housing surcharge dropped.
  - HB 2015 Trapped in the Budget process it includes a \$2 surcharge on recorded documents.
  - WSACA, through Vicky Dalton, is reviewing and taking comments on the BLA model law.

b Walt Dale Liaison to WSACA reported:

- Task force for BLA taking input.
- AGLO31 Opinion that auditor rejection is authorized.

**5 LSAW Liaison to the SAB**

a Tom Barges reported:

- Notice of correction and BLA model law are of interest to the LSAW.
- Tom is also Liaison from LSAW to BORELS. Offered himself as a conduit.
- BORELS is keenly interested in opening a dialog for BLA model law and affidavit of minor correction..
- LSAW has not formed a committee for BLA model Law.
- LSAW disbanded the committee on affidavit of minor correction.

6 Item six was struck from the agenda prior to the meeting

**7 Washington Council of County Surveyors Liaison to the SAB**

a Sam Mutt reported.

- WCCS attendance down.
- Study group on types of rights on Rights of Way.
- Taking comments on the BLA model law.
- Sam would like to coordinate meeting schedules for BORELS, SAB, and WCCS.

**8 Board By-Laws**

a Pat Beehler presented amendments to the SAB bylaws. Bruce Dodds believes the potential number of multi discipline candidates are sufficient. The Board adopted the bylaws amendments unanimously.  
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## 9 Affordable Housing Advisory Board RCW 57.17 Dale

- a Walt Dale reported:  
The governor appoints AHAB. There was a rumor that AHAB was working toward changes to RCW 57.17, which would remove survey requirements from of platting. Paul Troutman of AHAB told Walt the rumor was incorrect. Walt recommends continue communication between AHAB and SAB because AHAB had been supporters of the WUCIOA. Bruce Dodds recommended that LSAW also stay in contact with AHAB.

## 10 Public Land Survey Office

- a Pat B. reported on the health of the 02A account, which supports the PLSO and the SAB. The fiscal year revenue to date \$753,000 and expenses of \$451,000. Excess to account \$312,000. A large portion of this came from King County deferred fees. Over the biennium there is a 25% ± DNR overhead expense taken from this account. Currently the PLSO portion of the account is showing a 32% surplus. No fee increase is currently needed.

- b PLSO Staff  
Bob K. reported:  
Five full time staff, one staff member at 20%, and one intern to take a seat on May 15.

- c Records
- The PLSO has acquired and scanned maps from Green Diamond.
  - Five binders of maps from Surveyor Hart were acquired.

- d Questions/issues:
- One surveyor has an issue with double signing records of survey.
  - Two separate property owners have contacted PLSO to report monuments removed by contactors and private parties. The property owners want government to advocate for the replacement of the monuments.
  - The PLSO continues its work of cooperating and outreach with various groups and agencies.
  - Paul Galli asked if the maps were in WebXtender. Bob incorrectly stated that they would be available soon.
  - After some discussion on the double signing issue, Bob will provide all of the education materials used by the PLSO to the SAB members.
  - Bob will work with the board members to form a response to Mr. MacLearnsberry, PLS.

- e Outreach and Training;
- WAC 332.130.145 SAB and PLSO will continue to cooperate with all parties to bring light to changes for all relevant statutes.

**11 Proposed revisions to WAC 332-130**

- a Walt explained the SAB history of this item. **Walt recommends that the SAB close the item.**

**12 LCR Review**

- Walt opened with a history. Walt explained the ongoing question at hand was the acceptability of using the LCR for non-PLSS monuments, as well as a reference to the proposed updated form.
- Martin Paquette gave a more detail history of the SAB on this question and the LCR form.
- Martin also mentioned the “Did You Know” linked on the SAB webpage, which specifically identifies PLSS corners as the only acceptable use for the LCR form.
- Martin proposed that the “Did You Know” to be removed from the webpage.
- Martin has taken input from the survey community, which indicated the majority would prefer to have the LCR available to use in a more liberal way.
- After some discussion, the SAB tabled action on the form provided by John Gasche by approving a motion to send the topic to a committee\breakout session.
- Pat explained the LCR is filed without fee, with the exception of King County.
- Diana said that if the form were expanded the Auditors would probably find a need to charge. She further explained that she would rather not charge.
- Pat pointed out that county commissioners set the fee for the filing of an LCR by statute.

**13 State “Boundary Line Adjustment” standards**

- a *The basis for this conversation is the BLA Model Ordinance v1.1 and the BLA White Paper v1.0 placed into the agenda by Walt.* Walt explained that the document is not a question of standards but rather a Boundary Line Adjustment Model Ordinance, which is intended to be minimally inclusive.
- b Walt would like to open the task force he is leading to people of other professions to get the widest possible level of input. Walt is taking comments. Martin will be the liaison for this effort moving forward. The liaisons were encouraged to disseminate the Model Ordinance.

**14 ESB 5334 - RCW 64.90 Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act**

Walt opened. After some discussion, the members agreed that the Act is in conflict with other statutes. Bob Morse has reviewed one submittal. Washington Land Title has a guidance document. Kathy Bell said the City of Bellingham has rejected two submittals. Chris Jepson will contact Attorney Scott Swanson about making the presentation he gave to the NW Chapter to the SAB at the next meeting. Attorney Hugh Lewis was also put forward as a possible presenter at the next meeting. Walt recommended the board members compile questions for the next meeting.

**15 Amending a Survey Map other than Record of Survey or Long Plat**

The board members do not understand how this item was held over. LSAW disbanded their committee on this topic. The AMC was discussed. After extended conversation the Board did not act.

**10:57 The Meeting broke for lunch while a webinar was presented “Fate of the U.S. Survey Foot after 2022. A Conversation with NGS.” Meeting called to order at 11:09.**

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**16 Review of Liaisons \ appointment of new chair**

LSAW to SAB - Tom Barges  
 WCCS to SAB - Sam Mutt  
 SAB to WSACA - Gary Letzring  
 SAB to AHAB - Paul Galli  
 IRWA to SAB - Richard Dixson

New SAB Chairman beginning July 1 - Paul Galli

**The members, liaisons, and audience guests broke into two work groups. The work groups were Land Corner Record and Boundary Line Adjustment.**

**1:17 The work groups came back together.**

- Walt spoke for the BLA work group. The group was productive with the emphasis on getting the word out for input. Martin will be the new focal point for the SAB on this topic in the future.
- Pat spoke about the LCR. The bingo card for corner number needs to be removed. The surveyor's certificate needs to follow the requirement of RCW 58.09.080. The form should read "GLO\BLM" corners. The group was split on allowing non-GLO/BLM corners to use the form. The goal is another attempt on the form. The group advises a full push on the monument preservation legislation.

**17 Did you know Articles**

Walt asked for suggestions for new articles.

- Two member would like the links on the website to be more pronounced and easier to find.
- The members would like to request a link on the LSAW website to the SAB.
- Topics ideas for the Did You Know articles should be in the SAB minutes.
- New and revised paragraphs in the WAC 332-130 and WAC 332-120 may be a topic.
- A full monument reference description on an ROS, and not just a visit date, is another possible topic.

**18** This item was dropped from the agenda prior to the meeting.

**19 Draft Legislation Geodetic System/Washington Plane Coordinate System**

- Pat provided a draft of changes together with background on the changes from his meeting with NGS.
- *The changes are in advance of the 2022 data frame change.*
- The draft legislation will tie Washington's coordinate system to the NGS regardless of future changes by the NGS.
- The Board approved the language of the draft.
- Pat will attempt to advance the language to be pre-filed for the 2020 legislative session.

**20 Elevation Certificates: Prepared by Surveyors only?**

This was a topic is a hold over. It is closed.

**Good of the Order**

- Walt reports AGLO No.5 seems to say no land that has been previously subdivided may be subdivided again.
- Walt commented on the many advances facilitated by the SAB during his fifteen years of participation. Gratitude was expressed by and to Walt.
- A request was made to have Bob number pages in the PDF and add them to the thumbnails.
- Jon Warren is willing to speak at the SAB on the status of the survey monument preservation bill when the SAB meets next at SeaTac.

**21 Future meetings:**

- Bob will work with attorneys to schedule a presentation on the Common Interest law.
- The Board set a tentative date of July 25 for the next SAB meeting. Location to be determined.

**Closing**

Walt commented on the many advances facilitated by the SAB during his fifteen years of participation.

**Assignments**

- SAB Members:
  - Paul Galli will keep communications open with AHAB
  - SAB will form a written response to signing both certificate and stamp signing
  - Martin Paquette will become the SAB focal point for the BLA model ordinance
- Bob will:
  - Send AGLO 1980 31 (Auditors Authority to Reject Surveys) to Vicky Dalton
  - Provide to each SAB member the education materials sent earlier to the auditors
  - Mailchimp education on reminding surveyors about 332-130-145 Topographic Elements.
  - Work with Chris Jepson to invite attorneys Scott Swanson and Hugh Lewis to give a presentation on the WSUCIA at the next SAB meeting
  - Change the future agenda format and deliver only .pdf documents.
  - Locate\ recover topics for more “Did you know” articles
- John G. will:
  - Post new monument permit to PLSO website.
  - Send out “Basis of Bearings” article with note about all being available online
- Pat will:
  - Contact Jon Purnell about writing the article concerning a “stand alone map”.
- Liaisons cooperation:
  - Tom Barges follow up on LSAW BLA team
  - Tom Barges will propose an open channel of communications between AHAB and LSAW
  - Sam Mutt will forward draft BLA Model Ord. to WCCS

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- Did you know? Article assignments:
  - John Gasche: Getting verbal approval for a Monument Permit, and Common Errors in preparing a permit application.
  - Richard D.: Physical Description of a Monument & Chain of History”.

**BREAK OUT WORK SESSIONS DURING THE MEETING WERE AS FOLLOWS:**

1. BLA Model Ordinance: Walt, Martin, Bob, Bruce
2. Land Corner Record: Pat B., Paul G., Tim K.