DNR Survey Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2019
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Tumwater DNR Compound
801 88th Ave. SE, Tumwater, WA. 98501

Board Members Present:
Paul Galli, PLS, Government, Chair
Tim Kent, PLS, Rural
Bruce Dodds, PE/PLS, Multi-Discipline
Gary Letzring PLS, Urban

Board Member Excused:
Martin Paquette, PLS, Education

Staff Present:
Pat Beehler, PLS
Bob Knuth, PLS
John Gasche, LSIT

Invited Guests:
Sam Mutt, PLS, WCCS liaison
Tom Barger, PLS, LSAW liaison
Casey Kaul, WSACA liaison
Marie Pearson, Auditor’s Office, Thurston County
Jon Warren, Committee Member, Survey Monument Task Force

Guest Speaker:
George Peters, Executive Director, Washington Land Title Association.

Audience Guests:
Lucas Lymangrover, Kitsap County Surveys Office
Tamara King, Snohomish County, Survey Project Lead
Erielle Lamp, Clark County, Senior Engineer Technician
Kris Horton, City of Olympia, City Surveyor
Jesse Allan, Whatcom County Public Works
Kate Schalk, DNR Uplands Surveyor & LSAW President
Chris Plein, PLS, Beylor Consultants
Chair Paul Galli called the meeting to order.

- Pat Beehler introduced Paul Galli as the newly appointed chair.
- Pat Beehler outlined The Board, its mission, and the members’ positions.

The minutes of the April, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.

Monument Removal/Destruction Permits update

John Gasche (PLSO) supplied an oral report written report that 131 Permit Applications including 92 monuments and 20 Completion Reports were processed since the last meeting (April, 2019 – July, 2019). Bruce asked about why completion reports were not being completed at the same rate as the applications. John explained that the applicants are not fully aware of the process for completion. Bruce and Tim recommended continuing work with the LSAW. John commented, a “Did you know” article is in place. The Board of Registration has addressed the topic in their journal in the past.

The APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO REMOVE OR DESTROY A SURVEY MONUMENT was approved at the last meeting. Received date was added. John will begin using the form after October 1st.

Report from Auditor’s Recording Committee liaison to the SAB

Casey Kaul reported:

- Two recording fee increase take effect on 7/1 and 7/28. Total $4.50 increase.
- Vicky Dalton forwarded a clarification by the PLSO concerning non-acceptance of scanned signatures on surveys to all recorders.
- Vicky Dalton would like to begin a conversation with the survey community about removing book and page recordings versus AFNs. Vicky believes that the auditors as a group would like to see the book and page go away. Arielle commented that Clark County does not use AFNs. Bob suggested that Vicky add the question about what each county is doing to her upcoming Recorder’s Conference.
- The Auditors are seeing a good deal of “messy” surveys. Auditor certificates are omitted from surveys.

Gary Letzring Liaison to WSACA reported:

- LSAW and auditors are seeing surveys of lower quality.

LSAW Liaison to the SAB

Tom Barger reported:

- LSAW would like to begin a conversation about the affidavit of minor correction with Tom Barger as Liaison. Bruce explained the SAB is waiting for the LSAW to send a proposed method which complies with the law. The LSAW can contact the attorney general for an opinon when

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the proposal is ready. The group understands the goal would be that the affidavit is allowable only in the case of subdivisions. Pat voiced objection to the idea that anything but a recorded map can correct a recorded map.

- LSAW Board meeting first weekend of October. Pat explained Steve Parrish CFedS class will take place with CE credit. Kate said there will be a day and a half training CST for the technicians with exam proctored in the spring.

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

- Sam Mutt reported.
  - 2020 Conference venue not chosen. List of topics being reviewed.
  - Counties want to help in education for monument removal.
  - WCCS is asking members what they are doing about monument preservation, boundary line adjustments, and boundary line agreements. With the goal of plagiarizing.

**Board By-Laws**

- WAC 332-130-080 Pat Beehler discussed the history of the un-authorized chip seal MOU program. The draft language was provided. CR102 is due 8/2 with a hearing date thereafter in the Tumwater Compound.

**Affordable Housing Advisory Board**

- Paul reported:
  He listened to a teleconference. No issues were discussed which affected the SAB.

**Update on the monumentation preservation bill**

- Jon Warren Reported:
  - A white paper is ready for limited distribution to the SAB.
  - A broad based task force has been working to develop the white paper.
    - Jon covered
      - Program administration
      - Current ideas on cost and funding
      - Scope of the effort
      - WSACA support for the program
      - Search for sponsors of the legislation
      - Possible long term timeline
      - Stakeholders list
George Peters, Executive Director, Washington Land Title Association.

George provided a background on WUCIOA. The statute was intended to correct long standing issues with the earlier condominium laws. The survey portion was carved out by Pete Middlebrooks, Hugh Lewis, and George. George provided, a condo checklist, a plat checklist, and Map and Survey Preparation Guidelines. After the Q&A with George, Pat, Bruce, and Bob, will hear from George after he speaks with Bruce Towle, PLS retired. George would like to hear from interested parties.

Public Land Survey Office

Pat B. provided the end of biennium report with an explanation of revenue and expenses. The fund balance is approximately $1,100,000.

PLSO Staff

Bob K. reported:
- Himself, five full time staff, one staff member at 20%, and one intern. The intern chosen this year is of high quality.
- SAB website has been updated.
- X-Files are about finished. X-Files were described by Kris Horton.

Records
- Three records collections have been processed.
- A renewed effort on records collections in the warehouse are the next priority.
- Mr. Siebert has retired from Clinton. The PLSO is in search of his records.

Questions/issues:
- Bob asked for input from the board on which types of records to retain and in what format.
- Surveyor certificates continue to be an issue. After an extended conversation the SAB opinion is that when surveyors file surveys that do not comply with the WACs and will not come into compliance the PLSO manager should contact the Board of Registration.

Outreach and Training;
- The PLSO is contacting the Washington State Realtors Association.

George Peters, Executive Director, Washington Land Title Association.

George was invited to clarify some topics after lunch. Some of the declarations required by WUCIOA can be moved from the survey to a separate document if they do not apply, or the surveyor has no specific knowledge of the items in the declaration. WUCIOA does not require any changes to existing local requirements in subdivisions.

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Proposed revisions to WAC 332-130-020

Scanned/electronic signatures. Does the SAB believe an alternative definition of original signature should be placed into WAC 332-130-020? The alternative would define a scanned signature. This method would be similar to that which the Board of Registration enacted last December. Pat explained that the Board of Registration WAC 196-23-070 does not apply to WAC 332-130-050. The SAB directed Bob to draft an alternative definition.

Comment by Bob outside of the meeting. Drafting a change to 332-130-020 does not convene a committee of the SAB and the Auditors. WSACA will have to be notified for buy in.

LCR Review

- Pat presented the most recent revisions to the LCR.
- Pat explained the LCR is filed without fee, with the exception of King County.
- Tim verified that no differently from the survey two signatures are required.
- Sam clarified that the grantor can be the surveyor or agency.
- Casey is OK with the document.

- Pat explained the current recording fees.
- Pat discussed the history of the PLSO portion of the fee.
- Bob told the PLSO about pending expense increases.
- In addition to mandated increases the PLSO would like to hire another staff member.
- Any increased funds would be directed to processing of records collections.
- The SAB advised the PLSO to ask the Forest Board for a six dollar recording fee increase.

State “Boundary Line Adjustment” standards

- Gary said the proposal is ready for LSAW to create a committee.
- Bruce said he has several persons who would like to see the proposal.
- Sam suggested the widest stakeholder base possible.
- The SAB members will begin disseminating the draft language to people and groups within their circles.

ESB 5334 - RCW 64.90 Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act

The draft “Standing Alone” did you know article was presented.

Draft Legislation Geodetic System/Washington Plane Coordinate System update—Pat is driving forward with the legislation and working with sponsors. We need all eyes reviewing this document for comments.

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Book and Page in the Auditor’s Certificate- Kaul
Casey receive a good deal of feedback during the breaks. Nothing to add.

The SAB did not require work groups in this meeting.

Good of the Order
- Erielle brought a new type of archival paper which Paul will help her look into.
- Next meeting date is open with a target of late October.
- WLTA one day education seminar 10/19.
- Pat read a letter from DNR Commissioner Hillary Franz to Walt Dale for his years of dedicated service to the SAB.
- Tim asked about two year programs. With feedback the SAB agreed that there is a problem.

Adjourned

Assignments
- Bob will work with Pat and the SAB to draft language for WAC 332-130-020.
- The SAB will communicate their opinions to Bob about processing records collections.
- The SAB will provide comments to Mr. Purnell directly concerning his Did You Know article.
- Bob will put a general letter together for surveyors outlining Surveyor’s Certificates.
- Pat and Bob will work toward a request for a 10.66% recording fee increase for the 2018-2020 biennium.
- Paul will work with Erielle on the archival paper.
- All interested parties will disseminate the (DRAFT) BLA whitepaper.