

Wisconsin County Surveyors Association, Inc.

Minutes of the WCSA March 18, 2022, BOD Meeting
Chili, WI – Wade Petit’s House



Board of Directors Attending

Ryan Duckart	Brown County	Tom Leslie	Brown County
Bryan Meyer	La Crosse County	Laurence Johns	Vernon County
Rob Merry	SEWRPC	Tom Carlson	Dunn County

WCSA Members/Others Attending

Dave Tlusty	Jet Enterprises	Larry Kempe	Marathon County
Terry Lueschow	Seiler Instruments	Gary Dechant	Juneau/Monroe County
Steve Grady	Seiler Instruments	David Decker	Marathon County
Brian Gross	Oconto County	Corey Hughes	La Crosse County
Wade Petit	Clark County	Dean Roth	Eau Claire County
Cody Brommerich	Jackson County	David Vogel	SCO
Dave Pleoger	Sawyer County	Jason Houle	Leica Geosystems
Jason Bolz	Manitowoc County	Cody Steines	Clark County

President Ryan Duckart called the meeting to order at 9:58 am

Thank you to Wade Petit for hosting the meeting and giving members a tour of his maple syrup production

Introductions were made by members in attendance (*“Who do you have winning your March Madness?”*)

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the amended Minutes from the November 12, 2021 Board meeting

Secretary’s Report: Tom Leslie reported on preparing the last Board minutes; emailing updated paid dues list & related paid map to members, including Membership renewal form. Updated/revised the WSLs website – check it out and let me know what content you would like to see (or not see). SCO online County Surveyor directory should be updated – thank you David! Nothing else to report at this time

Treasurer’s Report: Tom Carlson stated there are 43 current members as of March 18, 2022. He also gave the following report:

Wisconsin County Surveyors Assoc. Inc.

Treasurer’s Report – March 14, 2022

Current Balances (Westconsin Credit Union) Balances as of November 1, 2021

Checking.....	\$5954.20
Savings.....	\$5665.20

Expenditures 2022

3013 1/3/2022	Tom Leslie (Secretarial Services – 1st Qtr.)	\$700.00
3014 1/18/2022	WSLS Foundation (Bucky’s Challenge)	\$250.00
3015 1/31/2022	Wisconsin Towns Association (Dues)	\$175.00
3016 1/31/2022	National Assoc. of Co. Surveyors (Dues)	\$100.00
3017 1/31/2022	WSLS Sustaining Membership Dues (Void)	\$360.00
3018 2/7/2022	Championship Awards (Brenda’s award)	\$94.39

Total Expenditures 2022: \$1319.39

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

Total Deposits in 2022: \$3,600.00

2022 Dividends – Checking Account

1/31/2022 Dividend \$0.18
2/28/2022 Dividend \$0.21

Total Dividends received in 2022: \$0.39

2022 Dividends – Savings Account

1/31/2022 Dividend \$0.48
2/28/2022 Dividend \$0.43

Total Dividends received in 2022: \$0.91

Total postage stamps used in 2022: 6 (six)
(Book of 20 purchased on 3/17/2021) (6 stamps left)

Dues collected for 2022 through March 14, 2022: \$3500.00

On February 22, 2022, I filed the 2021 WCSA taxes electronically with the IRS by completing a Form 990-N postcard online. Later that same day, I received confirmation from the IRS that my submission was accepted.

35 of 72 Counties are current members (48%)

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

WLIC Report:

- No report at this time

Correspondence:

- "Wisconsin Has A 'Lost' Western Boundary!" flyer was discussed (2023 should be 2026 and Dave Vogel should be contact – not Brenda). Secretary will post updated flyer on the WCSA website
- SB840, which proposes the requirement of addresses on plats when recorded. Most organizations are opposing this requirement as it would be a logistical nightmare. WLIA sent someone to the latest panel discussion to voice opposition to the requirement

Education Segment

David Vogel from State Cartographer's Office: "SCO Update"

- Topics included:
 - E3 Statewide PLSS is available online with a downloadable database
 - One long term goal is to work on the discrepancies between County boundaries. The hope is to work with County Surveyors to get these issues resolved in a timely manner

- There will be no 2022 PLSS Workgroup. How do we move forward for 2023 – still Marinette?
- Statewide parcel map – the way the information gets into this is not consistent from County to County. Perhaps more discussion on establishing a “standard” for all submitters?
- Whatever data is part of the attributes of a submitted tie sheet will be “searchable” (such as last time corner was visited). The information is not extracted manually (less chance of errors)
- Discussed the possibility of the State using the tie sheet data to determine what areas need help with corner maintenance, which in turn could help show those “higher up” why the funds are being requested. This could also help Part Time County Surveyors. The information could also help determine areas of high construction growth thus funneling funds to those areas in need
- Using CAD & GIS together could help identify these types of areas more efficiently
- Maintenance record updates to corner information (ex: visited and good 4-22-22) could also be used to justify needing funds
- Send updates to SCO using the form/template they provide. David will provide the form to Secretary who will distribute to the membership

Laurence Johns: Coordinate information available to the Public

- Surveyors and the general public are using coordinates derived from ARC County websites using coordinates given on tie sheets or picking from ARC/GIS maps (PLSS Finder as well)
- Almost every corner in the State (if not all) have associated coordinates. Do we, as an organization, want this information to be out there? Are those coordinates survey grade? If not, should they be shown at all? Perhaps they could mark as “approximate” or not shown at all?
- Marathon County has been discussing this recently. Public money was used to gather this information and should be made available. Most in attendance agree that if not survey grade, then it should not be shown at all
- Could SCO add a “disclaimer” about this? Maybe only go 2 places for coordinates?
- David V will do some checking and produce a report on what options we have and what we want to do (ex: If coords are given, they are Survey Grade if in green, or use at own risk if in red)
- ***This topic will be revisited at next meeting in May***

WLIC Report:

- No report at this time as group has not met in a while

Old Business

1) Status of County Surveyor Offices

- Brown County is in search of a County Surveyor. Department was recently revised, with a few positions being eliminated, a few revised job descriptions/title, with “extra” funds being used to increase the pay of CS, and hopefully getting people more interested in applying
- Oneida County – Mike Romportl is retiring in April
- Eau Claire County has added a staff surveyor
- Iowa County has removed CS as a position and Part Time is not paid, so there has not been very much interest in taking the job

2) WCSA Website

- Secretary will get the PLSS flyer on the website
- SCO link does NOT go to our website – David V will check and update
- For upcoming meetings, a noticeable blurb will be added to website for better visibility to members

3) GPSonBM Update for the Wisconsin County Surveyors Association

With your help, Wisconsin is one of the national leaders in collecting and submitting OPUS Share observations to the National Geodetic Survey for their modernization of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) as part of the 2022 Datum release.

WisDOT is in the process of reviewing all Wisconsin GPSONBM observations submitted to NGS as of early January, 2022 to analyze stations that have larger differences between the OPUS Share coordinates and the published coordinates. There were about 3130 observations of 2430 existing stations submitted by all observers in Wisconsin. This count does not include observations on new stations not in the NGS database.

Reminder to take advantage of the deadline extension (Dec. 31, 2022) as a chance to get additional observations on stations that have not been observed and stations not in the NGS database that will be valuable for your county.

If you are going to take additional observations in the coming year, users are reminded to verify the following:

- That the antenna rod is level and level bubbles are checked.
- The antenna height is correct, especially on setups not using a constant height rod. The antenna height submitted must be vertical height (not slant height) and in meters.
- When submitting,
 - The correct antenna type is selected.
 - The correct metric antenna height is input.

During the spring lull in observations, we are also updating our WisDOT GIS map to reflect the number of observations for each station on the map. This is a hand process and is not automatically updated like other data on the map. We expect the updates to be completed soon.

Not a widespread problem, but please verify that stations on county owned land and road rights of way are still GPSable. Please have trees near these stations removed if possible, prior to observations to achieve better station results. If these trees are not or cannot be removed, then the station will eventually become unusable.

Any questions, please contact me,
Mick

- You can submit any time before **December 31, 2022**
- Observations should be ramping up with the better weather coming soon (we hope!)

New Business

1) No New Business at this time

Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 11:34 pm

Next up: Spring Membership Meeting

Friday, May 6th at 10am

Wisconsin Rapids – Rock River Bldg (Wood County)



