



# Wisconsin County Surveyors Association, Inc.

Minutes of the WCSA Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, November 10, 2023

River Block Building – Wisconsin Rapids, WI



### **Board of Directors Attending**

Ryan Duckart	Brown County	Rob Merry	SEWRPC
Bryan Meyer	LaCrosse County	Wade Pettit	Clark County
Joe Nelsen	Trempealeau County	Tom Leslie	Brown County
Laurence Johns	Vernon County		

### **WCSA Members/Others Attending (\*Virtual)**

Dave Decker	Marathon County	Jeremy Hildebrand	Sheboygan County
Mick Heberlein	WisDOT	Brian Gross	Oconto County
Dale Raisleger	Brown County	Dean Roth	Eau Claire County
Dan Frick	Dane County	Tony Dallman	Vernon County
Kevin Boyer	Wood County	Gary Dechant	Juneau & Monroe County
Justin Meyer	Taylor County	Cody Brommerich	Jackson County
Paul Bernard	Wood County	Sam Monihan	Eau Claire County
Jason Bolz	Manitowoc County		

**President Ryan Duckart called the meeting to order at 10:01 am**

- No additions to the agenda
- THANK YOU to Kevin Boyer for the refreshments
- THANK YOU to WSL & Dan Frick for the use of the Owl

***Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the August 11, 2023 minutes as presented***

### **Secretary’s Report** (Tom Leslie):

- Prepared minutes for the last meeting; distributed any informational emails, literature, links, Mick’s report, etc. to Board and membership; updated the WCSA website as needed; sent dues reminder email
- Ready to help with 2024 Forum

### **Treasurer’s Report** (Tom Carlson):

- See Treasurer’s Report attached to the end of the minutes for more detailed information

***Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Secretary & Treasurer Reports as presented***

### **WLIC Report** (Cody Brommerich):

- See WLIC Report attached to the end of the minutes for more detailed information
- Cody commented on RODs proposal to hike recording fees to \$45 (see 59.42(3)(b) which states that any cost hike needs County Board approval; problem with Tapestry (Fidlar) relating to cost of a search, time limit, no preview of document before buying, general unfriendliness and cost of the program

### **Correspondence:**

- Corey Hughes (St. Croix County) reported that he and his wife recently welcomed their first child, a girl  
**CONGRATULATIONS HUGHES FAMILY!**
- Original Government Survey – difference between surveyor notes and OGS for a distance – notes always trump the map when it comes to variances. Make sure you get the information for the source document
- A motion was made seconded and approved to have WCSA sponsor a Bucky's Team at the newly formed Silver Sponsorship level (\$300 which includes WCSA logo on the Bucky's shirt)
- Send logo into WSLs asap – is vector art needed or is normal jpeg, tiff or png ok?
- Recording fee proposal letter from Cheryl Berken, Brown County ROD (attached at end of minutes)

### **Education Segment:**

#### **GPS on Benchmarks latest update — Mick Heberlein, WisDOT**

- Mick thanked everyone who participated in the GPS on Benchmark project. It was a group effort and not just the DOT – THANK YOU!
- Nice # of locates for Wisconsin (full report link on WCSA website) which placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the US for # of points observed – at least we beat Illinois-ing 😊
- Mick also mentioned that you can still submit observations, but it may not be included in the adjustment – no guarantees but might as well try!
- If you need or want more information, please do not hesitate to contact Mick

#### **Revisions to Procedure(s) to Replace Section Corners Disturbed by DOT Construction — Mick Heberlein, WisDOT**

- There are proposed new durable witness monuments to replace the aluminum capped monuments that are usually destroyed by snow plows and makes replacing the monument much harder
- County Surveyor contact should be the first person contacted by DOT when monuments may be disturbed – who else is better at knowing what to do in that particular county?
- More info will be presented at the Annual ECSA meeting at the Institute in January 2024

### **Old Business:**

#### 1) Status of County Surveyor Offices:

- Sauk County has changed from elected County Surveyor to an appointed position
- Dave Yurk is the new Outagamie County Surveyor, replacing Terry Van Hout
- Fond du Lac County: Peter Kuen left but has been (re)hired as a consultant

#### 2) 2024 PLSS Forum:

- Dan Frick stated that WSLs has agreed to donate a minimum \$1000 to the event – usually for the meals
- Possible dates include April 18<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> , although pushing it into May may allow for an outside program or demonstration OR is May too late for students to attend as they may be out of school?
- Best Western Riverfront Hotel will be the venue
- Should Welch Group be asked to help with the planning, or can we do this ourselves?
- David Vogel stated that SCO is all in and will help in any way possible (within budget of course)

### 3) Wisconsin Counties Association Annual Conference



- WCSA booth at the conference on Sept. 18 & 19 went well according to Laurence Johns & Dave Tlusty. The booth was close to the entrance, so most people had to at least go past the booth
- New poster is needed before the next use of the booth
- For the most part, it was a very positive experience and most agree that we should continue our presence at the conference in upcoming years

### **New Business:**

#### 1) 911 Next Gen

- This topic has been confusing for most. The major issue revolves around edge matching, and even if there is a gap/overlap, no one cares as it needs to “look good”, so just match edges. This is very disheartening – especially to those that have spent a lot of time and effort into creating a realistic and accurate map (well as accurate as you can get it anyway)
- Why not use PLSS data?

#### 2) WSLS Institute Panel Session

- A few things mentioned during discussion: What do we talk about/topic? What do surveyors expect from County Surveyors and vice versa?
- Panel is pretty much set: Dean Roth, Laurence Johns, Dave Yurk and Dave Decker – thank you!

#### 3) County Surveyor Information Questionnaire

- Bayfield County requested information on how much a County Surveyor is paid (pay range) in each County that has one. Once a database is created, it could be shared with other counties that do not have a County Surveyor and/or who are looking to hire one
- Tom Leslie will start gathering the data and will share the results with the group – could take a bit to accumulate all the data, but it is needed information. Will report at the next Board meeting in March

#### 4) Personal Property Changes

- Whether you want it or not, it is coming on January 1, 2024
- Personal Property as we know it will be “gone” – those values will now be added to the real property tax bill if a BFI document (Buildings, Fixtures and Improvements) is not recorded stating that the leasee will get the bill. Confusing as all heck. BFIs should be recorded before Jan. 1, 2024 if they want the bill to go to leasee at the end of 2024. Anything recorded after 1-1-24 will not be effective until tax bill at end of 2025. Contact your county’s Real Property Lister for more detailed information.

5) WCSA Board of Directors Nominations for 2024

- All current Board Members have given a “Yes” to returning for another year on the Board, although will be Ryan Duckart’s last year as President – which then means Bryan can finally leave the Board 😊

6) WCSA Friend of Wisconsin Land Surveying Award

- No nominations were received so no award will be given in 2023

**\*\*\* NEXT MEETING \*\*\***

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 @ 10 AM @ WSLS INSTITUTE**

**KALAHARI CONVENTION CENTER, WISCONSIN DELLS**

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 1:13 pm