

MINUTES

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

DATE: September 2, 2015
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: 500 N. Calvert Street
Room 308
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

PRESENT: John Mettee, Chairman
John Jensen
Daniel Lavelle
Donald Ocker
Thomas Orisich

OTHERS

PRESENT: Pamela Edwards, Executive Director
James Baseman, Assistant Executive Director
Milena Trust, Assistant Attorney General
Susan Cherry, Assistant Attorney General
Sarah Keogh, Assistant Attorney General
T.J. Frazier, MSS
Pat Simon, MSS
Matthew Brien

ABSENT: Brian Dunne

CALL TO ORDER

John Mettee, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m.

MINUTES

A motion (I) was made by Donald Ocker, seconded by Daniel Lavelle, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2015 meeting as submitted.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Don Ocker made a motion (II), seconded by Tom Orisich and unanimously carried to move the complaint committee report to the end of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

John Mettee passed out questions that were gathered from the members of the Maryland Society of Surveyors. Most of the questions posed were focused on CPC regulations. Mr. Mettee thanked the MSS representatives for the questions. The Board has agreed to put together a one hour presentation for the 2015 MSS-MDSPE (Maryland Society of Professional Engineers) Fall Conference Q and A session on October 9, 2015.

In reviewing the questions, Milena Trust stated that some of them were legal in scope, but that she would not be able to answer all the questions. Mr. Mettee asked the Board to review the questions and the board will talk about them at the next meeting on October 7, 2015.

Tom Orisich asked if the Board would pay the registration for Board members attending the conference. It was determined that there is no fee for Board members attending the Q and A session; however, Board members must pay the Conference registration fee out of pocket to attend the remainder of the conference (in order to receive CPC credits).

NEW BUSINESS

John Mettee discussed the NCEES 94th Annual Meeting, held in Williamsburg, Virginia, from August 19-22, 2015. Mr. Mettee reported that according to NCEES, by March of 2016, there will be a free self-reporting CPC registry which individuals can utilize to track their CPC credits. Membership in the NCEES is not required to use the system; however, users must have an account with NCEES.

Ms. Trust said that they learned in the meeting that there is a great decline in people taking the Fundamentals of Engineering exam in the United States. By contrast, 25,000 people are waiting to take the exam in Egypt. There is a concern that the fees for this exam may be raised to offset this decline.

Mr. Mettee also discussed the two motions presented at the NCEES meeting by the Future of Surveying Task Force. Both motions passed. Motion 1 allocated \$32,000 for meetings to explore ways to market the land surveying profession. Motion 2 created a Professional Surveying Program of Distinction. The program will have a trial period of five years and a cost of \$125,000. The industry is concerned because there is a very limited amount of surveying

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programs around the nation and these programs are struggling with attendance. This award can bolster attendance in these programs. The next step would be to create criteria of how the funds will be awarded. It was shared that this award would be bestowed on college programs. Ms. Trust said that the task force is trying to encourage colleges to come up with more accredited programs. Approximately 10 awards will be given out.

John Mettee reported that another topic of interest at the meeting was the offering of "express map" services that seem to overlap into the surveying field. He stated that this is more of an enforcement issue that keeps appearing in various states.

It was mentioned that Gary Thompson was elected as treasurer of NCEES by a large margin. It was also noted that the transition of the Principles of Surveying exam to CBT is on track for October 2016 and the exam fee paid by candidates will probably increase.

Mr. Mettee also noted that the report on the Fundamental of Surveying exam demographics was interesting. The results collected were from January 2014 through May of 2015. There were a total of 120 people who took the exam. The passing rate six months after graduation was 66%, 12 months after graduation was 68%, 24 months after graduation was 50%, 35 months after graduation was 22%, and 60 months after graduation had a passing rate of 11%. The pass rate is a very good indicator that this is an academic exam.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pamela Edwards reported that the concept sheet for CPC regulations has been submitted to the Secretary. The concept sheet was submitted because the Board wants to review the effectiveness of the current CPC requirements. The CPC committee has met twice and will re-convene when the concept sheet is approved. Ms. Trust said that the Board will be kept informed of what happens.

BOARD COUNSEL'S REPORT

Milena Trust discussed the current draft of the education bill. The draft is complete and was sent to the Board and Tim Quinn. Mr. Frazier was concerned that the current draft does not include a grandfather clause. Ms. Trust believes that Mr. Quinn is developing a spreadsheet to plug in implementation dates. Mr. Frazier said that Mr. Quinn has sent the draft and the spreadsheet matrix to the MSS Board of Directors and they will discuss the current draft and a provision that has a grandfathering clause. The bill will be brought back to the Board to be revised if necessary. Mr. Frazier said that MSS will present the bill at chapter meetings to get input from their members.

OLD BUSINESS

The draft of the Education Bill was previously discussed during the Board Counsel's Report.

John Mettee made a motion (III), seconded by Tom Orisich, and unanimously carried to table the Mapping Science/GIS discussion until the next meeting.

Matthew Brien appeared before the Board in compliance with the Consent Order.

MARYLAND SOCIETY OF SURVEYORS

T.J. Frazier introduced the incoming President-Elect, Pat Simon. There was nothing else to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion (IV) was made by Mr. Ocker, seconded by Mr. Mettee, and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session at 11:20 a.m. at 500 North Calvert Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202. This session was permitted to be closed pursuant to State Government Article, Title 10-508(a)(7). Upon completion of the session, the Board reconvened its public meeting at 11:50 a.m.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ocker noted that there are three complaints that the Complaint Committee is currently investigating.

15-LS-04 Pre-charge

16-LS-01 Consent Order sent to Respondent

16-LS-02 May have to be closed due to the complainant being non-responsive to the Board's request for additional information.

Motion (V) was made by Don Ocker, and seconded by John Jensen to offer a consent order in 16-LS-01. Tom Orisich abstained. Motion carried.

Motion (VI) was made by John Jensen, seconded by Dan Lavelle, and unanimously carried to accept the Complaint Committee's report.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications to take the professional land surveyor examination were approved:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Darren Heier | 3. Dean Packard |
| 2. Daniel Mirable | 4. Jennifer Tereyla |

The following applications for reciprocity were approved:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Christopher Blair | 4. Robert W. Lux Jr. |
| 2. Pete Brothers | 5. Jill Myers |
| 3. Donald Hixson Jr. | 6. Jeffrey Smeraldo |

The following applications for LSIT were approved:

1. Abiye Williams

Following a review of the above applications by a minimum of two board members, a motion (VII) was made by Tom Orisich, seconded by Dan Lavelle and unanimously carried to approve/deny the above applications.

OTHER BUSINESS

John Mettee stated that the next board meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2015.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS


Motion (VIII) was made by Tom Orisich, seconded by Dan Lavelle, and unanimously carried to nominate Don Ocker for Vice-Chair of the Board. There were no other nominations. Don Ocker accepted the nomination.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion (IX) was made by Don Ocker, seconded by Tom Orisich, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 p.m.

Without Corrections

With Corrections



John V. Mettee, III Chairman
Date: 10/7/15