

2022 ASPLS Membership Meeting
October 26, 2022
Camellia Room, Lake Guntersville State Park Lodge

President Tony Manary called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

He asked Bob Herbert from the Board of Licensure to speak. Bob mentioned that they are looking for more technical advisors. He urged everyone to please consider signing up for this. He suggested to upload PDH certificates now before something may happen to your certificate. The Board is willing to come and speak before groups.

Mr. Joey Breighner then reviewed the Board of Licensure's work on a potential legislative change to the education required to be licensed in land surveying. He went through step by step events that occurred, what the board has done, and took questions regarding what land surveyors could do and comments about the path forward.

Tony Manary noted that we are working with Alabama Community Colleges that would be a tech program for surveyors that could feed into Troy University or other online surveyor programs to complete their 4 year degree. We also met with Alabama A&M who has interest in developing a 4 year degree program in land surveying. We have also been teaching CST – Certified Surveying Technician – to increase the supply of people exposed to the profession.

Mr. Breighner also discussed an issue regarding ALDOT and QBS. The board's position is that QBS is still required for ALDOT contracts as that is the state law.

Jeff Clendenning led the group in a prayer.

The minutes were distributed by email. A motion and second to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

Tony Manary presented the President's Report. Most of the major issues were discussed previously. He did thank everyone for the opportunity to be ASPLS's President. It was a challenge and a lot of work but was rewarding. He urged districts to start meeting again.

Jason Bailey presented the Secretary/Treasurer report. We did better in 2021 than 2020, coming out of the pandemic. 2021 versus 2020 year end balances and expenses were compared. The first 9 months of 2022 was compared with 2021 and we are doing even better. A motion and second to approve the report passed unanimously.

Steve Strickland presented the Membership Committee Report. Membership was up slightly mainly due to Troy's student member increased.

Mark Clark was unable to be present for the Nominating Committee Report but Tony noted that we will be nominating three names to be named to the Board of Licensure – which we want to keep Joey Breighner there but we need to have three names on the list.

Thomas Brooks noted the Ethics Committee appreciated the strong ethics of the group.

Lee Greene presented the Legislative Committee report. He noted the issues discussed earlier took up a lot of the time of the committee. We hope to be able to pass a bill to require probate court filing of

decisions in a judicial case affecting boundary lines. We have a lot of buy in on this bill but will meet with the one group that opposed it.

Kevin Hinkle presented the Public Relations Report. He noted that he is trying to get involved in career days at schools in District 8 since that district does not have any licensed surveyors. He has recommended some new features in Turning Points as well.

Jeff Lucas was unable to be present for the Professional Practices report.

Thomas Brooks presented the Scouting Committee report. ASPLS's Scouting Committee is supporting the NSPS Scouting Committee. NSPS is reviewing the requirements for scouting and suggestions are welcome. Urged members to contact local councils and urge them to offer the scouting badge.

Jon Ham was not present for the Education/Scholarship report but Tony reported that we are doing well financially and all members were encouraged to ask students to submit applications for scholarships.

Lee Greene presented the Historical Committee report. Working on multiple projects. Identified the remains of the terminus of the Huntsville meridian. We will mark it. Still working on the terminus of the St Stephens meridian and are working on it with landowners and the Department of Conservation. The governor has given us funds to mark it. The last project is the old Washington County corner of the Mississippi/Alabama border. Volunteers are more than welcome to help.

Kevin Hinkle presented the Long Range Planning report. We need to continue to build relationships with schools to recruit more surveyors. The second item is maintaining control over surveying, mapping, and services we are to provide such as ground penetrating radar. A good service to add and have under our control as it deals with location.

Rusty Blackwell presented the Awards Committee report. He thanked everyone who submitted names for awards. He presented the Carol Amons Youkey Award. She is the first female licensed land surveyor in the state and is present today. A round of applause was given to Mrs. Youkey. Rusty Blackwell named Sarah Wicker as the recipient of the 2022 Carol Amons Youkey Award. Rusty Blackwell named Matthew Herrell as the recipient of the 2022 Young Surveyor of the Year Award. Rusty Blackwell named Jamey Alexander as the recipient of the 2022 Surveyor of the Year Award.

Jeff Clendenning presented Thomas Brooks with a Key Director award from NSPS for 2021.

The outgoing officers were also recognized with Service Recognition Awards.

Jason Bailey reported on the goal of TRIG-Star which is to outreach about surveyor to high school students. You can give a presentation about surveying followed a couple weeks later by giving a test with cash awards for the top participants. We need more participation so all members were encouraged if you have any connections to state high schools. Scholarships are also available to those that take part in the program.

Jason Bailey reported on the GIS program, Alabama Land Information System (ALIS). It is up and running. Everyone was encouraged to us this program. He reviewed how to get to the program, what is available, and how it works. Can monument section corners. There are thousands of data points here. Parcel data is also available. The state sponsors this and it does not cost us anything.

Jason Bailey also reported on Certified Survey Technician (CST) Training. He has been teaching the preparation program, and 2 recently passed the test. He encouraged getting people into this program to get staff to further their knowledge in the field. It should be a priority to have a CST in all our companies. State agencies: ALDOT, Alabama Power, other big companies should have CST as part of their hiring requirements like other states do.

Tony Manary presented the amendment to the bylaws with a notice received June 30, 2022: "This is a petition to Amend the Current Constitution to include the category of an active and certified by NSPS Certified Survey Technician (CST) I-IV within the membership category of Associate Member." Signed by 10 active members: Jason E. Bailey, Lee Y Greene Jr, Kevin Hinkle, Mark W. Clark, John J. Schaffer, Jarrod W. Rowland, Steve Strickland, Anthony Manary, Charles D. Roberts, William Blackwell. A motion to approve the amendment was seconded and the motion passed.

District Reports

District 1 is not meeting and does not have a report.

District 2 did not have a report.

District 3 did not have a report.

District 4 did not have a report.

District 5 is meeting the fourth Thursday of every month at the Paw Paw Patch in Homewood.

District 6 did not have a report.

District 7 did not have a report.

District 8 does not have a representative in ASPLS.

District 9 did not have a report.

Jim Ranieri presented the Executive Director report. He stated that there are 190 attendees at this meeting plus 19 exhibitor companies, with 45 individuals, for a total of 235 in attendance. He also reported membership of 389 total members at this point in the year, compared to 336 at this time last year. The Summer Meeting will be moving to the Hilton Pensacola Beach with rates starting at \$209 per night.

Matt Beam presented the General Counsel report. He wanted to add in addition to things discussed previously that the Technical Advisor from the board noted this is a very important role. We don't want bad cases. We want a strong process with competent surveyors that help the board with these investigations. He urged those with interest in this to talk to him about this.

Jeff Clendenning presented the NSPS Director report. He noted that he and Tony spent a day on the Hill and visited an Alabama representative, who supported an important issue. He noted that the government is trying to do away with 1099 contract labor. NSPS lobbyist is wanting to know how we feel about going against this. Jeff mentioned that he and incoming President Steve Strickland went to a meeting in Tulsa and they shared a video about Trig-Star and the CST program that you can share to help promote surveying. NSPS is trying to help with the workforce problem. Not that we are short on

licensed surveyors but the supporting workforce. Thomas Brooks recognized the big impact Jeff had on the position – he is representing the state very strongly.

Joey Breighner noted that the Troy Geomatics program is not the only degree program; there are other majors – related sciences – that you can take to qualify for the requirements to be a licensed land surveyor.

Dr. Hazelton presented a report on behalf of Troy University. He noted we have an increased number of students, and that we went through ABET Accreditation review and while it is not official but we are expecting to be reaccredited.

Tony Manary presented the candidates that were elected: Chuck Roberts for District 2, Steve McPherson for District 4, Mark Waddell for District 6, Jason Bailey for Secretary/Treasurer, and Troy Halliburton for Vice President. Tony noted that we need more participation. By the next election, get involved as an officer or get involved in a committee.

Thomas Brooks performed the officer installation ceremony.

Steve Strickland was recognized as the new President. There was no unfinished business.

Under New Business, Tony was recognized with a plaque for his service as President of ASPLS. Jon Ham was recognized for District 6 service.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and the motion passed.