

## Survey Committee Meeting

December 7, 2022

9:00 AM

### Teams Meeting (virtual) & Olympia (in-person)

**Committee:** James Wengler, PLS, Chair  
Aaron Blaisdell, PLS  
Marjorie Lund, PE, SE

**Support staff:** Rich Larson, PLS, Deputy Director  
Shanan Gillespie, Regulatory Program Manager  
Ken Fuller, PE, Director  
Vonna Cramer, Licensing Lead  
Mackenzie Wherrett, Executive Assistant  
Elizabeth Lagerberg, Advising AAG  
Greg Schieferstein, Commun. Manager

**Guests:** David Icenhower, PLS, DNR PLSO  
Paul Galli, PLS

#### Discussion Topics

- Review/discussion: WAC 196-29 *Professional practices*

The committee had a long discussion regarding potential rulemaking changes to this WAC. One housekeeping change is to remove the reference to WAC 196-16, as practice is not defined in that chapter.

Mr. Fuller would like to see DNR amend their WAC (332-130) instead of us taking on that change. He stated that board members and staff would work with DNR on any rule changes.

Mr. Icenhower stated that he believes that DNR is not looking to change their WAC(s) at this time.

Ms. Lagerberg informed the committee that when amending the rules, that any “new” standards are part of a standard process, and not affect the judgement call of a professional surveyor. She was informed that the only judgement by a PLS is accepting the corners, and not the marking of the line between the corners.

Mr. Blaisdell stated that clarification language is needed in WAC 196-29-110(3) & (4).

The committee will be recommending to the board that staff file a CR101 regarding this WAC, and staff and board members work with DNR and stakeholders to come up with amended language.

Mr. Fuller and Mr. Larson will contact Pat Beehler, PLS, DNR to discuss this issue.

- NCEES PLS exam EPS request

An email from NCEES regarding a request from the NCEES Examination for Professional Surveying (EPS) committee was discussed. Mr. Blaisdell is currently a member of the EPS committee. NCEES will be sending out a survey at the end of January that needs to be completed and returned to NCEES by mid-February. The Board needs to decide what Professional Survey exam divisions will be required for licensure as a PLS in Washington. The five divisions are: Core, Boundary, Public Land Survey Systems, Mapping Sciences, and Incidental Drainage.

Based on the information provided, the committee is recommending to the board that we require all divisions with the exceptions of Incidental Drainage, and that Mr. Blaisdell and Mr. Fuller work on completing the January survey.

- Review 2-year LS programs in Washington

The committee had a discussion regarding the listing of board approved LS programs on the website. The committee directed staff to remove the schools currently listed. Applications containing education that is not ABET accredited, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- Review of strategic planning items

Still working on these and will continue to. See notes under Strategic Planning Items

- Review of previous action items

The committee directed staff to mark the two items as complete

#### **Recommendations to the Board:**

1. Recommend that staff file a CR101 for amendments to WAC 196-29 *Professional practices*.
2. Based on the information provided, the committee is recommending that the Board require 4 of the 5 divisions: Core, Boundary, Public Land Survey Systems, and Mapping Sciences, for licensure, and that Mr. Blaisdell and Mr. Fuller work on completing the January NCEES EPS survey.

#### **Strategic Planning Items**

- Determine the pathways to state specific PLS exam  
The committee directed staff to keep this on the agenda and provide report(s) to the committee as needed.
- Work with DNR on the Survey Recording Act and associated WACs to determine our regulatory direction for “intelligent interpretation” and other items  
The committee directed staff to edit this item and removed wording after “...WACs”

#### **Previous Action Items**

10/15/2020 (In progress)

Meet with DNR regarding issues affecting the investigation process.

- Wengler, Blaisdell, Larson

4/21/2021 (in progress)

Provide summary of what has worked and what hasn't worked during the last few state

specific exams, e.g. COVID-19 impacts, security of exams, and grading.

- Staff