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**MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS
SOUTHEAST CHAPTER**



September 11, 2014 Membership Meeting Minutes

1. Regular Membership Meeting Call to Order

The September 11, 2014 Membership Meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors was called to order at 8:37 p.m. by President Adolfo Castillo.

2. Review of Agenda

The meeting agenda was presented by President Castillo; there were two additions made to the agenda. The additions were to discuss the new chapter form to issue continuing education credits and the elections for MSPS SE Chapter Board of Directors. The agenda was approved as presented with additions.

3. Approval of May 8, 2014 meeting minutes

President Castillo mentioned that the May meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the board. Copies of the minutes were available at the entrance.

4. Treasurer's Report (Jim Hollandsworth)

Jim provided and reported on the financial activities and the account balances of the chapter for this year to date. He also noted that the chapter is "in the black". (Account Balance Sheets Attached).

5. State Highlights Report (Larry Feindt)

Larry's highlights are as follows:

Notes from MSPS State Board of Directors Meeting 9/4/2014 (by Larry Feindt)

1. Electronic voting approved for the election of state directors. Five positions are up for election. Nominations must be received by the last day in September. May get your name on the ballot by obtaining 15 signatures of licensed members on a petition.
2. 2015 Budget – Dues to be the same for 2015.
3. 2015 Annual Meeting in the U.P. 74th Annual Conference will be held at the Kewadin Inn, St. Sault Marie, MI February 17-20, 2015.
4. Legislative update by John Korr.
 - a. SB 472 (remon) is now law.

- b. PA 74 bill has been submitted to Senate for a bill number.
 - c. Discussion as to how to proceed with developing proposed revisions for the Condominium Act and/or the Land Division Act. Decided to currently just go after removing Architects and Engineers only from the Survey Sheet.
- 5. Camp Kett meeting will be on January 9-11, 2015. Is there anything the chapter would like to see discussed at the meeting?
- 6. Does anyone have nominations for awards at the 2015 annual meeting?
- 7. The 2016 annual meeting will be hosted by the Southwest Chapter at the Radisson in Kalamazoo. It was also voted to have the 2017 meeting (Central Chapter) at the same site to save money and to minimize the headaches associated with constantly making arrangements for new venues. It was proposed to have 2 years at each of 3 locations, thus making a 6 year rotation.
- 8. Craig Amey would like feedback from the Chapters for the annual meeting committee.
- 9. It was voted to print 1000 copies of 2 brochures promoting MSPS (spearheaded by Carol Waite).
- 10. Carol Waite also presented sign-up sheets for companies who would be willing to offer mentoring opportunities for young people who might be interested in the surveying profession.
- 11. The Michigan Surveyor
 - a. Page highlighting various companies
 - b. A "Meet Your Board of Directors" section
 - c. A "Member Update and Notes" section
 - d. A section highlighting sustaining members
- 12. It was suggested to expand mention of sustaining members on the MSPS web page.
- 13. Find ways to increase participation in National Surveyors Week.
- 14. Unlicensed Activity
 - a. A complaint was filed with LARA re a northern Michigan engineering firm
 - b. MSPS filed a lawsuit against a marine contracting firm
- 15. Seminars
 - a. Karol Grove has prepared colored brochures re the October 3, 2014 seminar in St. Ignace at the Quality Inn. It is entitled "MSPS Fall Colors Riparian Seminar" by Corey Hughes and Jeffrey Jocks.
 - b. The next seminar is proposed for November 7 in Lansing. The two topics will be "Wetlands" and "Easements".
 - c. Karol is contemplating a seminar on "When to Hire a Surveyor". She would like input and brainstorming from fellow surveyors regarding horror stories of when everything went wrong when a professional surveyor was not engaged.
- 16. NSPS meeting is will be held October 22-24, 2014 in Kansas.
- 17. Art Brintnall reported on scholarship funds. He suggested the MSPS funds should perhaps go through the Institute as 501C3 or otherwise be classified as "restricted assets" to insulate them in some manner from lawsuits.
- 18. Art noted the Traveling Exhibits have now been tracked down and that a record of location will be kept in the future.
- 19. The Soderberg Golf Outing was held on August 21, 2014 in Williamston. The participation is increasing every year.
- 20. Art suggested we make it so MSPS members would automatically become a member of the Institute. This is to be further discussed at Camp Kett.
- 21. There will be Pig Races at the 2015 Annual Meeting.
- 22. The fall Institute raffle is underway.
- 23. Mike Bartolo will be taking over the management of Trig Star.
- 24. The scholarship committee reported it has received donations and need to grow the funds.

25. Recommendations have been made for the Remon Commission – UP PS member: Bill Karr; Northern PS Member: Marvin Myers; Southern PS Member: John Quine; PS Member's at large: Jack Owens or Brian Reynolds; Member of Public: Roland Self
26. TWIST report by Karol Grove. Lori Beyer (Washtenaw County Road Commission) is the Chair of the committee which includes Carl Shangraw.
27. The Past President's committee had a discussion re the Leica and MSS parties at the annual meeting and how they affect the MSPS activities, particularly the banquet. There are concerns over liability, time frames, and professionalism.
28. A big "thank-you" goes out to Karol Grove who has presented a number of FEMA flood seminars to various organizations and donated the proceeds to MSPS.

6. Committee's & Reports

a. Survey Best Practices Manual (Safety)

Adolfo reported that he attended a meeting reviewing a draft of the MDOT Best Practices Safety Manual. He stated that the manual is an effort by MDOT to have guidelines in place to protect workers within MDOT right of ways. There were 14 people in attendance and Adolfo was there representing the SE Chapter. Adolfo said that the guidelines did not really cover short term surveying activities such as visiting Section Corners and short duration set-ups along roadways. The thought is that the guidelines produced by MDOT will be used as an industry standard. Dave Smith brought up the possibility that the final guidelines may end up as standards in future lawsuits. It was noted that regardless of potential future litigation that roadway safety for our profession is most important. Any concerns or desired content regarding the manual should be given to Adolfo prior to October 18th. Adolfo mentioned a device he had developed for safety while working at section corners. It's a flasher device to get the attention of drivers. MDOT was interested in more details regarding the device.

b. 2014 Golf Outing

The golf outing provided a turnout of 31 golfers. The costs for the event were a little higher this year due to the participation gifts, (Wind shirts). Once again everyone who attended had a good time.

c. N.S.P.S. Report

The next NSPS meeting will be held in the third week of October. Craig Amey reported that NSPS is investigating a company, (Express Map), which advertises preparing a property overview on a Google type aerial map with coordinates presented for the property corners and that a letter is being sent to them.

7. Correspondence

Carol Waite had emailed a solicitation for mentors and speakers to promote the surveying profession. A sign-up sheet will be provided at the general membership meeting. Karol Grove commented that a student would shadow you, the mentor, for a semester and the student then follows up with a report and presentation their class.

8. Unfinished Business

Adolfo spoke about the Geospatial data collection of new installation of utilities required by MDOT, AT&T, DTE, Comcast, and Consumers. He mentioned that surveying of the utility installations requires a position and grade every 100 feet and at deflection points. The procedure is very time consuming and that procedures for working in

unsafe conditions have become an issue that need be worked out. The program will continue as a test until sometime in 2015 when it will be decided to continue the program.

Discussion of creating certificates for Continuing Education Hours pertaining to chapter meetings was held. A validation certificate form template will be created by Mollee Neff with the objective of creating something to be used by each chapter for uniformity.

9. New Business

a. Committee Suggestions for 2014

President Castillo will appoint a 3 member Tellers Committee to perform the duties normally handled by John Fenn. Jason will send an email to the membership for nominees interested in running for a board position.

b. Ideas for Chapter Activities for 2014

No ideas were presented.

10. Good of the Order

Karol Grove noted that the B+30 law is on hold. *The B+30 law is the future requirement that candidates for engineering licensure complete a baccalaureate degree plus 30 additional hours of acceptable coursework, or equivalent (e.g., master's degree), to be eligible to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) examination.* (From the abstract Bachelor's +30 Task Force by Michael J. Corzett P.E. Chair)

Karol also noted that computer based testing for surveyor's is now utilized for both exams.

Chris Asiala noted that there is a company in our area which is providing what they call a "Modified ALTA Survey" and Chris wondered if anyone was aware of such a survey. After some discussion it seemed to be the consensus of the membership that there is no such thing a Modified ALTA survey, it is either an ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey or not.

11. Adjournment

Motion for adjournment was made by Ray Donnelly, seconded by Jason Veran. The meeting ended at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary M. Chalice