

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
Minutes of the Professional Association Liaison Committee Meeting
Held at 241 W Charleston Boulevard, Suite 130, in Las Vegas, Nevada,
on Thursday, January 16, 2020

Committee members present were Chairman, Gregory P DeSart, PE; Patty Mamola, Executive Director; and Matthew Gingerich, PLS. Also, present were Brent Wright, PE/SE, board member; Kent Barber, SEASoN; Jason Higgins, NALS; and Brian Kalina, NSPE. Joining via video conference Andy Hanson, ASCE; David Alexander, CMAA; Kahnani Espinoza, representing ACEC; David Salter, ACEC; and Bob Thompson representing NSPE.

1. Meeting conducted by Committee Chair Greg DeSart, call to order and roll call to determine presence of quorum.

Mr DeSart declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 8:00am.

2. Public comment period (Discussion Only)

There was no public comment.

3. Introductions

Greg DeSart, Committee Chairman
Patty Mamola, Committee Member
Matthew Gingerich, Committee Member
Brent Wright, Board Member
Kent Barber, SEASoN
Jason Higgins, NALS
Brian Kalina, NSPE
Andy Hanson, ASCE
David Alexander, CMAA
David Salter, ACEC
Kahnani Espinoza, Rowe Law Group – representing ACEC
Bob Thompson, NSPE

4. Approval of November 7, 2019, Professional Association Liaison Committee meeting minutes

PAL 20-01 A motion was made by Ms Mamola, seconded by Mr Gingerich to approve November 7, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion of changes to Nevada Revised Statutes 625 and Nevada Administrative Code 625 to update laws and rules and consider other updates to NRS/NAC related to land surveying (Discussion Only)

Ms Mamola said the Legislative Committee of the board is undertaking a comprehensive review of our laws and our regulations. She added that the committee had identified a number of specific items that would be considered. Ms Mamola stated examples of those items were digital signatures, making changes to original plans and successor engineers.

Mr Wright said that regulations pertaining to continuing education would also be put under the spotlight. He said the board had an initial conversation about the current professional development hour requirements and their effectiveness. Mr Wright said that opinions among licensees are likely to be strong and varied. As part of the process the committee and the board would like to get feedback from the professional association membership and as many licensees as possible. He added consideration was being put forward to hold exploratory workshops to gauge the appetite for change.

Ms Mamola said that any workshop(s) held would be in addition to the those required as part of the regulatory change process. She gave a brief overview of the proposed timeline for changing regulations and said that any pre-workshop workshops would need to be held fairly soon, and that it would be best to get board approval before moving forward. (ACTION)

6. Discussion of Digital Signature/Electronic Submittal Working Group (Discussion Only)

Ms Mamola said following the digital signature workshop in Reno hosted by ASCE in September, 2019, a taskforce has been created to continue the discussion and make recommendations to the board. Ms Mamola continued to say that the first meeting of the taskforce was held January 8, 2020. The two main items that came from the discussion were; firstly, philosophical - are they really needed and should we go down this path; and second, if we do proceed, addressing the logistics related to electronic submissions – file size, do submissions in preliminary stages (30%, 60% etc) need to be signed, and at final submission does every sheet need a digital signature (again, with respect to file size). Ms Mamola said the next taskforce video conference was set for February 18, 2020, and that PAL member associations were encouraged to participate. She added that an invite would be sent to all PAL contacts. (ACTION)

7. Discussion of integrating public outreach campaign with professional association efforts (Discussion Only)

Mr DeSart gave a brief overview of the public outreach communication/social media plan and again encouraged PAL members to actively participate. Ms Mamola said she would be emailing the PAL social media contacts.

8. Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors activities (Discussion Only)

Ms Mamola said in addition to what was reviewed earlier, the board has scheduled two ReConnect events for 2020. An event would be held in Reno on October 21, 2020 and in Las Vegas the next day, October 22, 2020.

Ms Mamola said that the Sunset Committee and the Governor's Finance Office review of Nevada boards and commissions is still ongoing and that she would continue to work through the process on behalf of the board.

9. Professional association / industry activities (Discussion Only)

Mr DeSart asked those present to give a brief update on their association's activities.

Mr Barber said that SEASoN was actively following the digital signature discussion. He said the National Council of Structural Engineers was holding its 2020 Structural Engineering Summit in Las Vegas November 3-6 at the MGM Grand.

Mr Higgins said that NALS was having a planning retreat to update the organizations strategic plan and would be hosting a tri-state conference with California and Arizona March 28-31 in Las Vegas. Mr Higgins that a young surveyors' network was created to promote outreach and recruit new professionals and that it was proving to be quite popular. He continued to say a working committee was created to liaise with NDOT on a number of issues with the first being access to their records online – which has paid dividends, and a number of software licenses will be available to access the NDOT database. Mr Higgins said in November NALS had formed a NGS committee to consider a 2022 national geodetic survey datum change and they have an opportunity to liaise with the regional NGS Rep to put a plan together.

Mr Kalina said the one big thing that NSPE is following right now is the push across the nation to remove the industrial exemption , that is something that we are closely monitoring and trying to be involved in seeing how that is affecting our state. He said NSPE has an E week banquet coming up on February 22nd at the Gold Coast and he invited members to attend - with sign-ups through nspenv.org. Mr Kalina said that NSPE was always willing to host workshops on topics relevant to the profession.

Mr Hanson reported that ASCE was continuing to host monthly luncheons and was in preparations for the northern awards banquet in March.

Mr Alexander said the CMAA was holding a golf tournament to support the UNLV construction management program and scholarships. The event was planned for April 3 and he would get notifications out to association members.

Mr Salter said that ACEC was hosting a round table forum with public works managers and directors at the Gold Coast in Las Vegas on January 29. He encouraged all to attend. Mr Salter

added that the ACEC Legislative Committee was well into preparation mode for the next legislative session.

10. Open discussion topics (Discussion Only)

No topics were identified for discussion.

11. Next meeting date and location

Mr DeSart said the next meeting would be tentatively scheduled for 8am on March 4, 2020 in Reno, with video/teleconferencing links available.

12. Public comment period (Discussion Only)

There was no public comment.

13. Adjourn

Mr DeSart adjourned at 8:54 am.

Respectfully,

Patty Mamola
Executive Director