

Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
PLS Standards of Practice Committee Meeting, held virtually on March 17, 2022, at 2:00pm

Committee members participating were committee chair Matt Gingerich, PLS; Michael Kidd, PLS; Jason Higgins, PLS; Wayne Handrock, PLS; and Mark Cormier, PLS. Also joining were Patty Mamola, Executive Director and Murray Blaney, Operations/Compliance.

1. Meeting conducted by Matt Gingerich, call to order and roll call to determine presence of quorum.

Following introductions, a quorum was determined.

Mr Gingerich said David Crook, PLS, a surveyor who works out of Fallon, NV, has agreed to join the committee but unfortunately could not make today's meeting.

2. Public comment period.

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of January 20, 2021, PLS Standards of Practice Committee meeting minutes.

PLS 22-01 A motion was made by Mr Kidd, seconded by Mr Higgins to approve the January 20, 2021, PLS Standards of Practice Committee meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Discuss regulations related to standards of practice for land surveying, refer to Addendum A for list of regulations.

Mr Gingerich reviewed the list of common submittal deficiencies in submittals to public agencies. He said the items noted were:

- poor quality drafting in maps
- quality control checks prior to submittal
- failure to address plan check comments
- not using current codes, standard drawings, or standard notes in submittals
- insufficient boundary search and not enough information included to determine the boundary resolution
- not holding existing monuments, lack of detail for the basis of the survey

The group discussed the items put forward by the entities and agreed the issues were concerning. The consensus was that following the review and amendment of regulations, a state-wide best practice guide should be created (similar to what is being drafted for engineering submittals) and pushed out to the surveying profession in the state. (ACTION Item)

Mr Gingerich said he had met with staff to review all the regulations and to make recommendations on suggested amendments. He asked Ms Mamola to review the regulation list and note areas for potential edits.

Ms Mamola said the regulations were reviewed as a jump start to enable the committee to focus time on the detail of any potential amendments. She added, as a reminder to the committee, the purpose of regulations is to provide clarity or clarification to what is written in statute – and our goal is to have clear and concise regulations that are not overly burdensome. Ms Mamola listed the regulations and the recommended action for each of the regulations.

NAC 625.651 “Positional certainty” defined.

recommendation – no update

NAC 625.655 Applicability of statutes and regulations.

recommendation – consider amending

Edits made so applicable statutes and regulations do not need to be specifically referenced (they are numerous and are spread over a number of different chapters).

NAC 625.660 Responsibility for compliance with standards of practice.

recommendation – consider repeal

A licensed professional does not need to be reminded in regulation that being in responsible charge of work means adhering to the statutes and regulations relating to their profession and the work performed.

NAC 625.662 Units of measurement.

recommendation – no update

NAC 625.664 Positional certainty: Minimum confidence level.

recommendation – no update

NAC 625.666 Positional certainty: Horizontal and vertical components of certain land surveys.

recommendation – consider amending

Revisions to come from committee based on current tolerances.

NAC 625.668 Positional certainty: Horizontal and vertical positions of monuments.

recommendation – consider repeal

Appears to be restating what is written in NAC 625.666.

NAC 625.670 Required research, identifications, measurements and computations.

recommendation – consider amending

Consider adding section relating to the inclusion of a narrative.

NAC 625.680 Disagreements concerning measurements or positions of monumented corners.

recommendation – consider amending

Consider combining NAC 625.680 and NAC 625.700, and changing “shall” to “must”.

NAC 625.690 Location of corners, boundaries and monuments.

recommendation – consider repeal

Section 1 seems unnecessary to be stated in regulation, and section 2 is already stated in NRS 625.380.

NAC 625.700 Report to client of discrepancies concerning boundary lines.

recommendation – consider amending

Consider combining with 625.680.

NAC 625.710 Identification and description of monuments.

recommendation – consider amending

Consider adding direct reference to NRS 625.350 and NRS 625.380.

NAC 625.720 Drawing of survey; certification.

recommendation – consider repeal

Removal of section 1 suggested and the possible inclusion of a narrative section (adding section 6 to the Surveyor's Certificate requirements. Or consider repeal of entire regulation. Certificate forms are described in other statutes such as NRS 278. Also, this is described in detail in NRS 625.350.

NAC 625.740 Classifications of surveys; use of classifications and requirements for positional certainty.

recommendation – consider amending

Recommending text be amended to use NSPS Classifications of Surveys by Land Use—Urban, Suburban, Rural. Also, because the direct relevance to positional certainty, the regulation be re-numbered to be in the General Provisions section.

NAC 625.760 Contract drawings and specifications; special instructions.

recommendation – no update

NAC 625.765 Establishment of final location of points.

recommendation – consider repeal

It does not need to be re-stated that positional certainties are to be used in construction surveys.

NAC 625.770 Verification of location of certain points; notification of insufficient dimensions or details.

recommendation – no update

NAC 625.775 Positional certainties for marking locations of proposed fixed works.

recommendation – no update

NAC 625.780 Sketches, cut sheets and field notes.

recommendation – consider repeal

Not sure this or an edited version need to be stated in regulation.

NAC 625.785 Verification surveys: Exchange of information.
recommendation – no update

NAC 625.790 Preparation of legal description of property.
recommendation – no update

NAC 625.795 Duties regarding geographic information systems.
recommendation – consider repeal
This regulation is outdated and no longer necessary.

Ms Mamola recommended that next steps for the committee members would be to review the recommendations made and send any comments or edits back to staff. We can then discuss and come up with a revised draft and have revisions ready for the committee as a whole to review before the next meeting. (ACTION Item)

Mr Gingerich suggested that any comments/edits should be sent back to staff by April 21, 2022. And then any additional discussion and draft revisions can then be made before the next full committee meeting which he suggested by on Thursday June 2, 2022, at 2pm. The committee agreed with Mr Gingerich's course of action and proposed dates.

Ms Mamola said she would send out a calendar invite for the next committee meeting date. (ACTION Item)

5. Public comment period.

There was no public comment.

6. Adjourn

Mr Gingerich thanked the committee for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 2:56pm.

Respectfully,

Patty Mamola
Executive Director