

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
Minutes of the Professional Association Liaison Committee Meeting
Held virtually, Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 4:00 PM

Meeting was led by Matthew Gingerich, PLS, committee chair, and attended by committee member Angelo Spata, PE. Committee member Brent Wright, PE/SE was absent. Also present were Patty Mamola, Executive Director; Derek Vogel; Communications/Compliance; and:

Jake Johnson, NALS

Nas Diallo, SNWA

Diane Hunt, Hunt Engineering

Frank Wittie, NALS

1. Meeting conducted by committee chair Matt Gingerich, PLS, call to order and roll call to determine presence of quorum. Board members on committee: Brent Wright, PE/SE, Angelo Spata, PE.

2. Public comment period.

There was no public comment.

3. Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves.

4. Approval of July 11, 2023, Professional Association Liaison Committee meeting minutes.

Mr Gingerich asked for a motion to approve the July 11, 2023, PAL committee minutes. Mr Diallo moved to approve and Mr Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

5. Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors activities.

Mr Gingerich asked for updates, and Ms Mamola noted that attendance for this PAL meeting might be low because it conflicted with the APWA meeting. She then said the governor has lifted the moratorium on new regulations and issued a new order to move forward with the proposed regulation changes included in our reports specific to Executive Orders 2023-003 and 2023-004. She said the proposed changes would be sent to the Legislative Council Bureau for language drafting after Board discussion the next day. She said the public process will begin on another batch of 14 regulations related to PLS Standards of Practice. Five will be repealed and one will be amended related to contracts (NAC 625.545). Ms Mamola said that a small business impact survey and then a public workshop are required for those. She said the workshop is tentatively scheduled for December 6, 2023. She continued by saying that she emailed a copy of the proposed PLS regulations to Chrissy with NALS for input before starting the public process. Mr Johnson commented that he would communicate with Chrissy.

Mr Johnson, Mr Wittie, and Ms Mamola briefly discussed the process. Ms Mamola commented that there was broad representation from the North and South, NALS, county surveyors and practicing professionals, and all comments and recommendations were included in the proposed changes to the regulations. She said LCB will edit the language.

Ms Mamola concluded her update by saying the committee is tracking an update to NRS 327 which is related to the US foot and the datum update and believes NALS or NDOT will take the lead on that with the Board's support.

6. Professional association/industry activities.

Mr Diallo, with American Water Works Association, said that the American Water Works Association and the Southern Nevada Water Authority are sponsoring a conference called Water Smart Innovation Conference, October 3-5, 2023. Ms Mamola commented that the conference would be posted on the Board's professional activities calendar.

Mr Johnson, with NALS, said that the Lahontan chapter is hosting a meeting where the Washoe County Recorder will speak on digital signatures. Mr Gingerich commented that Eric Sage, the chapter president, invited the Board to attend the meeting and take part in the discussion on e-recording.

Mr Wittie, with NALS, offered that the annual agency surveyors meeting just passed, and it was attended by the City of Las Vegas, the City of North Las Vegas, and the water district. He said the next function is the golf tournament on October 21, 2023, at D'Andrea Golf Club.

Ms Hunt, with Hunt Engineering, commented that she continually finds that civil engineers are not preparing the lateral analysis properly. She said she is looking to the Board to provide classes for civil engineers as a refresher course. Mr Gingerich and Ms Mamola both responded with suggestions to approach SEAN's and NSPE about offering classes. The discussion between Ms Hunt and Ms Mamola continued, with Ms Hunt noting that problems persist especially with out-of-state engineers and younger engineers.

7. Open discussion topics.

Mr Vogel reminded the meeting attendees to email him their event and meeting schedules, so the Board could add to its website calendar of events.

Mr Diallo commented that he is aware of work done years ago on a digital signature guide. He went on to say that agencies may need more guidance on the process. Ms Mamola replied by asking if Mr Diallo is planning to attend the Board meeting the next day where electronic submittals and digital signatures will be discussed. Ms Mamola commented that Mr Diallo's feedback is good as every agency handles signatures differently. She suggested that the Board may reconstitute the task force to update the guide.

A brief discussion ensued, with everyone agreeing that reconvening the task force to figure address any challenges/issues would be a good idea.

8. Next meeting date and location.

Mr Gingerich and Ms Mamola briefly discussed dates, board meeting conflicts, and availability of committee members. Everyone agreed to 8:00 am on November 16 for the next meeting.

9. Public comment period.

There was no public comment.

10. Adjourn

Mr Gingerich thanked the meeting attendees and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully,

Patty Mamola

Executive Director