

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
Minutes of the Professional Association Liaison Committee Meeting
Held virtually, Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 4:00 PM

Matthew Gingerich, PLS declaring a quorum present, held virtually. Also, presents were Brent Wright, PE; Angelo Spata, PE; Patty Mamola, Executive Director; Derek Vogel; Communications/Compliance.

Dave James, NSPE

Michael Dunning, CMAA

Jake Johnson, NALS

Dylan Menes, ASCE

Eric Denman, SNALS

Jonathan Toll, NSPE

Shane Dyer, ACEC

- 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.**

Mr Gingerich called the meeting to order, and a quorum was determined.

- 2. Public comment period.**

There was no public comment.

- 3. Introductions**

Attendees introduced themselves.

- 4. Approval of November 16, 2023, Professional Association Liaison Committee meeting minutes.**

Mr Gingerich asked for a motion to approve the November 16, 2023, PAL committee minutes. Mr Spata moved to approve and Dr James 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 provided an update on the governor's two executive orders. She said the regulation changes went to the Legislative Council Bureau (LCB) and have been approved by the board's legislative committee before going before the board. We made a few changes, based on public comments. She continued, if the board approves them, we'll schedule a hearing to adopt. They'll be finished with the legislative process before they become codified.

Ms Mamola said the next batch of regulations we're working on pertains to land surveyors, which is the PLS standards of practice. We've gone through the public process with those as well, and they go to the board next week. She said once the board approves them, we will send them to the LCB for drafting, and we'll schedule an adoption hearing for those as well.

Ms Mamola said that she believes that 30 regulations, possibly 35 in total were reviewed. She said it's important for everyone to understand the changes. She went on to say that the board will make the organizations aware by talking to them and through our newsletter.

Ms Mamola concluded saying that the board is considering conducting a couple hands-on workshops in Reno and Las Vegas for what we are calling digital signatures 2.0. Eventually we will update our electronic submittals and digital signatures guide on our website.

Dr James offered to assist with the digital signature effort on behalf of NSPE, and Ms Mamola acknowledged the offer.

6. Professional association/industry activities.

Dr James provided two pieces of news for NSPE. The first is the banquet for E-Week is moving back to later in the spring because of a conflict with the Society of Women Engineers conference. The second is that NSPE is working to create a Northern Nevada chapter or virtual chapter outside Southern Nevada. He noted that Reno/Sparks has not had representation since 2009 or 2010, but that NSPE tried to start a chapter in 2011 and 2012.

Ms Mamola asked if Carson City was included, and Dr James clarified that Carson City would be included.

Mr Dunning provided an update on meetings scheduled for January. He said David Swall will be talking about ROTC and in February, the Las Vegas Valley Water District. He said March will be on OSHA and top 10 problems with safety. Mr Dunning then mentioned that Brightline, the high-speed rail going to California is coming along very well. He also mentioned the damage to the Mount Charleston area from flooding and that we are looking for someone to give a presentation. Mr Dunning concluded by saying our golf scholarship fundraiser is scheduled for April.

Mr Denman announced that the geographic center of Nevada was recorded on January 3, 2024 in conjunction with NALS's 50th anniversary. He noted the educational opportunities it provided. He also said NALS is working with BLM to erect signage because the location is so remote. Mr Denman also said NALS did a special article in Nevada Traverse highlighting prominent people in the surveying society to commemorate the 50th anniversary. He said copies are available on the websites of Nevada Traverse and NALS.

Mr Denman went on to say that NALS membership meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, January 18, 2024 featuring the state president. He continued saying the NALS Western Regional Survey

Conference will be on March 23-26, 2024 at the Horseshoe with five states represented - Nevada, Arizona, California, New Mexico, Wyoming. He said West Fed will also attend.

Ms Mamola reminded everyone that the board did a social media post on the geographic center news, and she encouraged everyone to visit the board's profiles.

Mr Menes said ASCE could probably host a discussion on digital signatures at one of the luncheons in the spring.

Mr Toll noted that he has nothing to add to Dr James' NSPE update.

Mr Johnson announced that Professor Mike Mustafa Barber from Fresno State University will speak to the chapter about precision mapping, technology advancements, and accuracy and geospatial surveying on January 24th. He added that the first NALS meeting of 2024 will be on February 1, and Todd Enke is the 2024 president.

Mr Dyer gave an update on ACEC's work on the AB 398 bill and the insurance issues involved. He said insurance carriers for engineers are threatening to leave the state because of the bill. He said another focus for ACEC is extending the R&D tax credit that is expiring. Finally, he said, engineers come to ACEC for quality-based selection (QBS) violations information.

Ms Mamola replied that the board is happy to help ACEC and thanked Mr Dyer for sending QBS questions to her attention.

Mr Dyer replied that the partnership is critical.

Dr James provided a brief report for UNLV. He said the senior design competition is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2024 and they are looking for judges. He offered it up to meeting attendees and said that breakfast and lunch are provided. He said judges are also provided an orientation on scoring and there will be 40-50 teams in all disciplines. Dr James concluded that the location is to be determined, but either the new Advanced Engineering Building or the Thomas and Mack Center will be where the event is held.

Ms Mamola said that she will get the word out to the rest of the board members to see if they are interested.

7. Open discussion topics.

Dr James announced that the Future Cities competition is scheduled for Saturday January 20, 2024 in Southern Nevada. He added that Brian Kalina from Southwest Gas may be looking for judges, and if anyone is interested, please let him know.

Mr Dunning asked what day the structural competition was, and Dr James replied that the steel bridge and concrete canoe competition will be in April in Reno.

8. Next meeting date and location.

Mr Gingerich asked for the next meeting date and location. There was a brief discussion and it was agreed by all that it should be Wednesday, March 13th at 4:00 pm.

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