



CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF LAND SURVEYORS

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JOHN WAGENBLATT PRESIDENT	KEVIN L. DAROS 1 st VICE-PRESIDENT	DAVID PALMBERG 2 nd VICE PRESIDENT	JASON G. RACETTE SECRETARY	ALAN FENROW TREASURER
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MINUTES FROM THE BOARD MEETING MAY 28, 2009

GENERAL BUSINESS

The meeting was held at the Wethersfield Community Center. **President** John Wagenblatt called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Those present included: **Immediate Past President** Andy Tupper; **First Vice President** Kevin DaRos; **Secretary** Jason G. Racette; **Treasurer** Alan Fenrow; **Fairfield County** Jason Spath; **Hartford County** Reese Roberts; **Middlesex County** Steve Mazeau; **New Haven County** Larry Fisher; **New London County** Susan Camp; **Tolland County** Larry Geissler & David Riordan; **Windham County** Jeff Stefanik & Alan Woodis; and **South Central Proprietors Council** Bob Jackson.

MOTION - made by Andy Tupper, seconded by Larry Geissler, to approve the April 2009 Minutes.

PASSED

MOTION - made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Andy Tupper, to approve the April 2009 Financial Report.

PASSED

In accordance with Article II, number 6 of the CALS by laws, a **MOTION** - made by Kevin DaRos, seconded by Larry Fisher, to waive the 2009 dues of a CALS member in honor of his years of long standing service to CALS.

PASSED

MOTION - made by Larry Geissler, seconded by Larry Fisher, to terminate the membership of those who have not paid their 2009 membership dues or contacted the treasurer to make payment arrangements.

PASSED

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

MOTION - made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Andy Tupper, to approve the following applications for membership:

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|---|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) Paul Buckley-Reynolds, Wallingford, CT | Firm Member | Endorsed by Jason G. Racette |
| 2) Joseph Entler, NY, NY | Associate Member | Endorsed by Jay Doody |
| 3) Richard Tom, Brooklyn, NY | Associate Member | Endorsed by Jay Doody |

PASSED

MOTION - made by Susan Camp, seconded by Larry Geissler, to approve the following change in membership status:

Robert Jahne from Surveyor Member to Life Member

PASSED

STATUTORY DEFINITION OF THE HIGH TIDE LINE

CALS has received a letter from Brian Thompson, Director of the Office of Long Island Sound Programs, regarding modification to the statutory definition of the "high tide line." President Wagenblatt, Bill Giel and Jay Doody will meet with representatives of the DEP but the recommendations of CALS cannot be acted upon because of pending litigation.

DECLARATORY RULLING

CALS has been advised that the Department of Labor has denied a petition to establish a separate prevailing wage classification for land surveyors.

Pursuant to Section 4-176 of the Connecticut General Statutes and on the basis of the record established in proceedings conducted pursuant to Connecticut State Agencies §31-1-11 to 31-1-16, inclusive, I hereby issue the following declaratory ruling:

For the foregoing reasons, the interpretation by the CTDOL of Conn. Gen. Stat. §31-S3 with respect to subsection (d) (2), that the CTDOL is under no obligation to independently establish a prevailing rate classification for the occupation known as Land Surveyor, is ruled to be valid, and not in conflict with federal or state law. The Petitioner's request that the CTDOL create a separate prevailing rate classification for the occupation known as Land Surveyor, which is separate and distinct from the laborer or mechanic classifications, is hereby denied.

May 20, 2009

Patricia H. Mayfield, Labor Commissioner

[Click here, Declaratory Ruling, to see complete ruling.](#)

SURVEY & MAP STANDARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Larry Fisher reported that the committee has met in Cromwell three times and continues to solicit comments from CALS members regarding recommended changes to the current code. Progress is being made in an effort to clarify the Minimum Standards for Surveys and Maps in the State of Connecticut. The committee is currently waiting for recommendations from the GIS and GNSS committees and hopes to have a final recommendation ready for CALS members to vote upon in September.

GIS COMMITTEE REPORT

Andy Tupper reported that the GIS Committee met recently. CALS Board Members expressed concern about the requirement that many towns have with regard to submitting digital files of maps. State regulations only require a recordable Mylar for filing in town land records. The relatively new requirement to submit drawing files is not standard from town to town and some towns still do not require them. It is assumed, however, that as 90% of the towns have some type of GIS system, the remaining 10% will have one in the near future, and most likely all towns will, at some point, ask for digital files to be submitted.

CALS board members can understand that a digital map can be helpful to a town's GIS department, however, there are many potential problems to submitting them. Some of these are: Cost; Freedom of Information Act; Loss of control of the mapping and the potential for modification of the file; loss of errors and omission insurance; loss of control of your client's and your own proprietary information; and the current problem of not being able to sign electronic files. Another major problem is that each town has a different set of standards for submittal. What is acceptable for one town does not meet the requirements of another town.

The general consensus of the board members present was that CALS would prefer that digital file submissions not be required. As this will fly in the face of many town agencies, other solutions must be explored. Some ideas were: A signed non-disclosure statement with each town; state standards for submittal; CALS standards for submittal, based on an agreement with GIS professionals as to minimum information required; refusal to submit unless your client's project is in jeopardy; submission of only Raster information; Submission of something less than a survey map with title block and notes removed. It was suggested by Larry Fisher to wait until the next meeting of the Board of Examiners at the Department of Consumer Protection, to see if the Board of Examiners decides to send the letter

originally sent to CALS, on state letterhead, regarding not submitting electronic files to any towns because there is no way to legally sign them.

If this happens, it may give surveyors a legal leg to stand on in refusing to submit a file to a town. In the mean time, the CALS GIS Committee will continue to work with GIS professionals in the state to see what can be done to keep all parties as happy as possible. Comments from all Surveyors regarding this topic are welcome.

NSPS BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE

As per the actions at the ACSM/NSPS Spring Annual Meeting the NSPS Youth Outreach Committee is requesting each state affiliate provide a donation of \$695 for the Registration Fee towards funding a college student of a 4 year Surveying Degree program to participate as on-site counselors for the Surveying Merit Badge booth at the National Scout Jamboree. The NSPS Governors from each state were requested to return to their respective State Affiliate and make this appeal. There will be a banner/poster recognizing the State Affiliates that participate in this effort. The registration covers housing and food while at the Jamboree. It does not provide the costs of transportation. It is the hope of the NSPS Youth outreach Committee that the funds generated will provide some full time youth staff to make this outreach effort a memorable and long lasting experience. We ask during these difficult times that each affiliate fund whatever amount they desire. The checks should be made to the NSPS FOUNDATION with the memo area marked Youth Outreach Committee. The intent is to use these funds to provide, at a minimum, the registration for interested students and hopefully their travel expenses as well. Once the student slots are filled any additional needs not covered for the Surveying Merit Badge booth may be covered. Any funds not used for this effort will be reserved for the next Jamboree. All State Affiliates participating in this effort will also be listed on this page. The Youth Outreach requests that everyone please make this effort the success that we need to make a mark within the youth and a gain to our profession.

2009 LEGISLATION

President Wagenblatt reported that the Legislative session which addresses the "2008" budget deficit will be adjourning the first week in June. Thus far, there has been no sales tax imposed on land surveying services. The Legislative session that will address the "2009" budget will begin immediately thereafter. Attorney Kevin Reynolds, through Updike, Kelley and Spellacy, continues to monitor all legislation that may have an effect on the surveying profession in Connecticut.

POST SECONDARY OPTIONS FAIR 2009

Second Vice President David Palmberg will be attending the Post Secondary Options Fair, Friday, September 25th at area high schools in Bolton, Hebron, and Colchester.

Anyone who would like to join Dave should call him at 860-763-3300.

CALS provides a professional display and handout materials for anyone who would like to use them for outreach to students who may be interested in a career in land surveying.

CALS NEW COMPUTER

Bob Jackson reported that he has completed the installation of a new computer for the CALS office. He has set up a sophisticated system that will automatically back up the computer daily.

Much appreciation goes to Bob, his associate Joe Stublic, and Jason G. Racette for their hard work in updating the computer in the CALS office.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) NSPS published the following article in the May 2009 issue of News & Views:

Surveying Merit Badge Day in Connecticut

On Saturday, April 25th, 2009, 101 scouts, 15 surveyors, some of whom are also scouters, numerous scout leaders, parents, and siblings met at Sleeping Giant State Park in Hamden, Connecticut for Surveying Merit Badge Day. The event was organized by a joint effort of the Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors (CALS) and the Housatonic Council BSA of Derby, Connecticut. Scouts from around the state attended; we also had two scouts from New Jersey.

Richard Contois, L.S., CALS

- 2) CALS secretary Jason G. Racette will be ordering "CarHartt" jackets and hats with CALS logo in June. Once the order is complete, we will be taking advance orders that will be available for pickup at the Annual Meeting in November.

MOTION - made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Andy Tupper, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

PASSED

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Kurland

Next Meeting – June 25, 2009

**Don't forget to register for the
CALS Golf Outing on June 26th!**