



THE CAROLINA

BENCHMARK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

William Fairey, IV Editor
826 Assembly Street
Columbia, SC 29201

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An Affiliate of National Society of Professional Surveyors



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2016 SCSPLS Convention and Technical Conference

SAVE THE DATE – April 28 – May 1, 2016

Springmaid Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC



You will be able to get all of your required Professional Development Hours
in Myrtle Beach.

The 2016 SCSPLS Convention and Technical Conference will be held Thursday, April 28, 2016 – Saturday, April 31, 2016. We are changing it up a bit this year. Classes will be over after lunch so you will be able to network with fellow surveyors, spend time with your family and enjoy the beautiful facility.

Be on the look out for the classes that will be offered. We will have them to you soon.

If you would like to register for your hotel room, please follow the link below:

[https://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?
HotelID=10414&ProdID=645047&killcookie=1&LanguageID=1](https://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?HotelID=10414&ProdID=645047&killcookie=1&LanguageID=1)

The World's Oldest and Greatest Profession



"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." **Genesis 1:1**

"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" **Job 38 English Standard Version (ESV)**

So you see that the world's creator was the original surveyor, the world's oldest profession and the best! Some of you may think of us and Surveying as a relatively modern creation but in fact surveying can be traced back almost to the beginning of man.

There are certainly a number of Biblical quotations referring to us and our work. One of my personal favorites – "Cursed is he who moves his neighbors boundary mark." - **Deuteronomy 27:17**.

Surveyors were around when Cleopatra floated down the Nile. When the spring floods of this river took place, boundary markers would be buried in the silt or even washed away and the Royal Surveyors would be called in to re-establish the property limits.

In those days the "surveyors" or "dividers" were the wisest of the wise. Surveyors were looked at with awe and reverence. The ability to re-establish lost boundaries and be comfortable with astronomy and other calculations gave the surveyor a mystical, semi-religious quality; he occupied a high position in the kingdom and people bowed down to him.

Surveyors through the ages have been a combination of scientist, astronomer, mathematician, cartographer, and engineer. This person designed dams and aqueducts, created land holdings, made maps, determined areas, explored uncharted lands and recorded his findings and prayed for peace between neighbors. We still hope for peace between neighbors but nobody bows down to us as we pass by.

Most of the work we do today is based on lines defined by previous surveyors and the difficulty is to re-establish the fabric of yesteryear. An axle planted 100 years ago, wire on a tree stump, the base of a rotted post, an old iron pipe, a mark made on a brick wall, a blaze on a tree, a reference to a concrete foundation noted in 1909 are all important bits of information which tell us where lines were established.

Recently while doing some research on a boundary project I came upon this report

"In the case of land surveyors, there seems to be a disposition to regard the service performed as relatively unimportant. This is indicated by the low fees that this work brings, and a desire to

regard it as a kind of side line for a man who is making some other work his main occupation. It seems that it would be a sounder view to regard surveying as one of many engineering specialties and seek to gradually elevate the standards until surveying is done with the same care as other engineering work. This is distinctly in the interests of the public, as well as of the surveyors.

Land surveying is probably now regarded as a poor occupation because so much poor surveying has been done. To any one [sic] who has had occasion to deal with old records, it is clear that the money which has been saved by paying poor fees to the surveyor has been lost many times over by the multitude of trouble that have resulted from poor work. The most precise legal procedure, expensive, and time-consuming is often based upon survey work that is anything but precise.

The Board hopes that registration may be the mean of improving this situation, for it does not share the opinion that the work of the land surveyor is less important or less entitled to professional recognition than that of other engineering specialties."

[State of South Carolina Sixth Annual Report of the State Board of Engineering Examiners to the Governor 1928](#)

We as a profession can become great again! We should expect higher than average compensation for the professional duties we perform and the liabilities we accept. But as you can see, we need to put forth an even greater effort than they did eighty seven years ago. As Mike Mills states "It is the strength of numbers that helps us protect the interests of our Profession that is being challenged on almost a daily basis." We need to support our Profession with membership in the Society so that we can have a united voice with the State Legislature, support the Trig-Star Program, and take opportunities to educate the public on how we, as a Profession, benefit society.

Changes have certainly taken place within the Society the last year and a half, but we are on a solid path. The Board, new Executive Secretary, and Committee members are working for our Profession, but we must all work collectively to succeed.

I look forward to a great year and welcome your comments. I hope to see you in Charleston in February and Myrtle Beach in April at the Convention and Technical Conference-it is going to be Great!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Brian B. Bonds, PLS

2015-2016 SCSPLS President



Minutes of
SCSPLS BOARD AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Saturday, April 18, 2014
Paris Mountain State Park, Shelter 3, Greenville, SC

A combined meeting of the Board and General Membership of the South Carolina Society of Professional Land Surveyors was held Saturday, April 18, 2015 at Paris Mountain State Park, Shelter 3, and Greenville, SC. The meeting was called to order at 1:11 PM. There was not a quorum so the meeting was deemed a General Membership Meeting. The invocation was given by President Elliott Quinn. Roberts Rules of Order were used to conduct the meeting.

Members in attendance were:

Officers:

President F. Elliott Quinn, III
President Elect Brian B. Bonds
Vice President Andrew Wadsworth, Sr.
Secretary Floyd A. Sweatt, Jr.
Treasurer F. William Fairey, IV
Immediate Past President Aaron Leach

Delegates:

SC Council of Eng. & Surv. F. Elliott Quinn, Brian Bonds
NSPS Governor Henry Dingle, Absent
SC Utilities Committee Aaron Taylor, Absent
SMAC/GIS

Chapter Representatives:

Aiken Chapter Bill Tripp, Absent
Coastal Chapter Curtis Lybrand, Absent
Foothills Chapter Thurl Amick
Grand Strand Chapter Michael Culler, III
Low Country Chapter Terry Hatchell
Midlands Chapter David Ballard, Absent, Proxy
Mid-State Chapter C. A. Shealy, Absent
Northwest Chapter Earl W. Horton, Absent
Pee Dee Chapter Ferrell Prosser, Absent
Thomas C. Anderson Chapter John H. Welborn, Sr., Absent
Tri-County Chapter William Hipp, Proxy
Upper Piedmont Chapter William C. Martin

District Directors:

District 1 Chuck Dawley, Absent
District 2 George Bradley, Jr., Absent

District 3 Tom Abraham, Absent
District 4 Dennis V. Clinkscales
District 5 Billy Hipp, Absent, Proxy
District 6 Mike Culler, Jr.

Executive Secretary: Allison King

AGENDA: A motion was made to approve the agenda. Motion received a second and passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Will Fairey provided an update on the following accounts: The Merrill Lynch Scholarship account currently has \$48,500. Donations are currently at \$3,000, even after the replacement hammock was required. The Wells Fargo Money Market account is \$166,819 and the Wells Fargo operating account is \$68,239. The operating account does not include the money from LLR for the conference. This money has not been deposited because the mail was forwarded to Fairey, then redirected to Allison King and was not received until yesterday. Fairey thanked Gene Dinkins and Johnny Johnson of the SC Board of Registration for Engineers' and Surveyors' for the grant.

Executive Secretary Report: Elliott Quinn reminded attendees that Vilora Mueller left SCSPLS after the Education Conference in February. In her absence, Brian Bonds stepped up to keep SCSPLS running. He kept this organization running. SCSPLS has contracted with Jones, McAden & Associates. Allison King will now be the Executive Secretary.

Delegate Reports:

SC Council of Engineering & Surveying Society: Elliott Quinn provided the report for SCESS. Brian Bonds, Aaron Leach (by Phone) and Elliott Quinn attended a meeting in March 2015. The purpose of SCESS is to vet candidates for the board positions. There are currently 2 positions open; one of which is Gene Dinkins who represents SCSPLS. He would like to continue on the board because he feels he will represent the surveyors well. The second opening is currently held by Theresa Hodge. Her seat is held by an engineer. At this time, she does not plan to return to the board. In June, SCESS will take applications for those seats. SCESS will begin advertising for this position soon. If you know an engineer who would be interested in this position, please forward the SCESS information to him or her.

NSPS: No report.

SMAC/GIS: No report.

SC UTILITIES COMMITTEE: No Report.

Chapter Reports:

Aiken: William R. Tripp's written report states that the Chapter has met four times since September 2014 at Ming Yat on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM in North Augusta, SC. There were no speakers or programs at any of the meetings. Average attendance for the meetings was 4.

Coastal: No Report

Foothills: Bobby Foster provided the update on the Greenville. Foster wanted to advise the state society on what is happening first hand in the Greenville Area. Surveyors were starting to get plats back from the planning department and land developers. They have totally changed their policy in the last 10 (maybe longer) years regarding their definition of "Subdivision". The law does read the division of one parcel of land into two or more sections less than five acres is a subdivision. While we do agree that this is a division of property, but this does not mean a subdivision. You will get in their system if there is no infrastructure being built but cutting out lots. They are going back to tax map parcels. If your parent parcel is a .00 with no division since inception, you are ok. However, if there is a .01, even 40-50 years ago, you are a subdivision and must follow the subdivision regulations. Apparently, they have recently

started interpreting the law this way. Foster has had 3 occurrences because he mainly deals with rural areas, not true subdivisions.

Foster has been working with the Upstate legislative delegation. Foster's chapter met with county subdivision regulation folks. They said, "This is the state law and we are going with it". The chapter decided to go over their heads. The chapter then met with the Upstate legislative delegation on Monday. There were two county council people in attendance. The chairman of the Greenville County Council was the chapter's spokesperson. Speakers on behalf of the chapter were Jeff Plummly and an attorney. Each was given only 5 minutes to speak. The chapter asked for this to be presented to the Attorney General to get an opinion as to whether the enforcement of the law is correct based on the wording. The results are that they are holding up the registered deeds office and you cannot record a plat without their stamp on it. Foster does not think they should have anything to do with the property and would like the Attorney General to weigh in on whether a planning department has the ability to stop deeds and plats. It opened up to a bigger issue because it affects flood plain markings, storm water and storm water plans. Foster was hoping that Joe Jones would be in attendance today because there are 2 bills that have been introduced to possibly help this. One bill keeps the conveyance of property out of permitting as long as other qualifications are met. The second bill has something to do with homebuilders. This is moving fast. Of the delegates at this meeting, Foster does not know of anyone that does not agree with what the Surveyors are saying. After the meeting, they had long conversations with several of the legislators. It was important to these legislators because if you want to give your child or grandchild an acre of your land, it will be considered a subdivision and you are a developer. One county councilman is to contact other counties across the state to see if this is trickling down and if other counties are interpreting the law this way. It will come out as a state law at some point. Per Elliotte Quinn, please find out the bill numbers and let us know. Per text Foster received on Friday, April 17th, there are 2 bills and they were introduced Tuesday, April 14th. Because the end of the session is quickly approaching, we have about 2 weeks. Chances of it making it all the way through this session are slim. The delegates are going to talk to the Attorney General. Foster said there is nothing personal with this. It is to protect the public not a gain for surveying. He said the bad part is that the engineers may be against the surveyors on this issue. The engineers may want business off of this because of storm drainage permits. As it stands, every individual is responsible for the drainage. Engineers see that as revenue so they may be against this.

Also, Foster believes the 2nd bill may have been to take out family land. He thinks it is so someone who owns a lot of land can give it to their children. The main thing is the definition of a subdivision. Can a permitting agency stop these plats of land from being reported?

Another issue was notes on the plats. Because of all of the notes on the plats, you cannot find the survey. Sometimes, the notes on plats that were not about a survey.

The final point he raised was the SC Planning Enabling Act, 1994 section 6.29.1190. In a nut shell, if you try to go around without approval you can be charged with a misdemeanor, and be fined. In Charleston it is now illegal to subdivide by deed rather than Platt. Surveyors can lose their license, fined or reprimanded. Lobbyist Joe Jones called a few attorneys who responded by asking what this has to do with a surveyor. Foster advised there is a conservative website from the upstate who published an article on Thursday regarding this problem. Foster said to check it out online and on social media and Dennis Clinkscales said he has his cell phone number if you need it.

Low Country: No Report

Midlands: No Report

Mid-State: No Report

Pee Dee: William E. Smouthers, VP and acting President until seats are cast in June 2015, submitted the Pee Dee Chapter Report dated 04/07/15 – 04/06/15. Meetings are held at the Thunderbird Restaurant on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in Florence, SC. In the past year, 12 meetings were held with an average attendee attendance of 8-10 with 0-2 guests. Smothers stated that they often do not have a program, but meet for fellowship, exchange and networking. The Pee Dee chapter is planning two workshops/Continuing Ed day: 1. Topographic surveying using drone aerial scanning. 2. Deriving BFE "100-year flood" elevations using LiDAR data available from FEMA. Smouthers stressed a tremendous vote of thanks for the support of recognition of Ferrell Prosser at the February annual conference.

Thomas C. Anderson: No Report

Tri-County: William V. Hipp submitted a report combining the activities of both District #5 and the Tri-County Chapter. Hipp also said there were 2 meetings from Jan. 2015 – Feb. 2015 on the 2nd Tuesday at Pier 51 Seafood at 6:30 PM on Tuesday. Their meetings covered their exhibit on March 28th at the Historic White Home in Rock Hill. This was the second year having this event to go with Surveyors Week. They will be instructing Cub Scouts in Map and Compass and geography merit badges.

Upper Piedmont: No Report.

District Directors Reports:

District 1: No Report

District 2: No Report

District 3: In an email from Tom Abraham, he advised he would defer to the Chapters and will not be attending. Also, he will not continue as the the District III Director next year. Billy Martin has shown interest in being Director for District III. Abraham believes he would make an excellent one.

District 4: No Report

District 5: William V. Hipp submitted a report combining the activities of both District #5 and the Tri-County Chapter. Hipp reports that the district meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM. They've had two meetings since our last General Membership Meeting. They also hosted an exhibit at the historic White Home in Rock Hill. Average attendance is 8-12 at the monthly meetings. Their exhibit was in association with National Surveyors week. They had six cub scouts ear their "Map and Compass" & "Geography" badges. The next meeting is May 12, 2015 at Joe Baird's cabin where they will have a cookout and present the Tri-County Surveyor of the Year Award.

District 6: No Report

Legislative Report: Joe Jones submitted the lobbyist report. In summary, the practice act for surveyors and engineers is the most important issue for these two professions. Action has progressed but slowly. The senate version, S. 410 was introduced in Feb. 4 and the house version, H. 3928 was filed Mar. 26. S. 410 referred to the Senate Labor Commerce and Industry Committee, and H. 3928 went to the House LCI Committee. Sen. Hugh Leatherman (R-Florence) is the lead sponsor in the senate with co-sponsors Sen. William H. O'Dell (R-Abbeville), Sen. Floyd Nicholson (D-Greenwood), Sen. Paul Campbell (R-Berkeley) and Sen. Thomas Alexander (R-Oconee). The SC State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors had a number of changes they wanted made to the bills that had been introduced. Jones received these changes in late March. He took the changes to the Senate Labor Commerce and Industry Committee and the Senate Finance Committee staff personnel. Sen. Leatherman agreed to all the changes but one; he did not want to include the definition of commissioning. Jones expects the Senate LCI subcommittee to hold a hearing on S. 410 within a month.

There is a difference in the bill introduced in the House and the one in the Senate. The House's lead sponsor, Rep. Mike Ryhal (R-Horry) did not understand the section on brokering and struck it from the bill. Other co-sponsors for the H. 3928 are Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter (D-Orangeburg), Rep. Kevin Hardee (R-Horry), Rep. Carl Anderson (D-Georgetown), and Rep. Todd Atwater (R-Lexington).

SCSPLS member, Bobby Foster, brought a problem with registering plats and deeds in Greenville County because of an interpretation of state law Section 6-29-1190. The county is considering any division of land a developing subdivision which requires other permits and documents adding a new dimension and expense to dividing up land. Mr. Foster has met with various members of county council and the Legislative Delegation about this issue. Rep. Dwight Loftis (R-Greenville) has drafted language to rectify the problem; however, he does not believe there is time this session to get a bill passed.

LLR Update: Gene Dinkins provided an update on the **South Carolina State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors**. There are some changes to the PLS exam. Land Surveyors can now take the PLS exam after completion of the 4 years of education and the fundamentals exam. It is important to note that they will not have their license. If the surveyor passes the exam, he would not have to take the exam again once it can be determined that the required four years worked is completed. The reason for this is because SC is losing a lot of good people. By taking the exam, the registration board sees no harm to public as the surveyor will not have a license until completing the 4 years of in field experience. The thought is that once they take the exam, they will continue to work in surveying in South Carolina.

Dinkins then brought up the amount of fines for doing something wrong. Dinkins said the amount of fines for land surveyors versus engineers is unfair because the number of jobs performed by Surveyors is much higher than the number of jobs performed by engineers. Dinkins said the fines must be consistent and fair by using a guidelines and a new formula.

Dinkins said the proposed legislation for the Practice Act has not moved but has been introduced in the House and Senate. The Practice Act updates statues to bring more standards of practice up today. Dinkins spent the day at the state house with lobbyist Joe Jones to get support from the Legislature.

Next, Dinkins discussed the important issue of SCDOT platting strips of land for the with right of way acquisition. There are instances where they are taking land by deeds or tax map descriptions, and it is important that the SCDOT must be conformant with the standards of practice. The SCDOT should be in tune with the standards of practice with platting. Currently, the SCDOT is widening roads with 25 registered property owners and they come to us after the road has widened to draw a plat of land. In the construction of this road, they are destroying all of the monumentation of parcels as you go along there. There will be a meeting the first week in May to see if there can be to be a compromise that would document data gathered so it will be available to surveyors in the future. Johnny Johnson and Gene Dinkins will be meeting with Brian Keys and Brian Eison at Dinkins office.

Dinkins addressed the information provided by Bobby Foster and is doing research. SC code 6.29.1120, which is part of what Foster was referring to, gives counties and municipalities the ability make the decisions regarding land development. Much of what they are discussing is a board issue where they have rights to govern their land development. Please provide Dinkins information from a local government and requiring non survey data for a plat. Lexington County is requiring drainage arrows and the board made an official statement saying it is considered engineering work because of hydrology.

Surveyors cannot do this. Culler advised the same rules are in Myrtle Beach. Dinkins asked Culler to send him the documentation of where where in the requirements are stated. A statement was given to Lexington County to let them know that Surveyors cannot do this. The resolution in Lexington County is that the surveyor would provide a plot plan to the client. If the client wants to put the drainage arrows themselves, they can do that. It was asked what to do if a private review board asked for proposed drainage arrows. Dinkins advised that a letter will be issued stating that surveyor are not allowed by our statutes and regulations to put drainage arrows because that would constitute an engineering decision. Another issue is proposed on recordable plat. Issues include proposed stop signs and sidewalks on a final plat. Dinkins said, please send specifics so a decision can be made.

Contact Gene with any issues by email or call him on his cell phone if needed.

Please explain the new computer based testing. Computer based testing will begin in 2017. FS is already a computer based testing. Test takers will have the opportunity to take the exam anywhere in the country. They will given in 2 month windows, with one month off. Is this true with engineers? PE Exam is still paper and pencil for several more years but is headed in that direction.

Elliotte Quinn thanked Gene Dinkins and Johnny Johnson for attending all of the SCSPLS meeting and he appreciates their support.

Quinn advised that the minutes from the last meeting had not been approved and asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from Feb. 25, 2015 Board Meeting, but cannot approve because there is not a quorum.

There was no old business to cover.

New Business:

Aaron Leach made a report on the Trigstar Program. Leach was approached by NSPS for help with the Trigstar Program in South Carolina and realized he cannot do it alone. The Trig-Star Program Contest is an annual high school mathematics competition sponsored by the National Society of Professional Surveyors based on the practical application of Trigonometry. The program recognizes the best students from high schools throughout the nation. Leach advised SCSPLS needs to form a Trigstar committee. To form a committee, it does not need to be voted on.

Leach called the person listed as the Trigstar Coordinator for SC on the NSPS website twice, but has not received a return call. So, Leach said he will now be heading this committee.

Currently, one high school in Horry County participated in the Trigstar Program. The math teacher was very excited about it and had about eight students interested. Currently, CA Shealy, Brain Bonds, Elliotte Quinn and Henry Dingle have volunteered to talk about Trigstar with their schools. SCSPLS needs to find schools that are willing to have us come in and talk for about 20 minutes about land surveying, what it is like, what is about and the use of math every day. Then, Leach talks about 15 minutes about the Trigstar Program. Leach gives the teacher sample tests to go over with the students. The next week they take the tests which take about an hour. The SCSPLS representative will travel to their school for the test. Ideally this will happen throughout the state. Leach's local chapter sponsors the winner and gave \$100. We are proposing a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners for statewide for both the students and teachers. There is no money available inr this year's budget, but Leach is asking for next year's budget to keep Trigstar listed and will get the numbers proposed. Trigstar needs chapter representatives to go to your local high schools. Horry County was very easy. It will be easy for you but you must be willing to do it. Elliotte Quinn said the trouble he had was getting the teacher to give him time in the class. Wando can't do it this

year, but next year they will plan it into their schedule. Leach said to contact county school administrator to request permission to talk to teachers. If you want information - power point, speech, and sample tests - please contact Leach. The winning student will go to national to take the exam, but will not have to travel because it will be administered in the classroom. By giving a monetary incentive for teacher and student, it should be a way to up the interest. There is also one, \$5000 scholarship that is given annually.

There is also free information through NCEES for presentations and PowerPoint presentations. NSPS has one as well, but it is a little dated.

Elliotte Quinn represented SCSPLS at the 2015 NSPS/MAPPS 2015 National Surveying.

Mapping and Geospatial Conference held in Washington, DC April 13th through 15th.

As a part of the conference, NOAA's National Geodetic Survey held a Geospatial Summit to update stakeholders in the 2022 Datum redefinition. This will replace both NAD83 and NAVD88 with a new Reference Frame (no longer referred to as a Datum). This reference frame will be geometric and geopotential and contain four (4) dimensional and include time. It will be geocentric, satellite based, and not based on the existing national monument system. The new geometric reference frame will

change correct many issues for the NOAA scientific community and make positioning over large distances much more accurate.

The following are a few points of how this might affect the membership:

- The new reference frame will be dynamic, not static thus the time component. The new Lat/Longs will shift on the order of 1.5 meters initially, and then have a westward velocity of around 1.5 cm/year.
- NGS will depend on CORS to replace passive monuments (physical marks in the ground)
- Marks are fragile and being destroyed at a rapid pace
- Funding is not there to maintain the marks
- Issues with adjustment (continental plate movement, subsidence, uplift)
- Not coincident with GNSS
- NGS will continue to provide data on the current National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) marks but in a different format that current data sheets. (This will not include State Plane Coordinates I was told)
- Because of the time component in the values these positions will not be absolute
- NGS is in the process of developing web based transformation technology to go between the existing datums (Lat/Long/Height) and the new reference frame
- NGS has ceased all leveling activity. All heights are now derived via GNSS
- Each state will need to evaluate its legislation and other formal documents referencing NAD83 and/or NAVD88. [SC Legislation references NAD83(2007) in our Standards of Practice, and the Statute defining SC SPC references NAD83 with no realization listed)
- NGS is working on model law wording to assist states with new legislation

Various stakeholder groups provided feedback on the change. Some of that feedback by group was:

FEMA - Still has a great deal of flood mapping data on NGVD29. They have internal problems converting their data between both horizontal and vertical datums prior to this new change. Re-mapping of an area requires a minimum of three to five years. They have done nothing to

prepare for the new datum

USGS - Has a great deal of data in multiple datums which will need to be converted. As they move to all digital data they have been converting to the latest realization and will have to do this with the new datum. They are very positive about the benefits.

USACE - The Corps has already started preparing. They too have a great deal of data on multiple datums, some local.

NC Dept of Public Safety (Geodetic Survey) - NCGS believes that the passive marks need to be kept and are very important locally. They have solicited input on how this shift will affect NC One Map (GIS), Local Land Records Management, URISA and NCSS. They also believe that levelling is also important and needs to be performed. Gary Thompson suggested that NGS participate in local and state conferences to seek input from surveyors, GIS professionals and property mappers on implementation.

We are fortunate to have Matt Wellslager in South Carolina. SCSPLS needs to work with the state's GIS and mapping professionals on this issue and the development, maintaining and implementation of the S.C. State Plane Coordinate after NGS has made this change.

Lobby Day

Henry Dingle & Elliotte Quinn participated in the NSPS/MAPPS lobby day on Capitol Hill on Wednesday, April 15th and met with staffers from Senator's Tim Scott & Lyndsey Graham's office and Congressman Mark Sanford's office and personally with Congressman Joe Wilson.

The issues brought before these representatives were funding for the USGS 3DEP Program (Lidar mapping of the entire nation) and the Freedom from Government Competition Act and the Pipeline Safety and Community Empowerment Act. A brief summary of those issues is attached. All members are encouraged to contact their Congressmen and Senators in support of these measures.

Michael Culler asked if SCSPLS should start a committee as he would be very interested in serving, although not in charge of it. Talk to Quinn if you would like to join the committee.

Aaron Leach covered the elections of the executive board for the 2015-16 term officers. Elliotte Quinn will be the Past President and Brian Bonds will be President - No Vote Needed as the president elect position is a 3 year commitment. Positions to be voted on are: Drew Wadsworth - President Elect, Will Fairey - Vice President, Floyd Sweatt - Treasurer and Tim Davis - Secretary. Davis sent a letter of acceptance. Leach asked if other candidates were to be submitted.

Aaron Leach thanked everyone as it is his meeting on executive committee.

Aaron Leach moved to close and Mike Culler seconded it. The motion passed.

Districts 1, 3 and 5 will need to vote on District Directors. Tom Abraham is stepping down with Billy Martin to take his place contingent upon a vote.

A motion was made to adjourn at 2:16 PM.

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
Friday, June 26, 2015
Saluda Shoals Park
Columbia, South Carolina

The General Membership Meeting of SCSPLS was held Friday, June 26, 2015 at Saluda Shoals Park in Columbia SC. The Meeting was called to order by President Elliotte Quinn. Roberts Rules of Order were used to conduct the Meeting. Members in Attendance were:

Executive Officers:

President: Elliotte Quinn
President Elect Brian Bonds
Vice President Andrew Wadsworth
Treasurer Will Fairey
Secretary Floyd Sweatt

Chapter Representatives:

Aiken Chapter: Bill Tripp
Coastal Chapter: Curtis Lybrand (absent)
Foothills Chapter: Thurl Amick, Sr.
Grand Strand Chapter: Timothy Davis
Low Country Chapter: Terry Hatchell (absent)
Midlands Chapter: David Ballard
Mid-State Chapter: C.A. Shealy (absent)
Northwest Chapter: Scott Richey (absent)
Pee Dee Chapter: Earl Horton (absent)
Thomas C. Anderson Chapt.: Wayne Reynolds (absent)
Tri-County Chapter: William Hipp
Upper Piedmont Chapter: William Martin

District Director Reports:

District 1 Chuck Dawley, Jr. (absent)
District 2 George Bradley, Jr. (absent)
District 3 Tom Abraham (absent)
District 4 Dennis Clinkscales
District 5 Billy Hipp
District 6 Mike Culler, III

Members Present: Karl Alewine, Christopher Bass, Henry Dingle, Gene Dinkins, Jack Epperly, Ron Fisher, Craig Hooks, Dennis Johns, Aaron Leach, Mike Mills, Jim Polson, Arthur Ranney, Donald Thomas, Terry Watson, Keith Wilson, and Michael Yaeger, visiting surveyor from Tuscon, AZ.

Agenda: A motion was made to approve the agenda. A motion was received, seconded and passed.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Will Fairey provided an update of the following accounts:

Wells Fargo Business Checking Account: \$69,300.35
Wells Fargo Essential Business Checking Account: \$3,032.43
Wells Fargo Market Rate Account: \$116,861.23
Merrill Lynch: \$48,360.77

Executive Secretary Report: Elliotte Quinn introduced Allison King to the membership. SCSPLS began working with Jones, McAden &

Associates in April 2015 after Vilora Mueller left in February 2015. King introduced herself and introduced the other staff members of Jones, McAden & Associates:

- Joe Jones is the SCSPLS Lobbyist and Owner of Jones, McAden & Associates. He is also the Executive Director of American Council of Engineering Companies of SC.
- Adam Jones is Joe's son and the Account Manager of the SC Society of Professional Engineers. Jones will provide assistance to SCSPLS and King for meetings.
- Ginger Booker is the Account Manager of the American Council of Engineering Companies and will be the second contact for SCSPLS. Booker will attend all meetings with King.

Delegate Reports:

SC Council of Engineering & Surveying Society: President Elliotte Quinn provided the report for SCESS. There are currently two open seats – one for a Land Surveyor and one for an engineer. Gene Dinkins would like to renew his position as a representative for the Land Surveyors of South Carolina. Quinn, Brian B. Bonds and Aaron Leach represent the surveyors for this committee.

NSPS: NSPS Delegate, Henry Dingle reported that President Elliotte Quinn attended Lobby Day at the Nations Capital in April with about 100 other Surveyors. It was a great visit. SCSPLS met with the staff of Sen. Scott and Sen. Graham. They were able to meet with Congressman Wilson and the staff of Congressman Sanford. Dingle will be attending the next conference in Sandusky Ohio.

SMAC/GIS: No Report

SC Utilities Committee: No Report

Chapter Reports:

Aiken: Chapter Representative William Tripp reported that the chapter met three times in 2015 at Ming Yat Restaurant on the 2nd Tuesday of the in North Augusta, SC. Meeting Dates were March 10, 2015, April 14, 2015 and May 12, 2015. Ben Christensen PLS reported on the SCDOT – Right of Way Corners.

Coastal: No Report

Foothills: Chapter Representative Thurl Amick reported that the Foothills Chapter meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Golden Corral in Greenville, SC. The Average attendance is 10 people with one guest.

Submitted by Meril Fowler (Interim Secretary)

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS – Need everyone there, need to get new officers elected and in place. We really need some new blood in the leadership positions, Agenda: 1. Call to Order, 2. Approval of the Minutes 3. Reports from Officers 4. Old Business 5. New Business 6. Program 7. Adjournment

May Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 6:45 pm

No Minutes to approve for April.

Treasurer report - \$1789.59.

No Officer reports.

Reminder that we need a new Secretary Treasurer and a new Sargent in Arms

Old Business- None

New Business- Discussion of how to get more people involved in the Foothill Chapter and getting some new ideas for PDH development

hours. Bobby gave us an update on all the developments with the County Council and the legislation going through the House. Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Present at the April meeting: Eric Walcher, Meril Fowler, Jeff Plumblee, Bryan Gosnell, Joe Gosnell, Joe Crowe, Justin McDaniel, Rodney Seymor, Bobby Foster, Sam Harris, Will Lavender, Craig Hooks, Dennis Clinkscales, Jeff Wallace and Al Pearce.

Present at the April meeting: Eric Walcher, Meril Fowler, Jeff Plumblee, Joe Gosnell, Joe Crowe, Rodney Seymore, Bobby Foster and Paul Bull.

2014 – 2015 dues paying members are:

Rodney Seymore, Norton Skardon, Kevin Tollison,, Glen Dalton, Sammy Harris, Thurl Amick, Joe Crowe, Bryan Gosnell, Dennis Clinkscales , Meril Fowler, Eric Walcher, John Woods, Joe Gosnell, Jeff Plumblee, Bobby Foster.

Dues:

Dues for the 2014-2015 year are now being accepted if you have not paid as of yet, see list of paid members above.

Grand Strand: No Report

Low Country: No Report

Midlands Chapter: No Report

Northwest Chapter: No Report

Pee Dee Chapter: No Report

Thomas C. Anderson: No Report

Tri County: No report

Upper Piedmont: No report

District 1: No report

District 2: No Report

District 3: Tom Abraham deferred to the chapter reports

District 4: No Report

District 5: No Report

District 6: No Report

2016 Convention: Vice President Andrew Wadsworth said this year's convention will be April 27 – May 1, 2016 at Springmaid in Myrtle Beach. The room rate will be approximately \$130 per night and most sessions will be held early so attendees can enjoy Myrtle Beach.

Plat Contest: Vice President Andrew Wadsworth reported that he has received only 2 entries. The deadline will be moved to September 30, 2015. Please submit the plat to his attention.

Surveyor of the Year: Vice President Andrew Wadsworth reported that there have been no submissions for the Surveyor of the Year. The deadline will be moved to September 30, 2015. Please submit the surveyor of the year to his attention.

Passing of the Gavel: 2014-15 President Elect Brian Bonds presented 2014-15 President Elliotte Quinn with a plaque thanking him for all of his work with the society in the last year. The new SCSPLS officers for 2015-2016 are as follows:

President: Brian Bonds

President Elect Andrew Wadsworth

Vice President Will Fairey

Treasurer Floyd Sweatt

Secretary Tim Davis

Past President Elliotte Quinn

2015-16 SCSPLS President Brian Bonds closed the meeting saying he is looking forward to the upcoming year for SCSPLS. The next meeting will be Oct. 24, 2015 in the Upstate of SC. We are going to have it on a Saturday this year to try to increase attendance.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:58.



SCSPLS General Meeting
Oct. 24, 2015
Glendale Outdoor Leadership School
Glendale, SC

The meeting was called to order at 10:56 AM.

The meeting was started with an Invocation by Will Fairey, Vice President.

Executive Officers:

President: Brian B. Bonds
President Elect Andrew Wadsworth
Vice President..... Will Fairey
Treasurer Floyd Sweatt (absent)
Secretary..... Tim Davis
President-Elect Elliotte Quinn

Chapter Representatives:

Aiken Chapter: Bill Tripp
Coastal Chapter: Scott Wilson
Foothills Chapter:..... Thurl Amick, Sr.
Grand Strand Chapter: Bruce Abbott
Low Country Chapter:..... Terry Hatchell
Midlands Chapter: Mike Mills (absent)
Mid-State Chapter:..... C.A. Shealy
Northwest Chapter: Scott Richey (absent)
Pee Dee Chapter:..... Earl Horton (absent)
Thomas C. Anderson Chapter:..... Wayne Reynolds
Tri-County Chapter:..... William Hipp
Upper Piedmont Chapter:..... William Martin

District Director Reports:

District 1..... Chuck Dawley, Jr. (absent)
District 2..... George Bradley, Jr. (absent)
District 3..... Tom Abraham (absent)
District 4..... Dennis Clinkscales
District 5..... Billy Hipp
District 6..... Mike Culler, III

The first order of business was the approval for the Meeting minutes from June 21, 2015 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes, seconded and approved.

King presented that a change must be made to the minutes by removing Mr. Dennis Johns name from the NSPS report. A motion was made to adjust the minutes, seconded and approved.

President Brian B. Bonds presented his report and began by introducing himself. Bonds is traveling around the state to visit the local chapter in

an effort to meet the membership. Bonds said he will answer any questions or comments regarding the society.

Financial Report: Treasurer Floyd Sweatt had family emergency and is unable to attend the meeting. The current balances are as follows:

Budget: Treasurer Floyd Sweatt had a family emergency and was unable to attend the meeting. Will Fairey Presented the current bank balances:
Report Date: 10-24-2015

Wells Fargo	*****1285	\$166,861.23
Wells Fargo	*****7096	\$ 69,641.67

Per Sweatt, if anyone wishes to view other financial documents, please contact him after the meeting to make arrangements.

Past President Elliotte Quinn reported on the SC Council of Engineering and Surveying Societies. SCESS currently has two seats available on board for governor to approve. Once seat is held by a surveyor and is currently occupied by Mr. Gene Dinkins. Dinkins is seeking reelection. The other open seat is for an Engineer and is currently held by Ms. Theresa Hodge. She is not seeking reelection. There will be a meeting to choose the representatives to submit to the governor of SC.

NSPS:
NSPS Director's Report
General Membership Meeting
October 24, 2015

Dear Members,

I am sorry that I am missing the meeting and presentation today. Andrew Ellicott was a true pioneer in our profession. And congratulations to all of our award winners. I am in Boston today on a trip that has been planned for some time now. Attached you will find my NSPS report which includes information on our recent meeting in Sandusky, Ohio (Note - this is not a recommended destination for any of you), as well as a government affairs update. Also, if anyone has been affected by the floods and needs immediate assistance, I can help you apply with the NSPS Foundation.

The attached report has actually been prepared by my good friend, Rick Howard, who is the NSPS Director from Connecticut. It will also be posted in News & View. If anything here needs explaining, please contact me at (803) 492-9181 or henry.dingle@aecom.com. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

NSPS Business Meeting

October 8-9, 2015 – Sandusky Ohio

The Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio were wonderful hosts. The meetings flowed smoothly and the facility was very interesting and capacious. Being surveyors, many of us could not keep us from pacing those hallways! Also being surveyors, I heard of more than one way to get it done.

Setting the fun aside, most all of us in that room have played important roles in bringing our state societies together to form one unified voice for the surveying profession. I would offer that we can consider our 100% initiative a success. Congratulations on a job well done, it is truly a pleasure to serve with you all.

Here than are a list of initiatives and observations from our fall meetings:

☑The ALTA/NSPS Standards have been approved by both organizations and we will have new standards that take effect on February 23, 2016.

☑ NSPS will prepare a position statement on U.A.S. (unmanned aircraft systems) regulations and operations.

We've also signed on with other mapping organizations in crafting a letter to urge the F.A.A. to codify the government's regulations for operating this technology in a more urgent manner.

☒ The young surveyors group had a productive meeting and started to think about bylaws, sub committees and addressing tasks that many have offered up for them to consider. Approximately 11 of them attended the Board of Directors meeting on Friday.

☒ We intend to broaden the awareness of the Young Surveyors and our National Society at educational institutions across the country by inviting a student to attend our meetings as our guest and write a short review that will be shared with all surveying programs. The program will be administered by the Young Surveyors and funded through NSPS Board of Director donations. We intend to have a student in attendance at the 2017 spring meeting.

☒ Our President Jon Wanen & President-Elect Tony Cavell have each made a significant effort to re-align

our committees and offer specific charges for these committees to work on. PLEASE consider having your constituents sign on to the email distribution list for a committee by contacting the chair of that committee. It's a great way to be involved without the commitment of attending our meetings.

☒ The Director from Alaska requested support regarding the setting of monuments by the BLM when creating Townships that would be further subdivided and sold by the State of Alaska. As you might have guessed, the number of monuments being set has been drastically reduced. Our Government Affairs Committee will review and comment on the matter.

☒ Certified Survey Technicians (CSTs) at all levels and existing membership can now have their annual certification fee waived by maintaining a membership in NSPS.

☒ The NSPS Joint Government Affairs Committee shoulders a great deal of responsibility in representing surveyors across the nation on Capitol Hill. Please review their report for the many tasks and/or accomplishments they have had over the last 6 months. Mr. Pat Smith, Chair of the Committee, requested direction from the BoD on the following matters:

NSPS will provide a position statement on the PHMSA (Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Agency) Proposed Rule which contains a number of references to surveying and mapping and provide a standardized position to our state affiliates

☒ NSPS will provide a position statement to the House Financial Services Committee which is considering modifications to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), either to implement an improved working process or privatize the effort

☒ Support the addition of the Small Business Administration (SBA) to Federal Acquisition

Regulation (FAR) Council -given that many small businesses are affected by FAR regulations.

☒ The NSPS 100% Membership Program has been very successful. We currently have 47 states and the District of Columbia participating, just under 17,000 members, and continue to offer our help to those still considering the program. West Virginia is expected to be our 48th state in January

☒ We continue to collaborate with NGS and participate in quarterly meetings on various initiatives

☒ We are designated by ABET as the Lead Society among its professional organization members for evaluating Surveying Programs seeking either initial accreditation, or renewed accreditation. Currently, NSPS evaluates 31 such programs.

☒ Our CST program that has been a monumental success and run by several individuals for many years, and even decades. Their succession plans require them to look for individuals who are interested in serving

on the CST Board and upholding the fine standard which has been set. Please consider this opportunity and contact President Warren if you are interested in this appointment.

☒ The NSPS Foundation Concluded their Cruise Raffle - The winner is Randall Myers. He is Past President of both the West Virginia and Pennsylvania Surveying Societies. Congratulations Mr. Myers.

☒ We had previously decided that an At-Large Director(s) would represent those NSPS members who did not belong to a 100% Membership state. Given that we are now down to three states who do not belong, we passed a motion whereby the Past-President will provide representation to those individuals, albeit in a more cost effective manner.

☒ The NSPS Foundation has been instructed to rename the NSPS Board of Governors Scholarship to the NSPS Board of Directors Scholarship. The Board of Directors has agreed to continue providing personal funds at the conclusion of our meetings, as a means for funding this and the Trig-Star scholarship.

☒ The new web site for NSPS should be rolled out this fall. There have been many improvements in appearance and functionality.

The NSPS Board of Directors approved pursuing the following Meeting Schedule:

☒ 2016 Spring- National Surveying and Mapping Conference, Alexandria VA March 14-18th (NSPS Business Meetings 17-18)

☒ 2016 Fall - Joint meeting with Western Federation of Professional Surveyors, Phoenix AZ-pending

☒ 2017 Spring - National Surveying and Mapping Conference - pending

☒ 2017 Fall- Joint Meeting with Texas Society of Professional Surveyors -pending

Many thanks to the NSPS staff for all of their efforts. Be well. Stay thirsty my friends.

Rick Howard

NSPS Director- CT

NSPS JGAC Government Affairs Update

October 2015

John M. Palatiello & Associates, Inc.

Summary of April 2015 National Surveying and Mapping Conference Including "Day on the Hill"

More than 400 surveying and mapping professionals convened in our Nation's Capital for the first ever National Surveying and Mapping Conference. NSPS members joined their professional colleagues from MAPPS in several Federal agency summit meetings and forums, committee and board meetings, technical sessions, and briefings on federal geospatial programs.

The keynote address was delivered by Jim Williams, head of the Federal Aviation Administration office responsible for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). Williams summarized pending regulations and answered members' questions about commercial use of UAS for surveying and mapping.

Contributors to the NSPS and MAPPS political action committees were treated to a dinner featuring Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO), Rep. Scott Perry (R-PA), and Rep. Raul Labrador (R-ID). Visits to Congress focused on four issues, private sector utilization, and location data for underground utilities, a Federal land inventory, and funding for the USGS program, 3DEP, to provide national elevation data.

A delegation of more than 110 NSPS and MAPPS members from some 40 states jointly went to Congress where they met with 80 Senators and

more than 120 members of the U.S. House of Representatives. A Congressional breakfast featured Representative Paul Gosar (R-AZ), whose remarks focused on a Federal land inventory and private sector utilization while also discussing his bill, H.R. 924, the Responsibility in Federal Contracting Act, reforming Davis-Bacon applicability to Federal construction projects. Also speaking was Representative Steve Chabot (R-OH), Chairman of the House Small Business Committee, who discussed QBS, government competition, Davis-Bacon, and his bill, H.R. 1481, the Small Contractors Improve Competition Act which would prohibit the use of reverse auctions for procurements of covered contracts including for architectural and engineering services, which includes surveying and mapping, as defined in section 1102 of title 40, United States Code, the Brooks Act.

Thanks to the NSPS-MAPPS efforts on Capitol Hill, the Freedom from Government Completion Act was introduced April 28 with the House bill, H.R. 2044, garnering 22 cosponsors, and Senate bill, S. 1116, being offered by three U.S. Senators.

The Capitol Hill Day efforts also resulted in Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform (FLAIR) Act earning 5 bipartisan cosponsors for H.R. 3121, the House bill introduced by Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) and Rep. Kevin Cramer (R-ND), and the Senate bill, S. 1225, being introduced by the Chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK).

Visits by the surveying and mapping delegation helped gain traction for legislation to accurately locate pipelines and other underground infrastructure in utility and transportation corridors as well as requesting the Appropriations Committees to fully fund the 3DEP program for national elevation data (see below).

3DEP

Prior to Congress adjourning for the 4th of July holiday, the House began consideration of H.R. 2822, the FY2016 spending bill for the Department of the Interior, which includes surveying and mapping activities within the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the US Geological Survey (USGS), among other Federal agencies. The Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee marked-up the Senate companion bill, S. 1645. One of the programs NSPS advocated during its April 15, 2015 day on Capitol Hill was the 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) managed by USGS. The Senate Committee report language for 3DEP includes: "Program levels include: \$3,000,000 for 3D elevation activities; \$500,000 for 3D elevation: coastal/lidar, and \$1,322,000 to fund the Alaska mapping program."

On and since the April 15, 2015 "Day on the Hill", NSPS members and staff were able to hand out the books to each House and Senate members of the Appropriations Committee. In addition that afternoon, USGS co-hosted a stakeholder session. On April 28, NSPS Executive Director Curtis Sumner attended a gathering of geospatial lobbyists held at the AECOM Arlington, VA office to coordinate office visits, share intelligence, and broaden the 3DEP Coalition, with some of the discussion involving USGS' Kevin Gallagher.

On February 2, 2015, NSPS staff attended the USGS budget briefing. The President's budget request for FY 2016 contains an increase of \$3.7 million for 3DEP, for a total of \$8.7 million. On March 24, 2015, 3DEP was covered during the House Natural Resources Subcommittee oversight hearing on the USGS Budget for FY 2016. Chairman Doug Lamborn (R-CO) and Acting Director of USGS Suzette Kimball referenced 3DEP not only in their opening statements, but also during the question and answer segment between the two. USGS, with the help of NSPS, is working on an appropriations strategy to have a major increase for 3DEP within USGS, combined with additional LiDAR data collection activities within NRCS and FEMA. The following appropriations language has been circulated to both House and Senate

appropriators:

"NSPS respectfully urges Congress to cooperatively fund the 3DEP program. For USGS, in the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2016, it is suggested that Core Science Systems include an increase of \$28.7 million above the President's request for 3DEP. For the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the Agriculture and Related Agencies appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2016, it is suggested that LiDAR-Enhanced Soil Survey (LESS) include no less than \$20 million to acquire enhanced elevation data that can contribute to 3DEP. For the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2016, it is suggested that the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) include no less than \$20 million to acquire enhanced elevation data compatible with 3DEP."

On December 4, 2014, Wendy Lathrop, the NSPS appointee to the Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC), attended the TMAC meeting where the case was presented in having helpful language endorsed by the TMAC connected to the November 2013 National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) report "FEMA Flood Mapping: Enhancing Coordination to Maximize Performance" included the following recommendation:

"The Office of Management and Budget should use the 3DEP implementation plan for nationwide elevation data collection to guide the development of the President's annual budget request."

NSPS is seeking to have TMAC, NGAC and FGDC endorse the NAPA report recommendation that OMB fund 3DEP. At its June 2015 meeting, NGAC officially endorsed such recommendation. The next meeting of the TMAC is scheduled for October 21-22, 2015, and NSPS expects that TMAC will announce that it has endorsed such recommendation.

On March 25, 2015, the USGS National Geospatial Program announced the first round of award resulting from the USGS Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for 3DEP, initially issued in July 2014. The BAA was a publicly accessible process to develop partnerships for the collection of LiDAR and derived elevation data for 3DEP. Federal funds to support this opportunity were provided by the USGS, FEMA and NRCS. The USGS is acting in a management role to facilitate planning and acquisition for the broader community, through the use of government contracts and partnership agreements. The Fiscal Year 2015 Awards offered partnership funding to 29 proposals in 25 States and Territories. The FY15 body of work is expected to result in the influx of more than 95,000 square miles of public domain LiDAR point cloud data and derived elevation products into the 3DEP program. (See www.3DEP4America.com for more information).

Council on Federal Procurement of Architectural and Engineering Services (COFPAES) & QBS

NSPS has been working within COFPAES, and as part of the Construction Industry Procurement Coalition (CIPC), to advance reforms to regulations involving the Federal procurement process for reverse auctions for A-E services, including surveying and mapping. On June 3, Senators Rob Portman (R-OH) and Mazie Hirono (D-HI) introduced bipartisan legislation, S. 1526, the "Construction Consensus Procurement Improvement Act of 2015" to reform Federal acquisition policies concerning "reverse auctions" and "design-build" contracts to prohibit the use of reverse auctions for the acquisition of A-E services (including surveying and mapping services as defined in the Brooks Act), providing for the use of qualifications based selection (QBS), and reforming design-build, particularly to protect small businesses and subcontractors. Senators Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) have also cosponsored the bill, and a markup is expected in the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Committee in November. The Senators filed an amendment #SA 1 731 to add these reforms to the 2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NOAA), H.R. 1 735, recently passed on the floor of the U.S. Senate, however the amendment was not added to the Senate bill. The reverse auction provision was included in the House version of the 201 6 NOAA. The two versions of the bill were reconciled on September 29, but the reverse auction and design-build reforms were not included in the final bill. Also in June, the White House released a memo on reverse auctions.

Reverse Auctions:

S. 1526 (Portman -Hirano) includes several construction-related services from the bidding ban, including some related to architecture and engineering. Such services, including surveying and mapping, are subject to the qualifications based selection (QBS) procedures in the Brooks Act. NSPS, working with COFPAES, is seeking clarification that reverse auctions should not be used for architecture, engineering, surveying and mapping contacts.

On March 1 8, 201 5, Rep. Richard Hanna (R-NY), chairman of Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce of the House Small Business Committee introduced H.R. 1444, the "Commonsense Contracting Act of 201 5." This bill would amend the Small Business Act to prohibit the use of reverse auctions for procurements of covered contracts including for architectural and engineering services as defined in section 1102 of title 40, United States Code, the Brooks Act, which includes surveying and mapping.

A restructured COFPAES is continuing to operate with NSPS, MAPPS, and ASCE as members. There will also be a recruitment push to add more members to the coalition. COFPAES has been working on the procurement legislation mentioned above, has helped members reverse individual procurement solicitations that fail to comply with the Brooks Act, and is promoting Davis-Bacon Act reform and QBS-related provisions in aviation, highway and other infrastructure- related bills in Congress.

Davis-Bacon

In April 2014, Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez was questioned about his department's actions defining members of survey crews as "laborers and mechanics" under the Davis-Bacon Act in a recent Congressional hearing. Rep. Jack Kingston (R-GA), then-chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that funds the Labor department asked the question during a hearing on the Obama Administration's fiscal year 201 5 funding proposal.

In July 201 4, one year after three chairmen from the U.S. House of Representatives wrote the DOL asking questions and requesting documents related to the department's new policy defining members of survey crews as "laborers and mechanics", subject to the "prevailing wage" requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act, the three lawmakers formally asked Labor Secretary Thomas Perez on July 11 to rescind the order. Rep. John Kline (R-MN), Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO) and Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI) indicated the department had conducted inadequate analysis and consultation with stakeholders, such as affected surveying firms and organizations. NSPS is working with each of these offices on continued oversight in the 114th Congress while also providing DOL a regulatory "way-out" that would exempt professional surveying crews from the original 201 3 regulatory expansion.

In September 201 4, NSPS staff, seeking a revision and narrowing of the new policy, met with Department of Labor (DOL) officials to discuss how to end the confusion caused by the original misapplication of Davis-Bacon requirements expansion for survey crews on Federal construction projects. There is still plenty of confusion caused by the original misapplication of Davis-Bacon requirements expansion for

survey crews on Federal construction projects. Shockingly, the Labor Department informed NSPS that they have moved on to the second phase of their program in shifting the policy which is requesting in put on definitions and classifications of surveying and surveyors. So after more than a year since the initial in-person meeting (August 201 3), DOL again did not engage the surveying community as to helping to define and implement the regulatory side of following through on the Davis-Bacon policy expansion. Notwithstanding the repeated outright lack of communication and engagement from DOL, the Labor Department has promised to review a proposal that would exempt professional surveyors and their survey crews, while allowing "laborers" carrying the survey equipment only, or other menial tasks not connected to performing intellectual judgment or responsibility, to be included within the DOL expansion.

In December 2014, NSPS formulated a letter to DoL on a compromise that would remove a vast majority of survey crews from being included without publicly embarrassing the DoL. The letter makes the following points: 1) Apply the Davis-Bacon Act to individuals involved in construction, not those engaged in surveying; 2) Remove all references to terms such as "surveying", "field surveyors", "survey crew", "rodman", or "chainman"; 3) Distinguish between "surveying" and "construction"; 4) Exempt any work that is surveying in nature and for which survey crew members are not directly employed by a construction contractor or subcontractor; 5) Exempt workers who are performing surveying services; and 6) Cover only construction workers not engaged in surveying activities and whose duties are solely manual or physical in nature. NSPS is awaiting a formal response to this "compromise" proposal. In early September, DoL staff notified NSPS that their formal response is nearly complete and will be issued momentarily.

Digital Coast, NOAA Ocean & Coastal Surveying

In the 113th Congress, NSPS worked on the successful Senate introduction of a bill, S.2890 authorizing a full "Digital Coast" program in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The bill would create a coordinated and comprehensive national mapping effort for coastal, Great Lakes, and territorial waters of the United States. Senator Tammy Baldwin (O-WI) introduced the "Digital Coast Act of 2014" on September 18. The "Digital Coast" is a geospatially enabled project to improve coordination and support work with stakeholders to identify geospatial priorities; improve coordination of coastal mapping and management activities; use standards and standardized methods for data acquisition, processing, and distribution to ensure broadest utility of data; promote best practices when applying geospatial data for coastal decision making; and contract for the collection and creation of quality non-navigation feature data sets to include: shoreline change, satellite and aerial imagery, land use and land cover maps, benthic habitat mapping, terrestrial topography, shallow water bathymetry, and submerged aquatic vegetation. The bill would build on the current "project" and authorize a full program. The introduction of the Digital Coast Act by Senator Baldwin complimented a bi-partisan effort in the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. C.A. "Dutch" Ruppersberger (O-MD) and Rep. Don Young (R-AK), cosponsors of Digital Coast Act of 2013, H.R. 1382. NSPS Executive Director Curtis Sumner was quoted in a Sen. Baldwin's fact sheet in support of the legislation. Sumner said, "The provisions of the Digital Coast Act will significantly enhance the Digital Coast project through the creation of a sustainable program to utilize geospatial technologies to map and monitor coastal waterways of the United States, providing an invaluable benefit to the public and to the professionals whose charge is to protect their health, safety and welfare." Joining Sen. Baldwin as original cosponsors was Senators Mark Begich (O-AK), Mazie Hirono (D-HI), Barbara Mikulski (O-MD), Angus King (I-ME), Jeanne Shaheen (O-NH), Sheldon Whitehouse (O-RI), and Maria Cantwell (O-WA). S. 2890 has been

referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

NSPS is working with each of these offices on reintroduction in the 114th Congress, with re-introduction planned for this fall at the earliest. The Senate Commerce Committee has offered to host a briefing on the bill as soon as it gets introduced.

Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization (FIRM) Act

In March 2014, President Obama signed into law PL 113-89, a bill to make revisions to the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. It delays the effective date of key finance provisions of Biggert-Waters. The bill faced House opposition from conservative groups opposed to the cost of the bill and the shift of financial responsibilities from individual homeowners to taxpayers generally, and by environmentalists who oppose subsidized construction in coastal and flood prone areas. The bill also calls on FEMA to develop a flood mapping approach that "results in technically credible flood hazard data in all areas where Flood Insurance Rate Maps are prepared or updated". It delays for four years any phase-outs of premium subsidies for second homes and business properties insured by the NFIP. It halts efforts to update the NFIP's Flood Insurance Rate Maps and to phase-in appropriate risk-based rates for those properties whose designations have changed. Because the NFIP's statutory authority is scheduled to expire at the end of 2017, a four-year delay would effectively gut reforms that were passed by Congress by over whelming margins in 2012. The NFIP remains roughly \$24 billion in debt to U.S. taxpayers and hasn't repaid any principal on its loans since 2010. Next year, Congress may seek to reauthorize Biggert-Waters or further reform, and NSPS staff is engaging the insurance and financial services sector to help educate affected stakeholders as legislation is drafted. NSPS recently met with staff of Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO), the Chairman of the House Financial Services Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance. His staff requested NSPS to develop recommendations and rationale on both of the following scenarios: 1) If the NFIP is to remain intact, what suggestions for policy reform does NSPS have in mind; and 2) If the NFIP was completely restructured, overhauled or even privatized, how would this impact NSPS members, and what suggestions for policy reform does NSPS have in mind?

At FEMA's request, NSPS nominated members for the Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC). In July 2014, appointments were announced with Wendy Lathrop, PLS, CFM, president and owner, Cadastral Consulting, LLC as the surveying designee. NSPS is seeking to have TMAC endorse the NAPA report recommendation that OMB fund 3DEP.

FLAIR Act

On July 21, a bi-partisan bill was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives to create a current, accurate Federal inventory or "cadastre" of all Federal real property. The "Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform (FLAIR) Act of 2015", H.R. 3121, was introduced by Representatives Ron Kind (D-WI) and Kevin Cramer (R-ND). Since 2003 and as recently as February 2015, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has repeatedly designated 'Managing Federal Real Property' one of the high-risk areas within the Federal government most prone to waste, fraud and abuse. One of the reasons cited by the GAO is the fact that the government does not have a current, accurate inventory of the land it owns. A national cadastre has also been recommended by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, and the FLAIR Act has been endorsed by its Committee on Land Parcel Databases. The FLAIR Act will provide all agencies owning Federal real property an improved accounting of their land assets. The bill will also conduct an inventory of existing inventories to eliminate duplicate or obsolete activities and save tax dollars. Such a

consolidated system will assist in improved Federal land management, resource conservation, environmental protection and utilization of real property, as well as identify property the Federal government no longer needs to own. NSPS members promoted the FLAIR Act in Congress as part of the first-ever National Surveying and Mapping Conference hosted jointly with MAPPS during April 15 in Arlington, VA. Representatives Mark Amodei (R-NV), Suzan DelBene (D-WA), Alan Grayson (D-FL), and David Price (D-NC) are also cosponsors. H.R. 3121 was refined to the House Committee on Natural Resources on which both Congressmen Kind and Cramer previously served as members. S. 1225, the Senate version of this legislation, was introduced in May by Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), and was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, where Senator Murkowski serves as Chair. In late July, the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee passed their comprehensive energy infrastructure (Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015) bill by an 18-4 vote. Within the bill is Section 4401 (pages 310-315), and is a modified version of Sen. Murkowski's original FLAIR Act bill from May (S. 1225). While NSPS provided Committee staff with the red line changes from what Sen. Murkowski had introduced in S. 1225 compared to the updated version of the House bill (H.R. 3121), both majority and minority staff came to an agreement on language to include within the comprehensive energy bill. It does move the ball for ward, so while not perfect, NSPS did let Committee staff know we would support. Next step for the Senate bill is the floor time and consideration sometime this fall. Section-by-Section for FLAIR Act portion (page 14) of Energy bill:

"Subtitle E-Management"

Section 4401. Federal/and management. Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish a "cadastre," or computerized inventory of buildings and other real property (land), including associated infrastructure such as roads and utility systems and pipelines collected from surveys, maps, charts and inventories that will be stored as digital data. Authorizes the Secretary to enter into discussions with other federal agencies to utilize the data inventory system to keep track of their holdings, and authorizes the development of cost-sharing agreements so that states, local governments, and Indian tribes may also utilize the inventory system. Outlines the coordination involved in collecting and creating the geographical (data) information system that will store the inventories. Requires that the information be kept in a graphically geo-enabled and searchable format available to the public on the Internet, provided that the identity of any buildings and facilities that would impair or jeopardize national security or homeland defense are withheld public disclosure. Outlines how the system will be operated and clarifies that nothing in the provision requires any new appraisals or assessments of federal assets for any purpose."

NSPS Staff continues to work with Reps. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) and Mike Quigley (D-IL) on their Federal Real property disposal bill via the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Section 7

had strong geographic language for the Federal real property database. Geo-referenced attributes to be included within the database: geographic location of each Federal real property of each such agency; address and description for each such property; total size of each Federal real property of each such agency; square footage and acreage of each such property; and the replacement value of each Federal real property. A bill by Rep. Jeff Denham (R-CA), H.R. 695 (from the 113111Congress), was not as favorable on the property inventory language. NSPS staff has learned that in the 114111 Congress, Rep. Denham will introduce a merged bill, and while Reps. Chaffetz and Quigley will NOT reintroduce their bill, their bill language, including the inventory language is "expected" to be included in the Denham bill. In the 113 Congress,

Sen. Tom Carper (O-DE), then-Chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC), was leading reform efforts in the Senate. He introduced S. 1398, the "Federal Real Property Asset Management Reform Act of 2013."

Geospatial Governance and Coordination:

In the 113111 Congress, Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO) reintroduced H.R. 1604, the "Map It Once, Use It Many Times (MIO- UIM T)" Act. NSPS staff is still looking for a Senate sponsor for companion legislation to H.R. 1604.

On March 16, 2015, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) introduced S. 740, the "Geospatial Data Act of 2015". The bill was referred to the Senate Commerce Committee chaired by Sen. John Thune (R-SD). This referral likely came as a huge shock to Hatch's staff. NSPS staff was sure Hatch staff was counting on the bill being referred to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC) or Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (E&NR). Senator Jim Risch (R-ID) was originally going to introduce geospatial management legislation. NSPS provided comments on Risch's draft and NSPS staff met with Risch's staff to discuss our concerns. COGO also provided comments, some of which were consistent with the problems NSPS had with the bill. As a result, Senator Risch decided against introducing a bill. Risch staff did share information with Senator Hatch's staff, which picked up the baton on the bill. Hatch's staff spoke at the NSGIC conference in Annapolis February 2015. While Hatch staff indicated they would consult with the geospatial community and share a draft bill, they did not do so. On March 2, 2015, NSPS staff met with Hatch staff. Hatch's staff was not accepting comments or revisions at this point. NSPS is part of an effort to harmonize the Senate bill (Risch/Hatch) with Lamborn's bill in the House, the Map It Once, Use It Many Times (MIO-UIMT) Act. NSPS recommended that to Risch's staff. Hatch's staff did not do so. Hatch's staff first contact with Lamborn's staff was two business days before the Senate bill's introduction, in which Hatch staff asked if Lamborn would introduce in the House a bill identical to that which Hatch is introducing in the Senate. No consultation or harmonizing! Lamborn's staff declined and indicated to NSPS they will be reintroducing MIO-UIMT. On March 25, NSPS met with Lamborn to discuss strategy on reintroduction. NSPS has compiled a list of positive sections of the Hatch bill that could be worked into MIO-UIMT. On March 30, 2015, NSPS staff met with Lamborn's Subcommittee staff and shared with our recommended additions based on the Hatch bill.

Hatch staff was introduced to geospatial issues when, upon joining Senator Hatch's staff, they were assigned the FLAIR Act, which Senator Hatch had previously introduced. Hatch staff said at NSGIC that when they began investigating the FLAIR Act, they quickly learned the issues in Federal geospatial data were bigger than the lack of a current, accurate, geo-enabled inventory of land owned by the Federal government. That triggered their interest in the Geospatial Data Act, and, as a result, he has decided Senator Hatch will NOT reintroduce the FLAIR Act. S. 740 does not have many of the provisions and reforms that Lamborn has in MIO-UIMT. It preserves both the NGAC and FGDC, so geospatial governance does not change, although there are provisions to make both bodies more effective, responsive, and accountable. The bill outlines the responsibilities of the Federal government, but does not specify the roles and responsibilities of the private sector or universities. It does nothing to encourage or require utilization of the private sector or prevent government or universities from spending Federal tax dollars to duplicate or compete with the private sector. It does not call for a Federal land inventory.

On March 16 in connection with the introduction of S. 740, a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report was released on

geospatial coordination and duplication at the Federal level, requested by Sen. Tom Carper and then-Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK). Among its findings, GAO said:

- ✘ Federal agencies report spending billions of dollars on geospatial investments; however, the estimates are understated because agencies do not always track geospatial investments;

- ✘ The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) have started an initiative to have agencies identify and report annually on geospatial-related investments as part of the fiscal year 2017 budget process;

- ✘ OMB guidance calls for agencies to eliminate duplication, avoid redundant expenditures, and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the sharing and dissemination of geospatial data. However, some data are collected multiple times by federal, state, and local entities, resulting in duplication in effort and resources; and

- ✘ Until there is effective coordination across the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, there will continue to be duplicative efforts to obtain and maintain these data at every level of government.

In addition, NSPS staff worked with Rep. Rod Blum (R-IA), a member of the House Budget Committee, to ask OMB Director Shaun Donovan on Federal geospatial expenditures. The answers are comical in that despite all of the oversight performed by former-Rep. Adam Putnam (R-FL) on geospatial coordination and expenditures going back to the 2002, the Federal government remains largely clueless on this issue.

NSPS has adopted a policy on the Hatch bill. Currently, COGO is attempting to develop a statement of principles that all its member organizations can agree to on geospatial coordination and governance legislation. NSPS is participating in that effort.

Highway Bill

President Obama signed the MAP-21 Act into Public Law 112-141 in July 2012. The bill includes the COFPAES provision applying QBS to all Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funded projects, not just those related to construction. It also strengthened the law requiring state DOTs to use the private sector for surveying and mapping. In January 2015, NSPS staff met with House Committee staff to discuss NSPS' priorities for this bill, including such issues as asset management, BIM, and mobile mapping as part of a definition of surveying and mapping, subject to licensing and QBS, as developed by the Joint Government Affairs Committee at its November 2013 meeting. NSPS seeks a provision in the MAP-21 Act Reauthorization (Highway Bill) to clarify that for the purpose of determining services subject to the Brooks Act qualifications based selection (QBS) process, the following definition found in 23 U.S.C. 112 (b)(2) is amended at the end thereof, by adding the following new subparagraph:

"surveying and mapping services' includes geospatial activities associated with measuring, locating and preparing maps, charts, or other graphical or digital presentations depicting natural and man-made physical features, phenomena, and legal boundaries of the earth."

In June 2015, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works unveiled a new six-year (FY2016-FY2021) highway or "surface transportation" bill, providing more than a quarter-trillion dollars in authorization. The bill updates the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program and provides state and local government new options for stretching transportation dollars and increasing efficiency and utilization. The bill also improves the process whereby a TIFIA loan can be used to capitalize a State Infrastructure Bank, providing increased leverage for small, rural projects that was previously unavailable. Overall, the measure, titled the "Developing a Reliable and Innovative Vision for the Economy (DRIVE) Act," provides a 3-percent annual growth average

over the years from the funding levels in the MAP-21 bill. That equates to roughly \$260-270 billion over the six years; however, the bill lacks a mechanism or plan to pay for the bill. The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is expected to work on their version of the Highway Bill in September.

Before the August Recess, the Senate joined the House and cleared a transportation extension to keep highway and transit programs running through October 29, sending the bill to the president's desk just days before current authority was to expire. The patch, which extends authority through October 29, but replenishes the Highway Trust Fund into December, cleared the upper chamber via a 91-4 vote.

FHWA is loosening the rules on federal grants provided to states to help fund new transportation projects. The change in regulation eliminates the need for value engineering studies on any highway improvement project that costs more than \$25 million or any bridge project that costs more than \$20 million.

FHWA has also published new regulations governing the procurement, management, and administration of engineering and design-related services, including surveying and mapping, on federal-aid highway projects. The rules include changes and clarifications to State DOT procurement policies and QBS procedures, contract negotiation and administration, audit and accounting of allowable costs, and program management and oversight. The rules took effect on June 22. State DOTs will have one year to update their policies and procedures to comply with the new regulations.

In January 2014, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced that they will move connected vehicle technology forward in an effort to greatly improve safety and save lives on the nation's roadways. Also known as vehicle to vehicle technology (or V2V), the system allows vehicles to communicate potential risks to drivers and avoid rear-end, lane change, and intersection crashes. The program will create a significant demand for precise geospatial data.

HUD

In April 2015, NSPS responded to a request for feedback on proposed changes in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) loan underwriting guidelines on multi-family projects. In its response, NSPS provided suggestions and volunteered to assist in resolving the numerous redundancies and problems related to the HUD Multi-family survey requirements. Examples include the use of a separate "Surveyors Report," requiring an additional certification, and other requirements that cause confusion such as those related to wetlands and references to "as-built" surveys. Kent, PS, chair of the NSPS committee on the ALTA/ACSM Standards, coordinated the NSPS participation.

National Parcel Data

In the 111th Congress, President Obama signed the comprehensive, financial services regulatory reform bill commonly referred to as "Dodd-Frank." Public Law 111-203 creates a new Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (CFPB) and section 1094 provides for the agency to collect the "parcel number that corresponds ...[to] real property pledged or proposed to be pledged as collateral" to help track the number and dollar amount of mortgage loans and completed applications. The legislation amends the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA), 12 USC 2802, to collect the "parcel number to permit geocoding" on mortgage transactions.

CFPB recently released its first public information regarding collection of parcel information under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) and Regulation C. The agency is seeking public comment. One problem with CFPB acting more rapidly has been a turnover of staff and the departure of those with the most GIS knowledge. In September

2014, CFPB GIO Michael Byrne briefed the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) on his agency's efforts to comply with implementation of Dodd-Frank provisions.

Pipeline, Utilities and Infrastructure

The lack of location data is often cited by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and other authorities as a factor in pipeline accidents. As recently as January 2013, the Government Accountability Office released a study (GAO-

13-168) on pipeline safety urging "better data" with an emphasis on "location", "proximity" and "topography." NSPS staff will be working with members of Congress to add a legislative provision requiring accurate mapping of pipelines and other forms of underground infrastructure. At the September 29, 2015 hearing on pipeline safety, the following testimony was provided by National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Chairman Christopher Hart:

"We recognize that [Integrity Management (IM)] programs are complex and require expert knowledge and integration of multiple technical disciplines including engineering, material science, geographic information systems, data management, probability and statistics, and risk management. This complexity requires pipeline operator personnel and pipeline inspectors to have a high level of practical knowledge and skill to adequately perform their functions. This complexity can make IM program development and implementation, and the evaluation of operators' compliance with IM program requirements, difficult. The study illustrated the need to expand and improve PHMSA resources in guiding both operators and inspectors. ... The NTSB also recommended that PHMSA evaluate and improve gas transmission pipeline integrity assessment methods, including increasing the use of in-line inspection and ensuring that direct assessment is not the sole integrity assessment method. Other recommendations include evaluating the effectiveness of the approved risk assessment approaches for IM programs; developing minimum professional qualification criteria for all personnel involved in IM programs; and improving data collection and reporting, including geospatial data, to support the development of probabilistic risk assessment models and the evaluation of IM programs by state and federal regulators."

The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, also held a field hearing in Billings, Montana on the reauthorization of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on September 18. NSPS submitted a statement for the record for this recent Senate hearing. The field hearing was held at the request of Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT), a member of the panel. The Poplar Pipeline ruptured near Glendive, Montana on January 17, 2015, spilling approximately 30,000 gallons of crude oil into the Yellowstone River. The hearing will examine the federal government's responsibility in ensuring safe and environmentally sound transportation of products through America's pipelines, railroads, highways, waterways and airspace. NSPS Lobbyist John "JB" Byrd recently met with Daines' staff in Washington, DC and discussed recommendations of the surveying profession related to location data, positional awareness, as well as inspection efforts connected to underground and underwater utilities. NSPS will assist with legislation calling for greater utilization of location data to prevent loss of life and property, and to help local economies and environmental protection. Senators Deb Fischer (R-NE), and Gary Peters (D-MI) are also interested as well in working on pipeline infrastructure issues. On September 23, Michigan Senators Gary Peters (D) and Debbie Stabenow (D) introduced a bill (S. 2080) to protect the Great Lakes from oil spills, and improve pipeline safety as their legislation requires a comprehensive review of hazardous pipelines with some survey language in the bill for the Great Lakes. Other legislation impacting underground utilities including oil pipelines is expected soon as Congress considers Pipeline and hazardous Material

s Safety Administration (PHMSA) reauthorization and other pipeline safety legislation. The Senate bill reauthorizing PHMSA is expected later this month while the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has not yet started to draft their version of PHMSA Reauthorization bill.

NSPS is also working with Rep. Jacky Speier (D-CA) on reintroduction of her pipeline regulatory reform bill, and final "draft" legislative language. Rep. Kevin Cramer (R-ND) was recently visited by NSPS and is considering offering the NSPS draft language as part of either the House Energy and Commerce's jurisdiction on the "Architecture of Abundance" legislation or on PHMSA Reauthorization. The Committee's "Architecture of Abundance" legislation was marked up on September 30, and Section II 0 I, contains language on "remote surveys" requiring that when Federal or State agencies consider as an aspect of an application for Federal authorization for FERC permitting, the applicant submitting environmental data, then that respective Federal or State agency shall consider any such data gathered by aerial or other remote means submitted by the applicant; The agency may grant a conditional approval for Federal authorization, conditioned on the verification of such data by subsequent onsite inspection.

Earlier this summer, members of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce wrote bipartisan letters seeking information on pipeline infrastructure, including the need for various location and logistical data which is likely to increase the need for more exact and accurate surveying and mapping data for above and below ground pipeline transmission and distribution themes, and options from Federal agencies and a private operator. In July, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce last week held a hearing on pipeline safety, with Stacy Cummings, Interim Executive Director of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) as a key witness. In testimony before the panel, Ms. Cummings said,

"PHMSA has consistently requested additional funding to support enhancing our risk management, analytical frameworks and mapping capabilities. Through PHMSA grants, state pipeline safety programs are funded up to 80 percent, but PHMSA has limited insight into state data on where interstate pipelines actually exist, their conditions, and the inspection reports performed by our state partners."

Underground infrastructure and pipelines was one of the issues NSPS brought to Congress on April 15. Congress is scheduled to reauthorize the pipeline safety legislation since the current law expired on September 30, 2015.

Privacy and Geolocation Legislation

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) issued a report, "Privacy in an Era of Rapid Change" and its proposal that firms engaged in collection, sharing or use of "precise geolocation data" about a citizen be required to obtain "affirmative express consent" or advance approval of each such citizen. The final rule was released in March 2012. It did not include the expected exemptions and clarifications. NSPS has prepared a Sense of the Congress resolution to address this issue, approved its own resolution, and COGO has adopted a similar resolution. A similar resolution was recently approved by the Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN).

In March 2014, FTC Chairman Edith Ramirez testified on privacy issues before the Senate Commerce Committee. NSPS staff worked with Senator John Thune (R-SD) on questions regarding "precise

geolocation data" which Senator Thune posed to the Chairman for the hearing record. Senator John Thune (R-SD) secured a very helpful clarification from the Federal Trade Commission on the extent to which the governments regulatory interest in "precise geolocation data" and its impact on individual citizen privacy. FTC Chairman Edith Ramirez indicated a narrowing of FTC's view of collecting, storing, applying or disseminating such data by a doctrine of "context of the interaction" that had not previously been shared with NSPS or others in the geospatial community.

STEM and Geography Education

The U.S. House and Senate have passed K-12 education bills to replace and reform the "No Child Left Behind" program. The House passed H.R. 5, the "Student Success Act" on July 8. The Senate passed S. 1177, the "Every Child Achieves Act" on July 16. Section 2403 of S. 1177 contains a purpose for national activities "to promote new and existing evidence-based strategies to encourage innovative ... geography instruction ..." while Section 9101 defines 'core academic subjects' to include science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), and geography. The two chambers will form a conference committee to reconcile the differences between the two bills and develop a bicameral agreement. The House Education and the Workforce Committee Chairman John Kline (R-MN), Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Senate Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA), and House Ranking Member Bobby Scott (D-VA) have begun meeting to discuss proceeding with a conference committee to resolve differences in the House- and Senate-passed bills.

Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)

Professional surveying provides enormous "social benefit" and state legislation that limits the use of emerging UAS technology will have "unintended consequences". Aerial surveying and mapping were specifically mentioned in the FAA "Roadmap" for UAS. Some state legislation has recognized the benefits of mapping from a UAS. NSPS-state societies should be calling on state legislatures to exempt aerial surveying and mapping from any legislation limiting UAS.

In April 2015, NSPS filed comments with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in response to its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for commercial operation of small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS). NSPS stated its strong support for, "the safe integration of commercial unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) into the National Air Space (NAS). UAS presents an extraordinary opportunity for utilization by surveyors to provide services to contribute to public health, safety, and welfare, and enhance the quality of life of all Americans, foster economic growth, increase the efficiency of surveying activities, and create business opportunities for the surveying profession."

In April 2015, the Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy, hosted a roundtable meeting to discuss the FAA's NPRM on small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS). NSPS Government Consultant John Palatiello was invited to be the spokesman for small business. He was joined by FAA Assistant General Counsel Mark Bury in presentations on the proposed rules, with an emphasis on its effect on small business. Mr. Palatiello presented an overview of the geospatial profession and comments on UAS and the rules. Throughout this event, a variety of topics were raised and for which NSPS may wish to address in the public comments including: definitions, seek and avoid, people on the ground being in the area of interest of a UAS mission, insurance, time of

Water Resources Development Act

On June 10, 2014, President Obama signed H.R. 3080 into Public Law 113-121, a \$12.3 billion water resources bill that will modernize critical water infrastructure while also promoting economic growth and job creation. The Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA) authorizes 34 new Army Corps projects, establishes a new loan financing program, strengthens levee and dam safety programs and codifies new reforms to the project review process. An amendment in the House that would have required the Corps of Engineers to contract with the private sector for surveying and mapping services to the maximum extent possible was rejected on a voice vote.

WRRDA makes a number of changes to the popular Clean Water state revolving fund (SRF) and creates a new water financing pilot program similar to TIFIA for surface transportation projects. The new SRF provisions provide loan flexibility, lower interest rates and extended repayment periods of 30 years. SRF funds may also now be used to implement watershed plans, water conservation, storm water recapture, and for technical assistance to small and medium treatment works.

The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) is intended to increase flexibility for non-federal interests and leverages private sector investments to increase the effect of federal funding. The new WIFIA program can be used for traditional clean water and drinking water project, and also will provide assistance to projects with the goal of reducing flood damage; restoring aquatic ecosystems; improving inland and intercostal waterway navigation systems.

The bill also included QBS language for the EPA State Revolving Fund (SRF) program. See discussion above under COFPAES/QBS.

President Bonds shared with attendees that Mike Mills of Glenn Associates has been diagnosed with a form of Leukemia. He is currently undergoing treatment in Ohio.

Bonds asked for any further reports other than what is in the packet. There were no further reports. Submitted reports are as follows:

CHAPTER REPORTS:

Aiken Chapter: There were no meetings from June – October 2015. The meeting location is to be determined and will meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM. The chapter president is Billy Todd, the Chapter Representative is William R. Tripp.

Coastal Chapter: The Coastal Chapter meets on the last Tuesday of each month at Easterby's Family Grill. The Chapter President is Curtis Lybrand and the Chapter Representative is D. Scott Wilson. The September Meeting Program was by Shauna Nelson with State Farm Insurance.

Foothills Chapter: The Foot Hills Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM at the Golden Corral in Greenville, SC. The average attendance is 12 with 1 guest. The Chapter President is Bobby Foster, The Chapter Representative is Thurl Amick

Mid-State Chapter:

Meeting Location: Roma's House of Pizza, 218 S Main St, Prosperity, SC 29127 (803) 364-2222

Date and Time: September 1, 2015 Meeting brought to order at 7:00 pm by President Shealy. Jerry Todd opened with Prayer/Blessing.

Presentation: Ms. Ruby Point Miller, Prosperity Payroll Service

Ms. Miller presented on "Tax Preparation and Payroll".

Old Business:

- No Old Business

-President Shealy called attention to the Newsletter from the SCSPLS President, Brian Bonds.

New Business:

Treasurer's Report:

-Bart Dominick reported a balance of \$845.81 in our account. He will pay yearly post office box rental of \$50.00. No new dues were paid this month.

Adjourned: 8:30 pm

Mark your Calendars! Next Meeting will be Tuesday, October 6, 2015. Speaker: Byron Rominger, S. C. Forestry Commission, Topic: SC Forest Inventory Program

Social: 6:30 pm

Meeting: 7:00 pm

\$ 40.00 Annual Dues may be mailed to: Mid-State Chapter SCSPLS, PO Box 454, Prosperity, SC 29127

Pee Dee Chapter:

Report for JULY. 3, 2015

Chapter President:

Meeting : JUNE. 1, 2015 – 7:00 pm

Meeting Place: THE THUNDERBIRD (1ST MONDAY)

Attendance 5 /
members guests

The Pee Dee Chapter held their June meeting on the 1st at The Thunderbird. Those attending were: Carl Maness, David Nesbitt, Earl Horton, William E. Smothers Jr., and John Jackson.

The July Meeting will be on the 6th at 7 PM at The Thunderbird. If we can get the data together, we are going to do a comparison between the aerial scanning and conventional station top from our workshop in May. We will issue certificates of attendance for the workshop and comparison later on this month for all that attended.

If I can get the information together from the scanning by Monday, I'll send out an email so everyone will know. See you Monday, have a safe and happy 4th.

Report for JULY. 31, 2015

Chapter President:

Meeting : JULY. 6, 2015 – 7:00 pm

Meeting Place: THE THUNDERBIRD (1ST MONDAY)

Attendance 12 /
members guests

Our July meeting was held on the 6th at The Thunderbird. Those present were: Terry Watson, Charles Bailey, Reid Huggins, Earl Horton, Ryan Magnus, Carl Maness, J.M. Jackson, Jon Nesbitt, Doug Riemold, Eddie Leeson, Bryan Pittman, and Willia E. Smothers Jr. We discussed the results from the May scanning workshop. Those present will receive PDHs for this.

Our August meeting will be held on the 3rd at 7 at The Thunderbird. Hope to see you there!

Report for AUG. 28, 2015

Chapter President:

Meeting : AUG. 3, 2015 – 6:30 pm

Meeting Place: THE THUNDERBIRD (1ST MONDAY)

Attendance 8 /
members guests

The Pee Dee Chapter of the SCSPLS August meeting was held on the 3rd at The Thunderbird. Those present were: Carl Maness, David Nesbitt, John M. Jackson III, Reid Huggins, Terry Watson, Kenneth Jordan, William E. Smothers Jr., and Doug Reimold. There was no formal program, but the group discussed various issues.

Our September meeting will be held Monday the 31st at 7 at The Thunderbird, due to Labor Day. I'm going to see if we can't have the certificates for our digital scanning program ready for those that attended. We look forward to seeing you there!

District Reports:

Grand Strand: Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Red Robins Gourmet Burgers, Coastal Grande Mall, Myrtle Beach SC at 6:30 pm. Average attendance for the last 3 months as been 12.

Pee Dee: Meets on the 1st Monday of the month at Thunderbird restaurant in Florence at 7:00 pm. average attendance for the last 4 months as been 9

Committee Reports:

President Bonds reported that there will not be a December meeting at The Citadel due to the fact that so many are busy during this time of year. The next meeting will be February 20, 2016 at James Island County Park.

Also, there will not be an Education Conference. This year, there will be the 2016 SCSPLS Convention and Technical Conference April 27 – May 1, 2016 at Springmaid Beach, Myrtle Beach, SC

President Elect, Andrew Wadsworth told attendees about the convention. It will be held at the Springmaid Resort off of the strip in Myrtle Beach. It is kid friendly. This year, we will be having classes Thursday, Friday and Saturday but will be over after lunch so attendees can enjoy the beach and contacts with fellow surveyors. Thursday we will have a large lunch with awards to get things started followed by PDH sessions. Thursday will also have a happy hour to mix with the vendors. Friday morning classes will resume and end after lunch. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided. Saturday will have classes that end after lunch with breakfast and lunch provided. We plan to have a PAC bingo game as well. If attendees attend all sessions, all PDH requirements for the year will be met.

New Business:

Gene Dinkins reported on behalf of the SC State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors.

South Carolina experienced a crisis over much of the state earlier this month due to the flooding. SC put a call out to engineers and architects to assist in the evaluation of buildings in the flooded areas. Currently, 30 architects and 88 engineers have volunteered to help. Of these architects and engineers, 45 have offered to sign up the SC State Guard. 21 of the 45 SC State Guard volunteers have been sworn in and are ready to begin evaluations.

The state board is working on changes for a successor in engineering and surveying companies if the person is no longer with the firm, retired or deceased. What needs to be done so plans can be updated?, good successor engineer and surveyor policy. – if someone is no longer with firm, retired or deceased. What do you do to update plans? Dinkins has taken the lead on this with the Registration Board. Dinkins explained if work was done by a firm or individual and this person is retired, no longer available or deceased, it doesn't make sense to have to resurvey the property. Dinkins will keep the society updated.

A state specific exam is in place for surveyors. If interested in helping write questions for an updated exam, see Dinkins. He will inform those interested of process to be considered for this position.

Beginning next October, the state specific exam will no longer be proctored at the national level due to moving to computer based testing. It has yet to be determined if it will be given at LLR and on an on call basis. The National Professional Surveyor exam will be given by computer. The FS is already testing by computer. Dinkins said the registration board has been working with the SCDOT for the last few years to come up with some new standards and procedures available to

surveyors for a road widening agreement. The hope is that a road widening project will be available on state plane required to provide an actual plat. Bobby Foster agreed and said it will be a better controlled network if it is signed and sealed by a Licensed Surveyor. Once plat is prepared, it will be in a plan library and will be placed in the rite away plan so everyone else can see it online. It will also be recorded in the county. Dinkins does not think it is enough. There will be a sheet in the plans that will have the state plane coordinate. President Elect, Andrew Wadsworth asked about deeds. Dinkins is unsure about deeds.

Currently there is a situation in Aiken. The DOT is preparing sketches and exhibits for conveying property. Dinkins said Donnell Jenkins, legal counsel at the SC State Board of Registration for Engineers and Surveyors advised there is not a survey component in it. They are not required to survey the land as long as it is a legal deed; it is legal, meaning you don't have to have it surveyed.

The next topic of discussion was the SC Legislation. There is currently of legislation that will be moved to the 2016 session – the Practice Act which is House (H. 3928) and the Senate (S. 685)

The legislators will be back in session in January.

One of the points in this bill is Brokering. This will prohibit brokering of work in this state. Dinkins stated that a surveyor should not pay a commission to someone out of state to sell your work in our state.

Qualification Based Selection (QBS) is another large part of the bill. This prohibits state agencies from selecting surveyors or engineers based solely on price alone for state work. The surveyor will be chosen based the most qualified application. Once chosen, price can be determined. If the price is too high, the agency will choose the next person who is qualified. QBS is currently used on the state and federal levels. The surveyors and engineers would like QBS implemented on a City and County Level as well.

The final piece of this legislation is to protect the word engineer. This would require construction sites, school districts, contractors to cease calling managers an engineer.

Dinkins also referenced the problem in the Greenville area in regards to subdivisions –H. 3972. This bill relates to the division of land for family members who are being treated the same as whole land development s. H.3972 passed the house with an amendment and will be going to the senate in January.

The next order of business was the declining number of new surveyors in South Carolina. The state is struggling. SC needs more surveyors. The efforts are being made on both a national and state level. SC State University wrote curriculum that was approved by the state for a 4 year degree. Due to the current situation at SCSU, the board of registration has not heard from him in about 2 years because of the amount of money required to start the program.

Foster asked about the current universities in SC. Can the state colleges be forced to offer surveying and be responsible to offer enough surveying to meet the state requirements? Foster wonders about the complete 4 year degree required for Surveying. Surveyors are particular people. The four year degree may push some of the younger students into something else. Per Vice President Will Fairey, it seems like, sophomore should be pushed for 12 more hours for a minor. This may allow more students to take the required classes. Maybe SCSPLS can try to set up something every semester at schools to show what Surveyors do. There are programs offered at both The Citadel and Clemson University.

CA Shealy suggested a program set up through forestry at Clemson. USC called geomatics. These students complete credit hours at Midlands Tech. Clemson has been on board from day one.

Dinkins said the Geography Department at USC and came up with the curriculum. Some states required 30 semester hours. SC only requires

12 hours.

PAC: Dennis Clinkscales reported on the current PAC. SCSPLS created the Palmetto Land Surveyor Political Action Committee (PLSPAC) to ensure that our members are provided an opportunity to demonstrate support for key state legislators who share our profession's public policy goals and objectives. The PLSPAC is very important during this contentious time for land surveyors in South Carolina. Professional land surveyors are constantly defending their profession and working to maintain high licensing standards and best practices for land surveying and real estate development. Clinkscales has collected the PAC money of the past few years. According to the SCSPLS budget, \$6,500 will be provided for the PAC. We plan to have a bingo night at the conference to raise money. Last time the PAC raised about \$1,500, but Clinkscales would like to double that amount this year.

Foster stressed the importance of talking to your local representative. The legislator will respond to you because you are their constituent. It does make a difference. When you come up with something, the laws that we are pushing and having effect on us get your representatives involved. Foster said, if Greenville is doing it, other areas will be doing it. GET TO KNOW YOUR REPRESENTATIVE.

2014-2015 SCSPLS Platt Contest Winners:

First Place

ALTA/ACSM: J. Jason Cox, PLS, Surveyors & Associates, LLC

Boundary: AECOM, URS Corporation

Subdivision: Denise DiVetro, PLS, Cox Surveyors & Associates, LLC

Miscellaneous: Denise DiVetro, PLS, Cox Surveyors & Associates, LLC

Topographical: James Parler, PLS, Thomas & Hutton Engineering

Second Place:

ALTA/ACSM: James Parler, PLS, Thomas & Hutton Engineering

Boundary: Phillip P. Gerard, PLS, Thomas & Hutton Engineering

Subdivision: Sal Chaves, PLS, Thomas & Hutton Engineering

Miscellaneous: Denise DiVetro, PLS, Cox Surveyors & Associates, LLC

Topographical: J. Jason Cox, PLS, Cox Surveyors & Associates, LLC

2015 Surveyor of the Year:

President Elect Andrew Wadsworth presented the 2015 Surveyor of the Year: President Brian B. Bonds. Wadsworth relayed that Bonds was awarded based on the leadership he has provided the society in its time of transition. While the society had no executive secretary, Bonds would go to the SCSPLS office to make sure everything was being done as needed. Not only did he keep it going, but growing and moving towards the future. Bonds assisted in the hiring of the current executive secretary. Bonds all of this on his personal time.

Bonds gave a heartfelt thank you to SCSPLS.

There was no further business to discuss. President Brian Bonds is excited where the society is right now. A few things to remember - The upcoming Legislation is important. Visit with Joe Jones on Tuesdays in the upcoming session. Our convention is moving to Myrtle Beach April 27 - May 1, 2016 and our next meeting is February 20, 2015 at James Island County Park.

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 PM

SCSPLS wants your feedback!

What is your prediction for business in 2016?

Follow the link below and give us your thoughts!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X5NPFDI>

2015 – 2016 Officer Inductions

Congratulations to the new SCSPLS offices appointed in June at the meeting at Saluda Shoals in Columbia SC.



SCSPLS Executive Board

President: Brian B. Bonds, PLS
President Elect: Andrew Wadsworth, Sr., PLS
Vice President: F. William Fairey, IV, PLS
Treasurer: Floyd A. Sweatt, Jr., PLS
Secretary: Timothy L. Davis, PLS
Past-President: Elliotte Quinn, PLS

District Directors

District 1: Charles Dawley
District 3: William (Billy) Martin
District 5: William (Bill) Hipp

President Elect: Andrew B. Wadsworth, Sr.: I was born July 29, 1962. I have lived in the Lowcountry of South Carolina most of my life. I have an older brother who works for the Federal Government and a younger brother who is a horticulturist. My father is a retired Naval Captain and is suffering Alzheimer's disease at a local nursing facility. I was lucky to be able to travel to a number of countries as a child such as Japan, Spain, and Holland. I am married to Donna and have three children. Jamie Fennessy is my 25 year old stepson who is a music producer and writes his own music as well as plays festivals and shows across the East Coast. Elizabeth is my 21 year old daughter who is a junior at the College Of Charleston. Bonner is my 17 year old son who is a junior at James Island Charter High School. I received an Associate degree in civil engineering from Trident Technical College in 1994. I have been a licensed professional surveyor for South Carolina since 1996 and have done all my surveying here in the Lowcountry. I currently am employed with Brock & Scott, PLLC reviewing boundary disputes and researching land titles. I also take on small surveying projects from time to time. I enjoy camping and kayaking with my wife in our travel trailer. I enjoy cooking and working in the yard. I am a college football fan and cheer for the University of South Carolina Gamecocks.

Vice-President: F. William Fairey, IV: Originally from Kingstree, South Carolina, Will Fairey has been a Horry County resident since 1992. He received an Associate of Science degree in Forest Management Technology and later completed a degree in Civil Engineering Technology from Horry Georgetown Technical College. Will began his career in Land Surveying with Engineering Technical Services located in Pawleys Island, SC in 2003. In 2009, he received his SC Professional Surveyors license and later that year left ETS and started Spartina Land Surveying, LLC. In 2012, Spartina merged with The Brigman Company of Conway, SC and Will joined that firm as a Principal Partner in order to start a land surveying department within that company. Will has been

licensed in North Carolina since 2011. He is a Past-President of the Grand Strand Chapter of SCSPLS where he has also served the Chapter as Secretary/Treasurer and Vice President. He is currently serving as Treasurer of SCSPLS. Will resides in North Myrtle Beach with wife, Kerri, and their 5 year old son, Frank. They are members of Little River United Methodist Church where he serves as an Adult Sunday School teacher.

Treasurer: Floyd A. Sweatt, Jr.: Floyd is a native of Chester, SC and has lived in McConnells, SC since 1998. After graduating from Chester Senior High School, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1986 to 1991 as a Combat Engineer. His two notable campaigns were "Operation Just Cause" in Panama and "Desert Storm". After an honorable discharge from the military, he attended York Technical College in Rock Hill, SC and graduated with Civil Engineering and Engineering Graphic Degrees. Since 1993, Floyd has been with the SC Department of Transportation in the Surveying and Engineering Department. Currently, he is the District 4 Assistant Regional Survey Supervisor. In June of 2011, he obtained his SC Professional Surveying License. He also owns and operates Sweatt Land Surveying and a Real Estate Investment Company. Floyd has been married to Tina Teigue of McConnells, SC since February 7, 1998. They have two boys, Kyle 14 and Zackary 10. When Floyd is not working, he enjoys football with Kyle and scouting with Zackary. Currently, he and his family are active members of First Baptist Church of Lowry's. During his 7 years at this church, he has served as Chairman of the Deacons for one term, assisted with fund raisers, and served on the finance committee. Over the past three years he has been a member of the Tri-County Chapter of Professional Land Surveyors, member of the SCSPLS where he is currently serving as the SCSPLS Secretary, and a member of the National Society of Professional Surveyors. In addition, he is currently finishing his B.S. Degree in Survey and Mapping at East Tennessee State University.

Secretary: Timothy L. Davis: Tim Davis is a second generation Land Surveyor from Loris S.C. He is a Graduate of Loris High School. He holds two degrees from Horry Georgetown Technical College. He is a U S Army Veteran with two tours in Iraq. His life as a land surveyor started when he was young. He literally followed the steps of his father through the woods of Horry, Georgetown, and Marion Counties. He learned how to perform DMD sheets before he was out of High School. While attending Horry Georgetown Tech, He worked for Atlantic Land Surveying and Affiliated Surveyors. He has over 25 years in the surveying business. He currently is the President of the Grand Strand Chapter of the S.C.S.P.L.S. He is also on the PAC Committee.

Nominations for District Directors:

DISTRICT 1: Charles F. Dawley, Jr.: Chuck has been surveying for over 35 years and became licensed in 1983. He is currently serving as District 1 Director for SCSPLS. He is the owner of Dawley Surveying in Mount Pleasant, SC, and resides there with his wife of 29 years, Amelia, who is the head of the Physical Education Department at Bishop England High School. They have one daughter, Cole, age 23, who graduated from the College of Charleston and teaches Physical Education at First Baptist Church in Charleston and one son, Chayne, age 25, who works with his dad in his surveying business. Chuck and his family attend Stella Maris Catholic Church. His hobbies include camping, boating and fishing.

DISTRICT 3: William C. (Billy) Martin is a lifelong resident of Enoree South Carolina. He is married to Tammy and they have 2 daughters and 5 grandchildren. Billy first saw a Surveyor working and using a transit when he was about 9 years old and decided then that Surveying would be his chosen profession. He graduated from Woodruff High School in 1976 and attended Spartanburg Methodist College one year before transferring to Clemson University where he graduated in 1980 with a degree in Civil Engineering. He started Surveying in the summer of 1978 with Teague Engineering in Laurens after having his

Surveying class at Clemson. While still in Clemson, Billy later went to work for Van Clinkscales in his Clinton office. Van took Billy to his first "Surveyors Meeting" in 1980 when they attended a meeting of the Thomas C. Anderson Chapter at the Ponderosa Fish Camp on Lake Greenwood. Billy has since been an active member of the Thomas C. Anderson Chapter and served as District 3 Director. Billy earned his Surveyors License in 1985 and has been an active member of the Foothills Chapter where he has served many offices including President and an active member of the Upper Piedmont Chapter where he has served in various office positions including President. Billy has served as District 4 Director, served on State Society Committees and held several State Society offices including President of the South Carolina Society of Professional Land Surveyors (2000-2001). Billy is currently active in both the Foothills and Upper Piedmont Chapters.

DISTRICT 5: William V. Hipp: Bill Hipp has owned Hipp Land Surveying, Inc., located in Richburg, SC, since 1995. Before opening Hipp Land Surveying, he worked at Ashmark Land Surveying, WE Finkenstadt Surveying, Duke Power Company and SCDOT. Bill served as the Tri-County Chapter Representative to SCSPLS Board of Directors from 1997-2000 and is currently the SCSPLS District 5 Director.



Thank you, Elliott Quinn, PLS for your leadership as president in 2014-2015. We appreciate all of your hard work and dedication to the surveyors of South Carolina.

2015 Surveyor of the Year:



President Elect Andrew Wadsworth presented the 2015 Surveyor of the Year to President Brian B. Bonds. Wadsworth relayed that Bonds was chosen for the award based on the leadership he has provided the society in its time of transition. While the society had no executive secretary, Bonds would go to the SCSPLS office to make sure everything was being done as needed. Not only did he keep it going, but growing and moving towards the future. Bonds assisted in the hiring of the current executive secretary. Bonds did all of this in his personal time.

Brian Bonds is the Project Manager with Glenn Associates Surveying, Inc. in Jenkinsville, South Carolina. His varied responsibilities include management of multifunctional work teams, business development and proposals, safety training program management, site security, and computer network administrative management. For almost eighteen years Brian has been investing time and increasing his knowledge of the surveying industry. Brian has developed an exceptional background in people and project management and a professional style based on honesty and integrity with excellent inter-personal communications and decision making abilities. Brian earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Francis Marion University in Sociology and has completed additional course work at Midlands Technical College. Brian has been an active member of the South Carolina Society of Professional Land Surveyors since 1998 and joined the National Society of

Professional Surveyors in 2011. He received the Midlands Chapter Surveyor of the Year Award for 2013. He is currently serving as the SCSPLS President, he is on the Board of Directors of the Fairfield County United Way and Fairfield County Behavioral Health Services. In the past, he has held additional positions of leadership in his local church, civic, and social organizations. Brian has been happily married for over twenty years to the former Beth Douglass, and they have two young boys, Berry and Charlie. They have a small farm and enjoy the outdoors. Brian also enjoys collecting old surveying books in his spare time.

Congratulations to the following winners of the SCSPLS Plat Contest!

First Place

ALTA/ACSM: J. Jason Cox, PLS, Surveyors & Associates, LLC

Boundary: AECOM, URS Corporation

Subdivision: Denise DiVetro, PLS, Cox Surveyors & Associates, LLC

Miscellaneous: Denise DiVetro, PLS, Cox Surveyors & Associates, LLC

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Thank you for taking the time to submit your projects.

SCSPLS IN ACTION

In this and future Benchmark issues we will try to feature situations that SCSPLS represented the interests of the Land Surveying Community regarding proposed rules or changes at the local and state level. Some of these would have had a detrimental effect on the profession. We will also give periodic updates via email throughout the coming year.

This summer the City of Myrtle Beach released a change in its requirements for new construction certificates of occupancy. This change was in response to drainage concerns in neighborhoods within the City limits. They now require a "post construction survey" (their description) of the property and wanted it to include existing elevations and drainage flow directions. They also wanted this to be certified by an engineer. While this new requirement in and of itself is not a problem for our profession the list of approved personnel allowed to perform it was an issue.

Quoting from the letter issued by the City of Myrtle Beach the document must be prepared by:

"A registered professional engineer, landscape architect or Tier B land surveyor"

All of us know that engineers and landscape architects are not qualified to perform surveys and that there are very few Tier B land surveyors within the State of South Carolina. SCSPLS members informed the SC LLR Board, specifically Mr. Johnson and Mr. Dinkins and they drafted a letter to the City of Myrtle Beach explaining the conflicts with state law inherent within the new requirement. After some consideration, the City of Myrtle Beach now recognizes the need for a licensed land surveyor to gather the data and produce a drawing that can be approved by a licensed engineer.

As a Society we see situations such as these on a regular basis. It was only through quick action and the support of the SC LLR that the rule was changed before it went into effect. Your attention to matters on a local level and prompt notification of SCSPLS is crucial to protecting our Profession. Each individual's membership in the Society is a great benefit to all of us.

Will Fairey

SCSPLS Vice President



Andrew B. Wadsworth, Sr., PLS
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I attended the SCSPLS meeting at the Glendale Outdoor Leadership School up near Spartanburg on October 24 and was quite impressed with the talk Dr. William J. Morton gave us on his book, *Andrew Ellicott, The Stargazer Who Defined America*. I purchased a copy of his book which the author signed for me. This is a very interesting book for our breed. It tells the story of Andrew Ellicott finding and surveying the 31st Latitude from the eastern bank of the Mississippi River easterly all the way to the Chattahoochee River then straight to the Headwaters of the St. Mary's River in present day Florida which was well over 300 miles. Ellicott surveyed this line using astronomical observations from instruments he built himself. He not only had to deal with international politics with the King of Spain but with Indians, scallywags, and the personalities of the crew (half of which were from Spain). This line he surveyed is the northern line of the Florida panhandle. I used to like cutting a little line in my day but Ellicott cut a sixty foot swath through extremely thick virgin swamp land erecting large mounds every mile. This book will make you appreciate the conveniences we have this day in time. I enjoyed this book very much and William J. Morton did a heck of a job writing it.

Andrew B. Wadsworth, Sr., PLS

SC Professional Land Surveyors Day – Tuesday, March 22, 2016



Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, March 22, 2016 will be declared SC Professional Land Surveyors Day!

SCSPLS would like as many SC Surveyors at the SC State House to be recognized with a Resolution in the House of Representatives.

Rep. Kenny Bingham is sponsoring the resolution.

This is a wonderful opportunity to voice important issues to the Surveyors in SC.

SCSPLS is working with the Senate to be recognized as well.

While at the State House, use this opportunity to speak to your Senator and House member as a constituent.

An official invitation will be emailed closer to the date to confirm the number of people that will attend. Please make necessary arrangements to attend.

Legislative Update

Joe S. Jones
SCSPLS Lobbyist

Through our off session legislative visits, surveyors and engineers have been carrying the theme for the Practice Act – “Please pass the Practice Act (S.685/H.3928) as introduced.” However, from the Senate Labor Commerce and Industry Subcommittee hearing held in May, we knew there were three areas of concern based upon testimony at the hearing.

Two groups testified against parts of the practice act: the QBS section, the brokering section and the term engineer.

The SCSPLS, ACEC-SC, ASCE-SC and SCSPE Executive Committees met Nov. 24 to address these concerns. After lengthy discussion, the group realized the vulnerability of each issue, and addressed possible remedies, amendments and tactics. But, all of the groups agreed to stay the course and move forward supporting the Practice Act as written, knowing there is opposition for these three sections.

At this time the surveying and engineering communities do not have an amendment to incorporate Sen. Leatherman’s thoughts on this issue.

Given the information above, the group agreed to stay the course and support the QBS language while looking to see if alternate language may be found that would make the issue more compatible.

On brokering, the SCSPLS representatives made a strong case to keep the brokering section in the bill. Legislators haven’t been given good explanations of the problem. The group agreed to continue supporting the brokering section and try to do a better job of explaining the need.

On the term engineer, a possible amendment might be considered. The amendment could read: “Engineer is an engineering graduate of an EAC/ABET College of Engineering.” This change maybe acceptable to legislators but probably not to Carolinas AGC because they want to call personnel engineers that may not have a degree. This possible language is a step away from our strong position now. Also, according to the NCEES website 27 states protect the term engineer.

However, this compromise language would maintain the other protected terms including professional engineer, licensed engineer and registered engineer. This amendment would be a last choice; the group agreed to continue to protect the term engineer as the law currently does.

The General Assembly will convene for the 2016 session in less than a month. Also, House Bill 3972, the bill making it perfectly clear that under developed property may be transferred without the submission of a land development plan and establishes that a land use plan is not required to execute a deed or other instrument passed the House in May 103 to zero and was sent to the Senate where it resides in the Senate Judiciary Committee. We will be working this bill along with the Practice Act.

We plan to continue asking surveyors to come to the State House on Tuesdays to meet their legislators and help secure support for the Practice Act. The goal is to pass the Practice Act this session.

SCSPLS General Meeting is February 20, 2016



**The next SCSPLS General Meeting is February 20, 2016
at James Island County Park.**

**This will be an opportunity to gain a PDH and
find out where SCSPLS will be in the new year.**

We look forward to seeing you there.

the BRIGMAN COMPANY
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