

SCSPLS Quarterly Board and General Meeting  
Saluda Shoals Park, River Center  
Columbia, SC  
June 22, 2018

The SCSPLS Board and General meeting on Friday, June 22, 2018 was called to order at 11:21 AM by SCSPLS President William Fairey. President Fairey welcomed everyone to the last membership meeting of the 2017-18 SCSPLS year.

SCSPLS Treasurer, Chris Bass, lead the meeting in the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was the approval of the Agenda. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the agenda.

Next, SCSPLS President asked for an approval of the meeting minutes from James Island County Park on April 21, 2018. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes.

President Fairey provided the presidents report and thanked the tried and true members of SCSPLS for coming to the meeting.

He reported in the fall, SCSPLS participated in the High School STEM Career Fair. SCSPLS was able to talk to over 100 students and tell them about Surveying. He said by having a booth at the Fair, he may have met a future surveyor. Fairey said this is a great way to educate young people about surveying and SCSPLS will be doing it again this fall. As soon as the date is released, Allison King will send information to the membership. (Date was provided on Aug. 24. The STEM Conference will be Oct. 9, 2108.)

On January 24, the surveyors, engineers, architects and contractors partnered to host the Design Construction Partnership Legislative Reception. With over 200 surveyors, engineers, architects, and contractors in attendance, legislators had the opportunity to hear from multiple members about the issues our industries are facing this year. This shows the pull of the group because the date had to be changed at the last minute due to a speech by the Governor. This ended up working in our favor.

At the beginning of February, SCSPLS had a great Convention and Technical Conference at the Double Tree in Columbia. We had a large turnout of attendees and exhibitors. On Wednesday, January 31, we had the SCSPLS meeting and Past Presidents' Meeting. On Thursday, classes began at 8:00 AM with a banquet lunch and ended with an exhibitor reception. Again, on Friday, attendees were in classes all day.

Fairey also said he was able to go to Washington, DC in April for the "Day on the Hill". He was able to speak with staff members for the SC delegation and able to meet Sen. Tim Scott and tell them about SCSPLS and TrigStar.

Again, this year, SCSPLS had Surveyors Day at the State House. President Fairey thanked everyone that came to the Statehouse on Wednesday, March 21, 2018. While at the State House, the Professional Land Surveyors of South Carolina were recognized in 3 ways by 3 different members of the SC House of Representatives.

The first legislator to recognize the Surveyors was Rep. Dwight Loftis. Loftis was gracious enough to

issue the House Resolution making March 21, 2018 as Professional Land Surveyors Day.

The second legislator to recognize the Surveyors was Rep. Heather Ammons Crawford. Rep. Crawford issued a resolution for her constituent Aaron Leach, 2018 Surveyor of the Year.

Finally, Rep. Katie Arrington acknowledged the Professional Surveyors, especially her husband Robert Arrington, PLS.

After waiting about an hour for the Senate to go into session, the Surveyors were seated first on the front row of the Senate balcony. Senator Kent Williams enthusiastically read the Resolution honoring the Professional Land Surveyors.

Fairey stressed how important this is to do every year. This is an easy way for our legislature to get to know the Surveyors of SC.

SCSPLS also rolled out the SCSPLS 3-year Plan.

#### **SCSPLS Goals**

1. Member Value – Determine what is expected by SCSPLS from Membership, Executive Board, Board, Committees, and the Executive Secretary
2. Member Engagement – Work with the local chapters and districts to determine the best ways to engage members and new members, Continuing Education, Quarterly meetings and a potential Fall Class to obtain 5-8 PDH
3. Advocacy: Continue to work to make presence known with the Legislators through the PAC, Surveyors, Week, Surveyors Day, Surveyor of the Year, Legislator of the Year, SC State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors and SCESS.
4. Public Perception through print, website, YouTube, Press Releases, School Education, Apprenticeships, Extended media and overall education on the role of the Surveyor.

For the future, we have to get more people into the surveying profession. Talk to your crew about getting the education and passing the test to become a Professional Land Surveyor. We need new blood. By increasing the numbers of Professional Land Surveyors, it will help increase our membership.

Speaking of membership, we need to encourage others in our profession to join our organization. Let's boost that in 2018-2019. We all know people that are not members. Tell them about the Conference. Tell them about all of the headway we made in the legislature this year. Tell them we will grow as a profession by joining the society.

Thank you again for your support this year as your president.

Fairey said you know people that are not members. Tell them what we are doing and tell them how being a member can benefit them personally and the surveying profession as a whole. A few kind words along and along may help build the society.

Finally, President Fairey thanked Allison King and Jones, McAden & Associates.

Delegate Reports:

Henry Dingle gave an update on NSPS. The next meeting is in College Park, MD in October. Dingle said to be sure to read the weekly report from NSPS.

President Fairy asked if there were any other delegate reports.

Brian Bonds said he submitted a report to SCSPLS. In summary, SCESS interviewed the remaining candidate for the Building Codes Council Mr. Alan Campbell, PE a structural engineer from Charleston. The interview went well and Mr. Campbell appeared to be very qualified for the position and the SCESS Council voted to submit his name to the Governor for appointment.

***SOUTH CAROLINA SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS***

***COMMITTEE REPORT***

Committee Name: South Carolina Council of Engineering & Surveying Societies

Report Period from: April 2018 to June 2018

Committee Chairman: Brian Bonds

Committee members: Pres. Will Fairey, P.Pres. Brian Bonds & Elliotte Quinn

Last Meeting: May 14, 2018, 3:00 PM at CR Jackson, Inc. Columbia  
(date & time)

Report and Summary of Activities: (Use space below, reverse side, or attach separate sheet.)

The SCESS Council met on May 14<sup>th</sup> to interview applicants for the open engineers position on the Building Codes Council. Originally two candidates were slated for interview but prior to the meeting one candidate (Tim Mays, PE) withdrew from consideration.

The Council interviewed the remaining candidate Mr. Alan Campbell, PE a structural engineer from Charleston. The interview went well and Mr. Campbell appeared to be very qualified for the position and the SCESS Council voted to submit his name to the Governor for appointment. (End of submitted report)

Next, Gene Dinkins provided a report on behalf of the SC State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors.

The first thing Dinkins covered is a "protected title". Per the statutes and regulations, the titles "engineer" and "surveyor" are protected. In the state of SC, an individual must be licensed to have this title. This is mainly an issue with the title of engineer. It is big issue right now and important to note that a person cannot call themselves a surveyor if he or she is not registered in SC. This includes a business card. In SC, you cannot print a business card with the word Surveyor if you are not a PLS.

The second thing Dinkins covered is the taking of the PS and PE exams. In SC, a person is able to take the test early. You are still required to complete the 4 years experience and take the state specific exam before you receive your PLS designation.

Next, Dinkins brought up Qualification Based Selection, also known as the Brooks Act, for engineering and surveying projects for the federal government. The federal government cannot solicit bids to determine the company that will provide the work for a project. The company must submit the qualifications of the company as to why they would be the best choice for the project. Alabama just passed a QBS law for engineering and surveying for all projects for public and private work. Dinkins said this is the first state to pass such legislation. Dinkins said a surveyor or engineer cannot even respond to survey work, public or private, with the pricing as a point. Dinkins said this is huge. Dinkins said Architects in SC have similar laws.

Dinkins said the board is currently working on license renewals. Dinkins said to know the status of your license. If you are found in violation in the practice act, you usually get a violation and a fine. If you are registered in multiple states, there is a data base that shows any issues between all states via NCEES. If you have a violation in SC, it is known by other states. Dinkins said to make sure you are truthful and honest on your renewal forms.

Henry Dingle reminded the group the renewals are due June 30.

Dingle said the county municipal issue has been brought to the Board of Registrations attention and the board members are taking this issue very seriously. The next Board of Registration meeting is July 24<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to provide a specific issue, be sure to bring documentation. The board needs to review exactly what the county or municipality is requiring. Specific examples are needed. The board needs documentation.

Next, Dingle brought up an issue with wetlands surveys. A surveyor cannot accept a list of coordinates provided by the client when doing a wetlands delineation.

The Board of Registration advised Surveyors in SC cannot take the measurements from the company without survey measurement by a licensed surveyor.

Now, with wetlands, the Corps of Engineers will do a sketch, but not horizontal or vertical measurement. The board wants to state who can collect data and who cannot.

President Fairey experienced this when doing dock permits. The Corp will accept what they want to accept.

Next, Dingle reported that he and Gene Dinkins were a part of a panel at the SC Engineering Conference & Trade Show in June. Dingle made a presentation on UAV's to the engineers. Dingle stressed that many people are using UAVs without the proper licensure. UAVs are to be used only by Professional Land Surveyors with a Photogrammetry License or individuals who were grandfathered in.

Dingle said Drones/UAVs can inspect progress, but cannot gather data.

Finally, Dingle said turning in Engineers and Surveyors is a big issue in SC. He said individuals are often not reported because the two surveyors or engineers may know each other. The overall impression is that the person who was turned into the board will know who reported him or her. Dingle said it does

not work this way when reporting an issue. If you find someone breaking the law, report them to the SC State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors. All you have to do is provide the pertinent information and the person reporting is then taken out of it. The person reported to the Board will not know who reported the violation. Dingle said we, the surveyors and engineers, have to police ourselves. He also stressed that it is important that you do not call an actual board member. Please report to the administrator so the required steps will be followed.

Terry Watson asked if this also includes the use of drones and GPS. Dingle said if you question their ability to obtain this information, report it to the Board.

President Fairey said we do not give the Board of Registration enough thanks. Fairey thanked Dinkins and Dingle for committing the time to volunteer for the SC State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors.

Dennis Clinkscales ask what happens to an individual that is reported if they do not have a license in SC. Dingle said cease and desist letter is issued to the person and company acting as a surveyor or engineer.

Next, Adam Jones provided the Legislative Report. Jones reported the Legislature is done for the summer as of May 10, 2018. This is called Sine Die.

VC Summer was a hot topic in the session this year and the Base Load Review act. To date, there is still not an approved budget. Jones said the rumor is no budget will be finalized until the general election. Jones said some call it inside baseball.

Jones said the off-season effort will begin in late fall. Jones said they need to check the pulse of the group regarding the Enabling Act of 1994.

Jones said he wanted to urge everyone in attendance to vote. It is very important to have legislators that back your issues in office. The only way to ensure the legislators with your best interests are in office is to vote.

Next, Allison King opened discussion for the pursuit of changes on the Enabling Act of 1994. As discussed in the last hour, the original thought was to hire a lawyer to read and dissect the enabling act of 1994. The cost for the lawyer was based on a per hour rate and the lawyer was unable to determine who many hours would be needed to completely and correctly review the document. At this point, King said the cost potential is prohibitive.

King asked Bobby Foster and Dennis Clinkscales to speak to the membership regarding the Enabling Act of 1994.

Foster began by reporting issues that are a common occurrence in Greenville County. Foster said while he is dealing with it in Greenville, it is affecting surveying in other places around the state. Allison King said she's received notification of issues in Greenville, Richland, Charleston, Berkeley and Horry Counties. Foster asked the meeting attendees if SCSPLS would have an issue with going to the legislature with our problems when filing a plat. Foster said this is an issue that needs to be addressed at the state level. Foster asked for others to comment on their issues.

Henry Dingle said he does not believe this is a state issue. He said this seems to be an issue in certain areas of the state, not the entire state.

Gene Dinkins said the issue with requiring additional information on the plat by the county or municipality is a SC State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors issue.

Foster again asked if SCSPLS has a problem with going forward with this "fight" against the counties and municipalities regarding the Enabling Act of 1994.

SCSPLS President Elect, Timothy Davis said he was a part of a meeting in a Senators Office with three SC House of Representative Members in February informing the legislators of the issue of the division of land and filing a plat. All of the legislators at the meeting agreed this is a problem and would like to help fix this issue.

Dennis Clinkscales met with the politician's partnership and had a long talk educating them on the issue of dividing property. In fact, Clinkscales said he was approached by the group to speak on the issue.

Clinkscales said this affects more groups other than the Surveyors. Clinkscales thinks an alliance can be formed with other groups with similar interests and motivations. He said this issue needs to be pushed to the citizens of SC. He thinks property rights groups in the state would be very interested in this issue as well. Clinkscales thinks if media is involved, it will help our cause. The more the citizens of SC are informed of the issue, the more likely SCSPLS will be able to get something done to the Enabling Act of 1994. Clinkscales said he would like to get a lawyer involved by reading the Enabling Act to see if this is feasible. There may be some wording there that needs to be fixed.

Mike Mills said he has no objection to a written list of items to be addressed. He said, as he sees it, the problems are with the interpretation of the people who enforce these acts. The problem is in the details. He thinks the language of the statute is broad enough and the problem is with the interpretation in the counties. He suggested surveyors provide base information.

Mills said it would be a more productive meeting with specific examples.

Bobby Foster asked if you have specific wording to submit to Allison King in the SCSPLS office. Foster said the committee with review and determine what needs the most clarification.

A motion was made to cease discussion until further information is presented. The motion was seconded and approved.

A motion was made to form a committee to collect data on the issue and report it to the meeting on Oct. 13, 2018. Dennis Clinkscales volunteered to head the committee with Bobby Foster and Tim Davis agreeing to serve on the committee as well.

Clinkscales again said a lawyer is needed to read the language in the Enabling Act of 1994. President Will Fairey said we need to determine if SCSPLS is going to pursue the issue before we hire a lawyer.

Clinkscales said we need feedback. Send your examples to Allison King.

Gene Dinkins said this will be addressed at the Board of Registration meeting in July. He asked that specific examples be sent to Allison King and she will forward to the Board. Allison King said she would advertise on the Friday Blast for people to send examples. Henry Dingle said we do not need a room full. He said only 4 or 5 examples are needed.

Dennis Clinkscales is worried about the December date for filing legislation if it is moved to the October meeting. Gene Dinkins said this is what was voted on.

Allison King said she would be brief. The Three-Year plan will begin during the late summer of 2018. We cannot make a change to the Mission Statement without changing the Constitution. I hope you will notice an increased presence on social media. Please like and/or share any posts you see. If you are on Facebook and you have not liked the SCSPLS page, please do so. The more activity we have, the more it will be seen by others.

Other Business:

CA Shealy said Chris Stone with Lexington County Flood Plain Management spoke at the Mid State Chapter. Shealy said effective July 5, the new FEMA maps will be on 88 Datum.

The final order of business for the meeting was the installation of the 2018-2019 South Carolina Society of Professional Land Surveyors Executive Board and three District Directors. Henry Dingle, NSPS representative swore in the following:

PRESIDENT – Timothy L. Davis, PLS, Timothy Davis, PLS, Loris, SC  
PRESIDENT-ELECT – Floyd A. Sweatt, Jr., PLS, SCDOT, McConnell's, SC  
VICE PRESIDENT – Nancy "Dee Dee" Schwacke, Bowman Consulting, Charleston, SC  
TREASURER – Christopher W. Bass, PLS, Carolina Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. Columbia, SC  
SECRETARY – C. A. Shealy, Shealy Land Surveying, Inc., Prosperity, SC

District Directors

District 2: George L. Bradley, Jr, PLS, Belter & Associates, Inc., Irmo, SC  
District 4: Dennis V. Clinkscales, PLS, Freeland-Clinkscales of NC, Spartanburg, SC  
District 6: Michael S. Culler, III, PLS, Culler Land Surveying, Surfside Beach, SC

Ex-Officio Board Member: Past President: F. William Fairey, IV, PLS, Spartina Land Surveying, Conway, SC

Newly sworn in SCSPLS President Tim Davis presented Will Fairey with a plaque and thanked him for all of his hard work in the society. Davis said he hopes to continue to move the Society forward and pledged to work hard for the group.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.44 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Allison King.