State Affiliate Report
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Dues Increase Proposal:
At the February Board of Directors meeting, the proposed NSPS dues increase was presented. The Board unanimously voted to approve a dues increase up to $10 per person. After presenting the reason for the dues increase, there was very little discussion, and the motion passed. One board member commented after the meeting, “It’s only $10.” Well said.

Member Correspondence:
The editor for the Michigan Surveyor, Carol Waite, has asked to step down from the position. It has been difficult to find a replacement. The board is evaluating reducing the publication from a quarterly publication to a yearly publication. In addition to the Michigan Surveyor, a new electronic publication, The President’s Report, reaches the members each month. It is believed that this is a much more effective and timely method of member communication.

Association Manager:
After a full year of working with an association manager, AMR, the board is pleased. AMR has brought a new perspective to board meetings, making the meetings more efficient and effective. AMR has also been instrumental in helping MSPS to improve its accounting practices.

MSAE Board Orientation Workshop:
The Michigan Society of Association Executives held an “Extraordinary Board Orientation” workshop as recommended by AMR. It is an 8-hour workshop with a focus to “arm board leaders with the tools to lead their organization with finesse and purpose.” More than half of the board has attended the workshop. As a result of this workshop the structure of the board meetings has evolved, and the flow of the board meetings is improved.

Michigan UAS Task Force:
Public Act 436 of 2016 created a 27-member task force to develop recommendations for the Governor regarding the use of UAV’s in Michigan. A member of the “state-wide surveying organization” was a required member of the task force and MSPS was able to appoint a member to the task force. The task
force met 6 times throughout the fall. Their efforts culminated in a 26-page report consisting of 13 recommendations. One of the recommendations included the creation of an advisory committee on the Michigan Aeronautical Commission. The advisory committee has been created and the six-member committee includes a MSPS member. The report can be viewed at:

TWIST – Teaching With Spatial Technology:
MSPS Sponsored a TwIST program in the summer of 2017. Twenty-four K-12 teachers from across Michigan spent a week at Michigan Technological University learning about spatial applications to enhance their teaching. A variety of surveying concepts including GIS and GPS were presented and lesson plans were provided. All attendees reportedly were quite pleased with the week and look forward to bring surveying and related spatial concepts into their classrooms.

Legislative Activity:
In the past month, there has been a flurry of activity. The Michigan Association of Register of Deeds (MARD) decided to introduce a package of bills intended to revise the recording process defined in many different recorded acts. Public Act 132, which is Michigan’s recorded survey act was affected. Currently, the act requires all recorded surveys to have a separate indexing system, and all recorded surveys are recorded in a separate location (filing cabinet). MARD wanted to include surveys in the same recording process as all other documents was not notified until the eleventh hour, at which time, revisions were hard to make. However, MSPS’ legislative committee was able to remove the proposed changes to the recording process. As a result, the senator sponsoring the MARD package of bills, agrees that it was unfair to MSPS and is willing to assist MSPS with a rewrite of PA 132.

Submitted by:

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NSPS Director – Michigan.