NSPS Director's Report – Wisconsin

February 2018

Wisconsin held its last membership meeting on January 25, 2018 in Lake Delton/Wisconsin Dells, WI, and held its BOD meeting on January 26th, 2018, same location. Here is a report of the most recent happenings in Wisconsin:

- **Gov't Affairs** – The Administrative codes for the minimum standards of property surveying in Wisconsin continues to be a hot topic. A panel discussion was held on January 26th to discuss each standard change that is proposed. Likewise, it was discussed how to approach the State Governor’s office regarding changes to the administrative codes. We are hopeful, but cautious as the last process introduced additional minimum standards that the professional surveyors collaboratively agreed were above minimum.

Likewise, the Gov’t Affairs committee has been busy working on legislation that would allow zoning departments to have the ability to use data that was approved by FEMA for a LOMA to be considered for permitting. There have been issues in the state where county zoning has not used accurate survey data from approved LOMA’s for zoning permits and have required landowners to go through the time and expense for an H & H study which can cost an individual upwards of $10k or more. The surveyors are asking that, if the survey data is accurate, the LOMA has been approved by FEMA, that the county have the ability to use that data when contemplating approval of a permit for building. This is in the early stages yet.

- **Nominations and Elections** – Wisconsin has had it’s first electronic election for the 2018 term, which was quite successful. The nominations were presented at the WSLS Summer membership meeting, and additional petition candidates were accepted until October. We had three candidates for President-elect and 3 candidates for two At-large positions. The election was completed through SurveyMonkey and was certified by a Teller’s Committee. Only 3 paper ballots were requested and counted. Likewise, the participation of voting increased by approximately 300% with nearly 300 ballots cast, where we would typically see about 70-100 ballots cast in previous years. An additional follow-up SurveyMonkey recently went out asking peoples’ opinions on the process used, the format, and other items relating to the procedure used for the election. Those results will be presented to the WSLS BOD at their meeting in March. All in all, I would call it a success! I have attached a copy of our current BOD roster.

- **45/90 Monument** – The construction of the monument is complete, with some additional work still being completed or improved upon, including the construction/maintenance of a pathway, fencing, landscaping, and other improvements to the site. This position is considered one of the four corners of the world, halfway between the equator and the North Pole, and one quarter of the way around the surface of the earth from the Greenwich Meridian. It is one of only 2 positions that fall on dry land, and the only one easily accessible, as the other falls in a mountain range in China. I suggest, if you are in the neighborhood, to stop in and visit!!!

- **Membership** – Our membership is holding steady at approximately 1,000 members. This includes all our membership categories, including, students, affiliates, sustaining, and CSTs.
• **NSPS Dues Increase** – At our December 2017 BOD meeting, there was much discussion and concern regarding the possible dues increase that NSPS may propose. There were questions raised regarding NSPS working more with trying to bring California and Arkansas on-board with 100% membership. If that was not likely, then NSPS should not allow the affiliate states to have non-voting representation at the NSPS BOD meetings. Other questions were raised and submitted to NSPS Treasurer Bob Miller. Additional supplemental information was presented to WSLS at the membership meeting in January and additional comments and questions were discussed regarding what the financials from 2011 and 2012 had to do with the financial burden that NSPS was feeling today. Lisa Van Horn and Jan Folkens were both present and provided additional comments to the WSLS membership regarding the possible dues increase. It was made clear that while the membership was generally in favor of a dues increase of $5-$10, there was still not enough information provided to make a definitive decision to support or oppose. WSLS is hopeful that more information will be provided to the NSPS state directors at the 2018 Spring meeting to make a better determination.

Our next WSLS board meeting is March 10th, 2018 in Rothschild, WI,

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Pierce, Wisconsin Director, WSLS

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**2018 Board of Directors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Past-President</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Robert Beifuss</td>
<td>Larry Miller</td>
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<tr>
<th>President-Elect</th>
<th>Treasurer</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Terry L Van Hout</td>
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<tr>
<th>At-Large Director</th>
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<tr>
<td>James M Baker</td>
<td>Joshua Prentice</td>
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