EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEES’ REPORTS
FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2018. LAS VEGAS, NV
Patrick Beehler, Chair

--External Affairs Chair
  • Patrick Beehler pjbeehler@comcast.net or pat.beehler@dnr.wa.gov
The chair of external affairs is responsible for eliciting semi-annual reports from the liaisons to other organizations with mutual interest in the geospatial community. Not all liaisons to those organizations respond with a report. Please review the list and if you are interested in taking on one of the positions let newly elected NSPS Vice-president Mark Sargent know.

REPORTS

--Liaison for American Association for Geodetic Surveying (AAGS)
  • David Doyle base9geodesy@gmail.com

NSPS-AAGS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT
  Prepared by
  David Doyle
  Base 9 Geodetic Consulting Services
  www.base9geodesy.com
  October 2, 2018

BACKGROUND:
The NSPS-AAGS Subcommittee is tasked with maintaining a continuing liaison with AAGS and to provide feedback to NSPS on any and all AAGS activities that can have broad benefit to NSPS membership

ACTIVITIES:
Since the last NSPS Directors meeting in March 2018, I have attended all of the monthly AAGS Board and General Membership teleconference meetings. During that time, the two items below are issues being pursued by AAGS that I believe are of significant interest to NSPS:

1. Geodetic Certification: The acting chair of the AAGS Education and Geodetic Certification committee, Dr. Herb Stoughton (WY) is in the process of reorganizing the committee. No specific action on Geodetic Certification has been advanced during since the previous report.

2. Association affiliations: Currently 11 states; Alaska ACSM section, Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont and Virginia have signed articles of affiliation along with the former ACSM Alaska Section. It is expected that California will shortly join this effort.

--Liaison for American Bar Association (ABA)
  • Charles Nettleman charles.nettleman@gmail.com
Liaison for American Consulting Engineers Council (ACEC)
- Henry Dingle henry.dingle@aecom.com

Liaison for Association of Petroleum Surveying and Geomatics (APSG)
- Cliff Mugnier cjmc@lsu.edu

Liaison for American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)
- Clifford Mugnier cjmc@lsu.edu

Liaison for Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Don Buhler dabuhler@msn.com

Liaison for Cartography and Geographic Information Society (CaGIS)
- John Russell jr_rsi@frontiernet.net

Liaison for County Surveyor Forum
- Ron Whitehead ronw@washco.state.ut.us

Liaison for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Danny Martinez danm.surveying@gmail.com
- James Nadeau jim@nadeaulandssurveys.com

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Report on Meeting of the Technical Mapping Advisory Council to FEMA September 25-26, 2018 – USGS Headquarters, Reston, VA
Submitted by Wendy Lathrop, PLS, CFM

The focus of this meeting was to bring the 2018 Annual Report to a point where the content was complete and approved by all Council members, with the exception of technical edits. Discussions were detailed, and at times heated, as changing wording could at time alter the focus of the material, and the differing perspectives had to be aligned for a consensus. What seems like inconsequential changes do in fact alter meanings as well, and being particular about words meant reminding some of our members of distinctions between terms. For instance, there is a slight but significant difference between the phrases “1% annual chance floodplain” and “Special Flood Hazard Area”. The first is defined by a particular annual probability of inundation, while the second is an area subject to a 1% or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

The process was high-pressured due to the impending October 1, 2018 expiration date of many TMAC member terms, some of whom were due to rotate off having completed the maximum allowable four years (as is my situation, with two 2-year terms) and some who are awaiting official reappointment for their second terms. While names and references have been submitted to the White House for vetting, no reviews have been completed, and there are several positions that have been awaiting approval of the new members since last October 1. (Apparently, the same White House office also vets political appointments, and those take precedence.) The result of this situation is that TMAC will not have a
quorum by which it will be able to function and fulfill its responsibilities as of October 1; there will only be 5 positions unaffected.

Because we are waiting for Jim Nadeau to be approved as my successor, he cannot vote or participate except as a “Subject Matter Expert”. Because my term is expiring, I am going to be in the same position as of next week. I will remain on as a Subject Matter Expert relating to the Subcommittee on which I have been serving until our chapter in the Annual Report is finalized, but will be unable to vote on it and will be unable to comment on any other sections of the overall Annual Report should they require any further review. Mike Grimm, who is Assistant Administrator of FEMA’s Rick Management Directorate, expressed grave concerns as FEMA moves forward in new directions based on TMAC;s prior input, and told us that FEMA is trying to come up with some kind of work-around.

--Liaison for International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)

- John Hohol jhohol@gmail.com

- REPORT ON ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS (FIG)

SUBMITTED September 28, 2018 BY JOHN HOHOL
NSPS LIAISON TO THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS (FIG)
NSPS HEAD OF DELEGATION TO FIG

At the XXVI FIG Congress held May 6-11 in Istanbul, Turkey NSPS submitted a bid to host the XXVII FIG Congress in 2022 in Orlando, Florida. A bid was also made by Cape Town, South Africa. Unfortunately, the Cape Town bid was the successful bid, by seven votes.

At the XXVI FIG Congress Dan Roman, Chief Geodesist for the National Geodetic Survey, was elected Chair of FIG Commission 5- Positioning and Measurement.

In conjunction with the NSPS Fall Business Meetings, the 3rd FIG Young Surveyors North American Meeting will be held jointly with the NSPS Young Surveyors Network on October 17-18. The meeting is being supported and hosted by the Maryland Society of Surveyors at the Marriott Hotel & Convention Center in College Park, Maryland.

Schedule of future FIG conference venues:
2019 FIG Working Week- Hanoi, Vietnam
2020 FIG Working Week- Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2021 FIG Working Week- Accra, Ghana
2022 XXVII FIG Congress- Cape Town, South Africa

Other international activities involving NSPS
On November 13-17, NSPS will participate in a surveying competition with a delegation of surveyors from China, arranged in cooperation with the Beijing Municipal Federation of Trade Unions in China. This Sino-American surveying competition will be the first time Chinese or American surveyors will participate in such an event.

The competition will focus on surveying activities common to both teams. The “field” portion of the competition will be conducted on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The “written” portion of the competition will be 100 short-answer questions agreed upon by the Chinese and US delegation leaders. Trimble has agreed to provide technical and field support along with surveying technology, in both Mandarin and English, for use in the competition as well as sponsoring the closing competition recognition and reception.
Each side’s team will consist of 18 surveyors participating in four surveying activities:
- GNSS
- Leveling
- Traverse
- Vertical Angle Observations

--- Liaison for Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO)
  - Curtis Sumner curtis.sumner@nsps.us.com

--- Liaison for International Right-of-Way Association (IRWA)
  - Robert Armstrong robert_t_armstrng@nps.gov

--- Liaison for MAPPS
  - Vacant

--- Liaison for National Geodetic Survey (NGS)
  - David Doyle base9geodesy@gmail.com

--- Liaison for National Society of Professional Surveyors Foundation
  - Jan Fokens charjan@me.com

--- Liaison for Professional Surveyors Canada (PSC)
  - Patrick Beehler pjbeehler@comcast.net

SUBMITTED September 28, 2018 BY PATRICK BEEHLER, PLS, CFedS, F-NSPS
NSPS LIAISON TO PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS CANADA

I remain in contact with PSC and receive their monthly e-newsletter “Horizon News”. Their website is https://www.psc-gpc.ca/
Their contact information is:
  Professional Surveyors Canada - Géomètres professionnels du Canada | 900 rue Dynes Road, Suite/Bureau 101B, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3L6 Canada

There have been no recent “face to face” meetings of the PSC executive committee; they conduct their business via video conferencing. When they have their next face-to-face meeting, I will arrange to attend.

--- Liaison for Society for Mining Metallurgy & Exploration (SMME)
  - Carl C de Baca ccdebaca@lumosinc.com

--- Liaison for Surveyors Historical Society (SHS)
  - Richard Leu richleu@yahoo.com
--Liaison for NSPS Young Surveyors N.A.
  • Chris Glantz  hrisglantz@gmail.com