



# Oregon

**State Board of Examiners for  
Engineering & Land Surveying**

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## EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

February 14, 2014

### Members present:

James Doane, Chair

Ken Hoffine

### Staff present:

Mari Lopez, Administrator

Jenn Gilbert, Executive Assistant

Joy Pariente

### Others present:

Katharine Lozano, Assistant Attorney General

Anne Hillyer (Observer)

Sue Newstetter (Observer)

The meeting of the External Relations Committee was called to order at 1:35 p.m. in the OSBEELS Conference Room at 670 Hawthorne Avenue SE, Suite 220, Salem, OR 97301.

### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

### **Oregon Examiner Articles**

The Committee reviewed four articles for the upcoming *Oregon Examiner*:

- [Military education and experience evaluation options available](#)
- [Changes to requirements for modifying designs and documents](#)
- [Running lines by the sun](#)
- Land surveying topics recently discussed by the Board

The Committee recommends the Board approve the top three articles. There was additional discussion on the article, Land surveying topics recently discussed by the Board. Mr. Doane suggested moving the portion on verbal permission versus written notice, as per Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 672.047, to the beginning of the article, as he believed it was more pertinent to the practice of land surveying than the explanation of the provisions and restrictions of ORS 215.080.

Mr. Hoffine asked AAG Lozano for a clarification on the definition of "land," as used in ORS 672.047. He said there have been a number of discussions at the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon (PLSO) meetings about whether or not the permission versus notice requirement applies to public lands. AAG Lozano said plain text interpretation would indicate that it means any land,

but she offered to conduct additional research regarding the intended definition when the statute was enacted. Ms. Newstetter said she disagrees with the land restriction indicated by the plain text interpretation. She said federal lands are open to the public without limitation. AAG Lozano said that, while trespass laws specify applicability to non-public lands only, ORS 672.047 does not. Ms. Newstetter asked if “land” in ORS 672.047 could be clarified by rule as meaning private land. The Committee agreed that AAG Lozano should conduct additional research on the legislative history of ORS 672.047.

Ms. Lopez asked how this topic came up as a point of discussion at a PLSO meeting, as privilege had not yet been waived on the AAG opinion discussing permission versus notice. Mr. Hoffine said he didn’t realize that privilege hadn’t been waived. Ms. Lopez explained that the Board had chosen to retain privilege on the opinion, but draft a newsletter article summarizing the information contained in the opinion that was most valuable to the land surveying community. AAG Lozano pointed out that a Board member discussing the opinion in a public forum waives that privilege. Ms. Lopez said she would ensure the waiver of privilege was discussed at the next Board meeting to have the information put on record.

The Committee determined to postpone making a recommendation on this article until AAG Lozano’s research is complete and the Board can communicate a clear definition of which lands are covered under ORS 672.047. There was no further discussion.

### **Social Media and Web Update**

Ms. Pariante informed the Committee that it has been one year since OSBEELS’ Facebook page became active. During that year, the page amassed 118 fans, resulting in more than 15,000 potential contacts through fan friend networks. Staff have been promoting the Facebook page on their business cards, email signature blocks, on [www.oregon.gov/osbeels](http://www.oregon.gov/osbeels) and on items distributed by OSBEELS. The top posts of the year contained information on renewals, CPD requirements, audits and examinations. There was no additional discussion.

### **2014 OSBEELS Symposium**

Staff suggested September 19, 2014 at the Salem Conference Center in Salem for the 2014 OSBEELS Symposium. Ms. Pariante reported only one response from a registrant regarding suggestions for date or location. Ms. Newstetter said the date should work because it is before the start of hunting season, which causes conflict for a number of registrants. Additionally, she said along the I-5 corridor is the location most easily accessible for a majority of registrants. The Committee reviewed a list of [potential session topics](#) for the event. Mr. Doane noted that the topic of Land Administration for Sustainable Land Development is particularly relevant, as the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) is pushing for areas such as this to be included in the required knowledge for individuals taking the civil engineering PE examination. The Committee also suggested speakers for the topic of UAVs for Photogrammetric Aerial Mapping. Mr. Doane said there are also remote water crafts being used for surveying applications. Ms. Pariante noted that any suggestions from Board members for speakers or topics would be greatly appreciated. There was no further discussion.

The Committee discussed a [request from David Bassett](#) for OSBEELS participation in a planning committee for topics for future Professional Engineers of Oregon (PEO) conferences. Mr. Bassett said this planning committee would ensure there aren’t repetitive course offerings at the symposium and the PEO conference and would allow PEO and OSBEELS to share topics and speakers that aren’t used, due to time constraints. **The Committee recommends the Board approves participation in a planning committee and designate which Board and Staff**

**members should be involved.** PLSO will also be invited to participate. There was no further discussion.

The final topic of discussion related to the symposium was the option of hosting a software engineering forum around the time of the symposium. Ms. Newstetter said the consideration of adding software engineering as a branch examined and licensed by the Board has been the topic of a number of discussions at the Professional Practices Committee (PPC). She said PPC would be presenting the information gathered on this subject to the Board for review and discussion. Staff proposed a midday forum the day prior to the symposium. AAG Lozano mentioned that there may be more participants if the forum is scheduled after work hours. She also noted that Beaverton is more centrally located to the centers of software activity. Mr. Hoffine and Ms. Newstetter agreed that a later time and a location close to Beaverton would increase participation from the software community. After discussion, the Committee determined to begin planning two software engineering discussion forums – one on the day prior to the symposium in Salem after work hours and another on a Tuesday after work hours in Wilsonville or Beaverton. There was no further discussion.

### **PLSO Magazine Advertisement**

Ms. Pariante reported that Staff were contacted by the publishing company responsible for *The Oregon Surveyor*, a publication of PLSO, about advertising in upcoming issues. The Committee agreed that [information regarding the symposium](#) would be the best use of advertising space and would serve to inform more members of the surveying community of the annual CPD event. The Committee also agreed on Staff's suggestion of [purchasing a 1/3 square advertising space](#). Committee members debated whether it would be better to run a single advertisement or run two advertisements leading up to the symposium. Mr. Hoffine said he didn't see a reason for running the same advertisement twice. Mr. Doane said he agreed with advertising, but thought people should have the opportunity to register as soon as advertising begins. Ms. Pariante explained that the advertising was to increase awareness of the event to allow people to schedule around the symposium well in advance of the date. Registration is scheduled to begin in July. Mr. Doane said his concern is people being interested in the event, but forgetting to register if there is a significant time between advertising and the start of registration. Staff assured Mr. Doane that there will be a number of different registration reminders online, in the newsletter and via mail. After discussion, the Committee recommends the Board approve purchasing a 1/3 square advertisement in *The Oregon Surveyor* for the May/June and July/August issues.

### **Speaking Engagements**

Ms. Pariante reported that Staff members from the Regulation and Accounts Departments gave presentations at the PLSO Conference on January 24, 2014 and are scheduled to give presentations at the PEO Conference May 8-9, 2014. PEO requested that the Accounts Department presentation focus on the importance of CPDs and audits, as it is of significant interest to PEO members. Staff believes the topic of the importance of CPDs may be more effective if presented by a Board member who could speak on behalf of the Board while explaining why continuing professional development courses are critical to maintaining appropriate competency levels. A speech regarding the history of CPD requirements in Oregon and the purpose of these requirements could be prepared by Staff for Board member use at the conference. **The Committee recommends the Board discuss member involvement with this presentation and, if the Board supports involvement, identify a member to speak at the conference.** There was no further discussion.

### **Mission, Functions and Goals**

The Committee reviewed its [Mission, Functions and Goals](#), last adopted January 2011. Ms. Pariante indicated that a number of updates were needed to the document to accurately reflect the goals achieved by the Committee and changes in functions. After discussion, the Committee recommends the Board approve the amended Mission, Functions and Goals. There was no further discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.