
**Maryland Board for Professional
Land Surveyors Business Meeting**
Meeting Minutes

DATE: February 7, 2024

TIME: 11:00 AM

LOCATION: 1100 N. Eutaw St.
5th Floor Conference Room
Baltimore, MD 21201
(Teleconference via Google Meet)

MEMBERS PRESENT: John V. Mettee III, *Chair*
Tammy Rollins, *Vice-Chair*
Thomas Orisich, *Land Surveyor*
T.J. Frazier, *Land Surveyor*
Jeanne Nebre, *Land Surveyor*
Derrick McLaughlin, *Consumer Member*

STAFF PRESENT: Zevi Thomas, *Executive Director*
Matthew Venuti, *Board Counsel*
Faith Green, *Board Administrator*

OTHERS PRESENT: Bryan Haynie, PLS, *Maryland Society of Surveyors*

Meeting Called to Order

Chair John V. Mettee III called the business meeting of the Maryland Board for Professional Land Surveyors at 11:06 a.m.

Approval of January 3, 2024 Minutes

Members of the Board reviewed the meeting minutes for January 3, 2024. Motion (I) was made by Ms. Rollins, seconded by Mr. Orisich, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve minutes without corrections.

Correspondence

Dronelife publication: Mapping Article

The case centers around a challenge to a North Carolina restriction on the creation of aerial maps by drone operators. Mr. Orisich stated that the recent regulations changes passed by this Board discourage such conflicts or claims of First Amendment violations. In Maryland, individuals drone operators can conduct mapping, but they cannot perform land surveys. Mr. Mettee agreed with Mr. Orisich assessment that the recently revised regulations address the issues of drone mapping.

New Business

None

Old Business

Ad-hoc Committee

Ms. Nebre informed the Board that the committee met in January, and is set to meet again in February. She hopes to give recommendations to the Board within the coming months.

Legislative Session

Mr. Mettee stated that he spoke with Mr. Bower, from the Maryland Society of Surveyors, who confirmed that the organization will continue to push for the Criminal and Civil Trespass bill current before the Marland Legislature.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Thomas informed the Board that the Office of the Secretary has provided a citation to Mr. Jim Demma for Mr. Demma's years of service in support of this Board's initiatives.

The Board Sunset extension has been introduced before the Legislature and has received its first reading.

Mr. Thomas inquired to Board members if they had received the by-laws for the upcoming National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Northeast Zone Interim meeting.

Board Counsel Report

Mr. Venuti reported that the final action for regulations to increase fees will start on February 13, 2024. The Board will be able to act at the March board meeting.

Mr. Ventui reported that the Maryland Apprenticeships in Licensed Occupations Act, which is in legislative review, could affect the Board's regulations. The Maryland Apprenticeships in Licensed Occupations Act requires professional and regulatory boards to issue licenses, certifications, registrations to those who complete an apprenticeship program.

Mr. Orisich responded that currently the Board does not have a Surveyor-In-Training designation after taking the Fundamentals of Surveying exam as other states. If the Act passes, the board may want to revisit such designation.

Maryland Society of Surveyors

Mr. Haynie reported the following:

- The Maryland Society of Surveyors is currently pursuing the Criminal and Civil Trespass bill which has been introduced in both the House and Senate.

- A Technical Conference will be held on March 1, 2024.
A Political action fundraiser and tribute to Jim Demma, will be held on February 20, 2024.

Review of Applications

Mr. Frazier stated the review of applications is ongoing.

Complaint Committee Report

Mr. Orsich reported the following:

- 12-LS-23: The technical review has been received, and will be discussed during the Complaint Committee meeting in March.
- 01-LS-24: Requesting additional evidence from the complainant.

Motion (II) was made Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Ms. Rollins, and unanimously accepted by the Board to approve the Complaint Committee report.

Adjournment

Mr. Mettee stated that he made an inquiry to NCEES to assist with the review of the Colonial mapping exam for exam items that may be obsolete. The Colonial States could schedule this this topic during the NCEES Northeast Zone meeting this summer.

Mr. Mettee also reminded members of the board of the annual financial disclosure with the Maryland State Ethics Commission.

There being no further business to discuss, Motion (III) was made by Mr. Frazier, seconded by Ms. Nebre, and unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

Chair's Signature: Signature on File

Date: 03/06/2024