



Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors North West Area – Chapter II

Meeting Minutes

April 23rd, 2009
Blueberry Pines Golf Club
Menahga, MN

Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Attending Members: Dan Skinner, Roger Forcelle, Gary Harris, Cindy Hidde, Steve Holm, Russell Kastle, Bob Kovanen, David Landecker, Tom Miller, Lowell Schellack, Curt Skarphol

Reports:

- Minutes of January 29th, 2009, meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.
- Treasurer's Report – Balance of checking and savings accounts as of April 6th, 2009 was \$2,686.80.
- Membership Report:
 - Chapter II currently has 54 paid and Life members. Two of these are new members to Chapter II. There are also 3 former members who were not members in 2008, but who have returned to membership in 2009.
- MSPS President's Report – Lowell Schellack:
 - MSPS Human Resources Committee – Recently implemented new 1-year contract with Ewald Consulting.
 - Lowell will meet May 1st with MSPS Lobbyist Nancy Haas. She is an attorney with the law firm of Messerli and Kramer. MSPS contract with Messerli and Kramer will end in October. Looking to work out renewal. Have been 2-year contracts in the past. M & K handles not only lobbying for MSPS, but also legal advice and services. Their services include advising MSPS on legislative matters, such as the recent Chapter 505 revisions. Cost is \$33,000 per year currently – About 10% of MSPS budget. The lobbying and services M & K have provided over the years has been very worthwhile to MSPS & the membership and profession.
 - MSPS Annual Meeting – Attendance was down this year, as was net revenue. Net revenue for Annual Meeting (excluding seminar) in 2008 was \$ 92,242, this year \$64, 470.
 - MSPS has good financial reserves at this time – no concern yet for cuts or dues increases
 - MSPS Board has approved a Traveling Trophy for Trig-Star to be awarded to the school with the highest average among the top 10 students from each school
- Chapter 505 Manual Update Committee Report – Bob Kovanen:
 - Bob, Lowell Schellack, David Landecker, and Ted Kemna are on Committee
 - Bob is completing final edit
 - Dan Skinner and 8 others will then complete a final review
 - Various County and City people are pushing for the manual's prompt completion
- President's Report – Dan Skinner:
 - Death of Chapter II member Todd Johnson from cancer. Todd leaves a wife and 3 daughters. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.
 - Discussion Item – Dan is seeking input on a fundraiser possibility for MLS Foundation. He's looking at the possibility of selling Monument Marker signs to surveyors. Dan had a sample sign along. Bumper stickers, decals, or stamped survey washers were suggested as other possibilities.
 - Discussion Item – Dan is aware of an unlicensed individual that is possibly crossing the line by conducting survey work that should only be done by an RLS. Dan is wondering how to approach the issue. Suggestion was to talk to the individual to make him aware of the problem. If that doesn't work, then bring a complaint to the State Board of Registration. We as licensed surveyors have committed in our Code of Ethics we signed when licensed, to report any unlicensed activity.
 - Dan would like to see a joint cross-border meeting between MSPS Chapter II and North Dakota Society of Professional Surveyor Chapters on the North Dakota side, and will continue discussions with the two border ND Chapters.

Old Business:

- Chapter II Geocache Project – The three sites set by Russell Kastle and registered on www.geocaching.com have been logging visits. Russell is in the process of moving a fourth cache to a location that will be acceptable for registration, and is planning on establishing caches in several other counties.

New Business:

- Trig-Star – Matching funds are again available from MSPS. It is anticipated that Chapter II member's will again host events in four area high schools. Motion was made for Chapter II to give \$200 prize money at each of the four schools (with the expectation that MSPS will reimburse Chapter II \$100 for each \$200 given). Motion approved.
- Chapter II Fishing event – tentative date June 11th or 18th – Bob Kovanen will line up the event with the resort. Motion to set fee to attend at \$35 per attendee. Motion approved.
- Motion to approve Myron Landecker for Life Membership in Chapter II. Motion Approved.
- September Chapter II Meeting – September 24th in Walker. David & Bob will ask Terry to set up
 - Possible Golf outing beforehand
 - Possible 1 hour Continuing Education Session – Power Point Presentation on Ethics by State Board of Registration

For the Good of the Order:

- MSPS Summer Meeting – Winona – July 23 & 24th. Golf and Continuing Education
 - Possible Joint Board Meeting between MSPS and MN Assoc. of County Engineers

5:55 p.m. - Motion to adjourn. Dinner followed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Curtis A. Skarphol
Secretary