

**Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 6, 2006  
Four Points Sheraton, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

1. Call to order

President Byron W. Rimmer, PLS called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Byron W. Rimmer, PLS .....	President
Randall R. Myers, PLS .....	President-Elect
Emil A. Bove, PLS .....	Vice President
Richard L. Phillips, PLS .....	Secretary
Ralph E. Piatt, PLS .....	Treasurer
Dennis L. Burkhart, PLS .....	Immediate Past President
Robert R. Miller, PLS .....	NSPS Governor
Donald E. Rife, PLS .....	State Director, Bucks Chapter and Past President
Karl E. Kriegh, PLS .....	State Director, Delaware Valley Chapter
Thomas W. Kimmel, PLS .....	State Director, Harrisburg Chapter
Fred M. Henry, PLS .....	State Director, Mid-State Chapter
Steven J. Maley, PLS .....	State Director, North Central Chapter
Jeffrey P. Gilmore .....	State Director, Northwest Chapter
John G. Fuehrer, II, PE, PLS .....	State Director, Reading Chapter and Education Chair
L. Bradley Foltz PLS .....	State Director, South Central Chapter
Thomas Farcht, Jr., PLS .....	State Director, South Central Chapter
Kevin P. Hannegan, PLS .....	State Director, Southwest Chapter

Guests:

Douglas A. Kramer, PLS .....	Past President and Public Relations Chair
Daniel K. Lake, PE, PLS .....	Past President and Public Relations Chair
Daniel J. Martone, PE, PLS .....	Exam Subcommittee Chair
Thomas A. Seybert, Ph.D., PE .....	Penn State Wilkes-Barre
Charles D. Ghilani, Ph.D. ....	Penn State Wilkes-Barre
Justin Jon Brezovsky .....	Penn State Wilkes-Barre President, Student Chapter
John G. Van Natta, II .....	Executive Director
Andrew J. Hilt .....	Director of Government Relations
Shari L. Taylor .....	Assistant Executive Director

3. Minutes of Last Board of Directors Meeting

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on July 14, 2006– passed.

4. PLS Reports

a. President’s Report

President’s report attached.

Rimmer reported he was invited by Chuck Ghilani last Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at Penn State Wilkes Barre Campus to speak to the senior class and any other students that come into the classroom. Chuck thought it would benefit the students to know about PLS. The class went from 12:00 to 12:50. He told the students all about the society and mentioned that they are our future. The class asked a lot of questions and he thought it was well worth the time spent getting together with them. He has a past graduate that works for him; and brought him along to tell the students that there is life after graduation. He is doing a seminar on GPS at the conference.

Rimmer told how all the students are doing. At the April 2006 exam, the Fundamentals and the Principles and Practice exam, there was a 100% passing rate by all five students. Only one student took the Fundamentals exam only, he also passed. The six seniors did pretty well. The President of the student chapter, Justin Jon Brezovsky wanted to let him know that they want to help out at the conference in Hershey.

b. Treasurer's Report

Piatt explained the Treasurer's report. He reported that the 2007 dues notices have been mailed and the 2005 tax returns have been completed. A new credit card terminal has been purchased that will help reduce the credit card processing costs. It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report --passed.

c. Membership Action

i. New Members

It was moved and seconded to approve the new members as presented – passed. Members are encouraged to let PSLs know when someone passes the exam because they are entitled to a free membership for one year.

d. NSPS Governor

Miller reported an increase in membership by 5% and the programs are running well. Trigstar approached the appropriations committee to ask for \$35,000 but the committee wants a budget submitted with cost estimates of \$1 or \$2 million to fund a full time staff and introduce the program in every school. Applications for scholarships are to be modeled after Pennsylvania's Foundation Scholarship application. At the Great Lakes Council meeting the Ohio Governor spoke about the success of their 4 year surveying program at Akron, Ohio. Miller circulated information about the Geo Caching program. Containers containing trinkets are found with GPS. Trinkets are usually inexpensive things like state pins with the person taking one and leaving one. They later log onto a web site and record their visit. The Surveying Museum is looking for exhibits and banners. Pennsylvania is one of the 10 states that do not have a banner displayed at the museum. The PR Committee will get a price for a banner for the Museum of Surveying. A new liability insurance program is being offered. Those interested can call Joe Dolan who said he saved \$12,000 with the new insurance program. Testing sites for the CST program were encouraged.

5. Recess for Committee meetings

6. Reconvene the meeting

7. Board of Directors Discussion and /or Action

a. Bylaw Amendment

Kramer reviewed the bylaw amendment that was to the Board of Directors on July 14, 2006 for action at the next Board of Directors meeting to delete the Italic and Underlined portions.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the following bylaw changes (italic and underlined deleted):

Article V – Section 3 Election and Term of Officers 3.2 Nominations

The Society nominating Committee will present its nominations of officers of the Society for the ensuing year to the Secretary no later than November 1. *The Nominating Committee's report will be sent to the Voting Members of the Society or published in the Society's Professional Journal prior to the first Membership Meeting of each year. Additional nominations for officers may be made no later than November 1. No person so nominated will be put on the ballot for the election of officers unless his/her candidacy has been sponsored by at least ten (10) members eligible to vote and the candidate has agreed to serve if elected.*

Article IX – Committees Section 1.2 Duties

(j). Nominating Committee The Chairman should be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Society. No Society Officer shall be a member of this committee. *The Committee shall nominate one (1) candidate for each Society Office to be voted for at the Annual Meeting* This committee shall be composed of three (3) Members, representative of separate geographical areas of the State– passed.

Mr.. Kramer mentioned that the next task on the by-laws committee would be to prepare a standard set of Chapter by-laws for consideration of the individual Chapters. He asked the Chapters to forward copies of their by-laws to him to help him in the preparation of such Chapter by-laws. He also noted his concern of what liabilities PSLs may have relative to Chapters acting unilaterally without state confirmation of actions and that perhaps the by-laws, both state and chapter, should address responsibilities and liabilities between the state and chapters.

b. Government Affairs

Burkhart encouraged chapters to look at the PSLs legislative goals list for update and prioritizing. Some new people have expressed interest in joining the committee. Members are encouraged to bring specific proof of a complaint to Andy Hilt. Hilt said the Government Affairs committee should meet to discuss some issues such as right of entry and survey caps. The NSPS has a model law on right of entry with 27 other states having it. The continuing education bill has passed the Senate and is in

the professional licensing committee. Hilt may ask for letters to be sent. He will give points to include in the letters but will not provide a form letter because it will not get the favorable attention from legislators that individual letters will receive.

c. Special Recognition and Awards

Henry reported that nomination for Surveyor of the Year forms and Distinguished Service Award forms have been mailed. Chapters are encouraged to participate in awards. Awards will be presented at the conference.

8. Other business

The South Central and Harrisburg Chapters are interested in the process for a merge of the two chapters.

The PA Surveyor newsletter will be out next week. Letters to the editor or an article or response to a letter to the editor by the President or Executive Director or a response from other members will be included if received. PSLS will be taking advertising and will be included in the PA Surveyor in the 2007 issues.

Chapter reports are due for the Conference notebooks and are to be presented at the Annual Meeting at the conference.

9. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting – passed

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard L. Phillips, PLS  
Secretary

## PSLS Committee Meeting

### a. Exam Subcommittee

Martone explained that the committee prepares 30 test questions for the 2 hour state specific portion of the exam. PSLS has a contract with PCS, the testing agency, and receives \$6,000 per set of exam questions or \$12,000 per year. The committee is a subcommittee of the Education Committee and has two meetings a year in February and August to review prior exam questions and prepare forthcoming exam questions. Dr. Plut is the academic advisor to the committee. He is a test development expert and prepares a report on how the exam questions went, the difficulty of the exam, and the effectiveness of the questions. PSLS owns the exam and the bank of questions for security reasons. Committee members prepare questions on assigned topics in advance and bring to the meeting. The test averages less than 50 examinee candidates, mostly from out of state. Examinees can bring an approved calculator.

### b. Education Committee

Fuehrer reported that the 2007 conference brochure was completed and approved for publication. The brochure will be available on the web site next week. The registration form can be printed and sent in. There is a featured workshop, First Contact with Wendy Lathrop on Monday morning which is a 2 hour for credit workshop. To comply with continuing education requirements speakers have been asked to update courses. The exam overview and stormwater courses have been changed to meet current needs. The three workshop seminar in September had a low attendance. One speaker called but the seminar made a little money. Chapters can sponsor a seminar if they have 15-20 people interested in a topic. The state office will get a speaker, place and other details but will need 9 months to a year prior notice.

c. GPS/Geodetic and Geodetic and GIS Committees will be presented at the next Board of Directors meeting.

### d. Public Relations

Lake reported that the Foundation sent 4 posters and student applications to all 16 PSLS chapters. Applications can also be found on the PSLS website. Applications for scholarships are down. The group is encouraged to approach high school guidance or math teachers. Storybooks need to be reordered. The Public Relations committee met this morning.