



Survey Committee Meeting Report

February 21, 2024 | 1:00 p.m.

Teams Meeting (virtual) & SeaTac (in-person)

Virtually via Microsoft Teams:

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Meeting ID: 246 699 200 923

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Phone Conference ID: 140 122 608#

In person:

Radisson Hotel Seattle Airport
Orcas Room
18118 International Boulevard
Seattle, WA, 98188

Committee: Aaron Blaisdell, PLS (Committee Chair)
James Wengler, PLS, CFedS
Dave Peden, PE, SE

Support staff: Kristina Horton, PLS, Deputy Director
Shanan Gillespie, Regulatory Program Manager
Jill Short, Compliance Manager
Bryce Dickinson, Administrative Assistant
Mackenzie Wherrett, Executive Assistant
Ken Fuller, Director

Guests: Paul Galli, PLS
Walt Dale, PLS
Timothy Kinder

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Discussion topics

- Jill Short presented a table showing the breakdown of PDH credits, per categories in WAC 196-16-120, of the 14 Professional Land Surveyor PDH audits between November 2023 and the week prior to this committee meeting. Jill also presented a summary of the PDH requirements in the other states in the NCEES Western Zone. There was discussion about moving forward with a CR-101 to explore refreshing WAC 196-16-120. Shanan Gillespie said she would see if the currently active CR-101 for WAC 196 can be updated/amended to add this portion to it. There was discussion about relevancy of the categories, and what categories are being used the most (per the audits).
- Shanan Gillespie presented a DRAFT version of WAC 196-16 with proposed revisions for Board members to review. There was discussion about replacing the word “specific” in reference to “State

Specific Exam” with a more appropriate word to clarify the WAC language. Once the committee Board members send Shanana their comments, she will compile them for presentation to the committee at the next committee meeting in April.

- There was discussion on whether to proceed with the proposed change to WAC 196-19-110, or not. Committee Board member, James Wengler, proposed to halt any further activity on proposed changes to this WAC at this time, but to keep the CR-101 open for future possible changes. The other committee members agreed and will recommend James’ suggestion to the Board. The committee members also asked Shanana or Ken to ask the AAG to provide a report on a past case where a Judge had a specific interpretation of this WAC.
- The Committee members reviewed and discussed an inquiry letter provided by a Professional Land Surveyor, concerning professional judgment versus jurisdictional requirements. The committee members asked Kris Horton to draft a reply letter stating that the Board has no regulatory authority over subdivision laws, but that the Professional Land Surveyor does have professional discretion and should work with the jurisdiction to educate and resolve the issue.

Strategic Planning Items

- Determine the pathways to state specific PLS exam.
 - There was discussion on this topic and an update from staff about the process that’s been started to beta test Washington State PLS Exam questions that have been created, updated (if needed), and ready to implement. It was discussed that the beta testing is needed to create two (2) new exam forms that would be defensible.
 - There was discussion about the Exam Policy that staff is working on creating.
- Work with DNR on proposed update of Survey Recording Act (RCW 58.09) and associated WACs and RCWs. Engage with appropriate stakeholders.
 - No discussion

Action Items

- This committee will recommend to the Board that a CR-101 be opened, or an existing one amended, for refreshing WAC 196-16-120 Units (PDH).
- Shanana Gillespie or Ken Fuller will contact the AAG for the Wright case report.
- This committee will recommend to the Board to table any further action of proposed changes to WAC 196-29-110, for now.
- Kris Horton will respond to the inquire letter from the Professional Land Surveyor.
- Kris Horton will create a sign-up sheet/ method of signing up for beta testers, to be used at the LSAW conference next week.
- Shanana Gillespie will provide a timeline for the project to create two (2) new WA State PLS Exam forms.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.