



## Practice Committee Meeting Report

June 12, 2024 | 2:30 p.m.

**Field Arts and Events Hall  
The McGraw Room  
201 W Front Street  
Port Angeles, Washington 98362  
(Virtual)**

### Committee

Ivan VanDeWege, PE, Chair  
Doug Hendrickson, PE  
Aaron Blaisdell, PLS

### Guest(s)

Jim Wengler, PLS, CFedS  
Marjorie Lund, PE, SE  
Dave Peden, PE, SE  
Jeff Dugan, PLS

### Staff

Ken Fuller, PE, Director  
Kristina Horton, PLS, Deputy Director  
Jill Short, Investigations & Compliance Manager  
Shanan Gillespie, Regulatory Manager  
Mackenzie Wherrett, Executive Assistant  
Vonna Cramer, Licensing Lead  
Greg Schieferstein, Communications Manager  
Bryce Dickison, Administrative Assistant  
Elizabeth Lagerberg, Advising AAG

## 1. Complaint/Administrative Closure Summaries

<b>Total Complaints Received</b>	<b>14</b>
Engineering Complaints	8
Surveying Complaints	6
On-Site Designer Complaints	0
<b>Total Administrative Closures</b>	<b>2</b>
Engineering Closures	1
Surveying Closures	1
On-Site Designer Closures	0

## 2. Compliance Report/Noncompliance Report

Ms. Short reported there are currently 3 individuals on compliance monitoring (Kent Huxel; Clifton Berkey, PE; and Steven Morta, PE).

The Court of Appeals (COA) affirmed the superior court’s dismissal of Mr. Huxel’s petition and agreed the petition was not served on the Board in a timely manner. Mr. Huxel has additional opportunities to appeal and our AAG expects he will, but for now the case is dismissed.

Mr. Huxel has 20 days for reconsideration by the COA and 30 days for an appeal to the Supreme Court.

Mr. Berkey and Mr. Morta are both in compliance with their board order.

Ryan Hawkins and Russell Bodge are on the Noncompliance Report for continued monitoring.

### **3. RCW 18.43 Task Force Update**

An update was given on the work done by the task force. Minor edits were made as approved by the Board and also with changes to ask for 3 pro-tem board members, with the possibility of 1 of those 3 to be an on-site septic system designer.

The Practice Committee is recommending the Board approve the edits as presented and move forward with stakeholder meetings and the BEARS process.

### **4. Interagency Agreement (MOU) with WSDOT Update**

Jim Wengler and Kris Horton met with representatives from DNR and WSDOT to discuss the outdated interagency agreement. Representatives from WSDOT are going to research the current laws and their procedures.

Another meeting is scheduled for June 17<sup>th</sup> and the PC will be updated at their next meeting.

### **5. PDH Audits Update**

Staff gave an update on the current audits of PLS'. Staff have been able to get the report for licensees who have been audited through Polaris. The automatic notices sent out by Polaris will be updated with the correct language and reporting directions. As of May 2024, 22 licensed PLS' have been selected for a random audit and 6 have been audited through the complaint process.

The Survey Committee will be looking at the individual units within the WAC for relevance. Also they will be reviewing if the qualifying units should require a minimum or maximum total number per year.

### **6. Feedback Assessment of Complaint Process**

Staff gave a demonstration of the complaint process questionnaire. There are two different paths for the questionnaire depending on whether they were the complainant or the respondent.

The PC agreed to move forward with going live on the questionnaire and staff will report back results at future PC meetings.

## **Recommendations to the Board**

- Approve the language with the minor edits to RCW 18.43 and the addition of one pro-tem board member.

## **Action Items:**

- None

**Strategic Planning Goals:**

Feedback Assessment of Complaint Process - Completed