



## Survey Committee Meeting

December 11, 2024, 8:00 am – 9:30 am

### Virtually via Microsoft Teams:

#### [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 226 530 996 469

Passcode: UH8xmT

#### Dial in by phone

[+1 564-999-2000,,590943026#](tel:+15649992000590943026) United States,  
Olympia

[\(833\) 322-1218,,590943026#](tel:8333221218590943026) United States (Toll-free)

#### [Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 590 943 026#

### In person:

BRPELS Office  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room  
605 11<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Olympia, WA 98501

**Committee:** Aaron Blaisdell, PLS (Chair)  
James Wengler, PLS, CFedS  
Doug Hendrickson, PE

**Support staff:** Kristina Horton, PLS, Deputy Director  
Shanan Gillespie, Regulatory Program Manager  
Jill Short/Randy Garcia, Compliance and Investigations Manager

### Discussion topics

- PDH: Compilation of activities from most recent PDH audits (JS/KH) (pg. 7-9)
- PDH carryover: consideration of calendar vs renewal year and intent of the PDH requirement
- PLS State Exam: Project update (KH/SG)
- LSAW yearly conference presentation(s): topic ideas (pg. 3)
- Decoupling of PLS Exam(s)
- Professional Practice: WAC 196-29 (pg. 4-5)
- Exam notification process: Staff presentation to the committee (pg. 6)

### **Relevant Action Items from last meeting**

- Tom Barger to write an article for the Board Journal about “Best Practices” pertaining to boundary vs control monuments
- Aaron Blaisdell to put together draft response to the question asked by a PLS at the October 2024 SC meeting for the other committee members to review. Final will be sent to Kris to send out to the PLS.

## **LSAW CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Email from LSAW on 12/3/2024:

Good Evening!

I wanted to circle back to the Conference sessions. I have tentatively scheduled as follows

### **Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**

10 AM – 12 PM – PLS Track: How to Study for and Apply for the Exam

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM – Main Session (BRPELS Topic 1 – Last Year Titled: Board of Registration Update)

### **Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM – PLS Track: RCW's & WACs

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM – Main Session (BRPELS Topic 2)

Does this work for you? If I need to adjust, are there any days/times that would absolutely not work? Also, let me know when you have titles for me to plug in.

Thank you!

Crissy

**Land Surveyors Association of Washington**

## Chapter 196-29 WAC

Last Update: 12/20/16

### PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES

#### 196-29-110

##### Land surveying practice standards.

Failure by any registrant to comply with the provisions of the Survey Recording Act, chapter [58.09](#) RCW and the survey standards, chapter [332-130](#) WAC shall be considered misconduct or malpractice as defined by RCW [18.43.105](#)(10).

The following standards shall also apply:

(1) The monumentation, posting, and/or the marking of a boundary line between two existing corner monuments constitutes the "practice of land surveying" as defined in chapter [18.43](#) RCW and chapter [196-16](#) WAC, and consequently requires said work to be performed under the direct supervision of a registered professional land surveyor.

(2) The field survey work performed to accomplish the monumentation, posting, and marking of a boundary line between two existing corner monuments shall meet the minimum standards imposed by chapter [332-130](#) WAC.

(3) The monumentation, posting, and/or marking of a boundary line between two existing corner monuments involves a determination of the accuracy and validity of the existing monuments by the use of standard survey methods and professional judgment.

(4) The monumentation, posting, and marking of a boundary line between two existing corner monuments shall require the filing of a record of survey according to chapter [58.09](#) RCW unless both corners satisfy one or both of the following requirements:

(a) The corner(s) are shown as being established on a properly recorded or filed survey according to chapter [58.09](#) RCW and are accurately and correctly shown thereon.

(b) The corner(s) are described correctly, accurately, and properly on a land corner record according to chapter [58.09](#) RCW if their establishment was by a method not requiring the filing of a record of survey.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [18.43.035](#). WSR 17-01-137, § 196-29-110, filed 12/20/16, effective 1/20/17; WSR 06-22-038, § 196-29-110, filed 10/25/06, effective 11/25/06. Formerly WAC 196-24-110.]

## 196-29-200

### Federal employee exemption.

(1) Under RCW [18.43.130](#)(6) the provisions of the act shall not be construed to prevent or affect the practice of officers or employees of the government of the United States while engaged within the state in the practice of the profession of engineering or land surveying for the government of the United States; provided:

(a) That all work performed is for the exclusive use of the federal government; and

(b) That all work performed is wholly contained within the confines of lands held by the federal government (federal enclave).

(2) Any engineering work that is performed and/or constructed for the benefit of a private citizen or business entity, even if directly adjoining lands held by the federal government, must be performed by or under the direct supervision of an engineer licensed in accordance with the requirements of chapter [18.43](#) RCW.

(3) Any surveying work that is performed for boundaries between lands held by the federal government and lands held by a private citizen or business entity, must be performed by or under the direct supervision of a land surveyor licensed in accordance with the requirements of chapter [18.43](#) RCW or under the authority of the Secretary of the Interior through special instructions approved by the Bureau of Land Management.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [18.43.035](#). WSR 10-01-199, § 196-29-200, filed 12/23/09, effective 1/23/10.]

1. Exam answer bubble sheets are scored through ScanTron.
  - a. Exam is copied from ParTest into ParScore
  - b. Bubble sheets are scanned, and results graded in ParScore
    - i. Any identified errors? Bubble sheet is reviewed for erasure marks, etc.
  - c. Available reports are ran and printed
    - i. Test Breakdown: provides questions, domain & sub-domain
    - ii. Roster report: Examinees with scores
    - iii. Individual test report: Breakdown of each examinee’s answers
2. Comment sheets are reviewed by Director and/or Deputy Director
  - a. If the cut score doesn’t change because of comments, then Exam Qualifications Committee approve release of the results
  - b. If the cut score DOES change, then the comments go to the exam writing group to determine validity. If change is validated by the exam writing group, then the Exam Qualifications Committee reviews for consideration before the release of results.
3. Staff identifies the domains for the failure notifications
  - a. Identify how many missed questions in each domain for each examinee that failed
  - b. Staff goes through each individual failed exam and find out how many questions they got correct in each domain
  - c. Information is compiled for dissemination to examinees that failed the exam
4. The spreadsheet of examinees (created by licensing staff) is updated with pass/fail
  - a. This is tracked for the preparation of the cut-score memo that is presented to Exam Qualifications Committee
5. Notifications of examinees that passed
  - a. If they have also passed the NCEES PS exam, then a notification email about licensure is sent manually via Polaris. A follow up email is sent with a license number, etc.
  - b. If they have not passed the NCEES PS exam, then a notification email is sent manually via Polaris stating they passed the state exam is sent, but indicates they still need to pass the PS Exam to obtain licensure
6. Notifications of examinees that failed
  - a. Score summary is sent manually via Polaris, with domain breakdowns.

Your score summary is as follows:

Exam Content	Your score	Maximum Possible Score
Law	3	7
GLO	5	7
Descriptions	3	6
Principles	7	8
Aquatic	5	6
State Plane	4	6
Your Score	27	40

**PLS PDH SUMMARY  
NOVEMBER 2023-NOVEMBER 2024**

<b>UNIT</b>	<b># OF LICENSEES</b>	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>QUALIFIER UNDER WAC 196-16-120</b>
BRPELS BOARD MEETINGS			6
LSAW MEMBERSHIP	6	25	4
LSAW CHAPTER MEETINGS	3	10	5
LSAW CONFERENCES	13	345	11
PLSO CHAPTER MEETINGS (OR)	2	2	5
PLSO CONFERENCES (OR)	3	65.5	11
WASH COUNCIL OF COUNTY SURVEYORS (WCCS)	3	12	4
OACES CONFERENCES	2	24	11
OSBEELLS SYMPOSIUM	1	12	8
WRS CONFERENCE LAS VEGAS	1	14.5	11
CLSA-NALS CONFERENCE RENO	1	15.5	11
NGS WEBINAR	3	6	10
CFEDS CLASSES	2	77	14
SAFETY/SECURITY TRAINING	5	43	10
FIRST AID TRAINING	2	6.5	10
RCW/WAC REVIEW	4	10	13
COUNTY PUD TRAINING	1	2	8
FIELD CREW TRAINING	1	6	9
HAZWOPER TRAINING	2	32	10
HOLDEN MINE ON-SITE TRAINING	1	1	10
WSDOT ROW MEETING	1	4	8
DRONE VS TRADITIONAL SURVEYING	2	10	10
ETHICS	4	8	10
RSTUDIO TRAINING	1	2	10
WELLS DAM TRAINING	1	1	10
ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE	1	23	10
SELF-STUDY	5	19.5	12
COMMON LAW UPDATE 1,2&3	1	5	11
CONCEPTS & COMPS IN PLSS	1	10	11
PARENTHETICALS & AREAS	1	10	11
ALTA SURVEYS	1	1.5	11
GREAT NORTHERN 8 MILE TUNN	1	1.5	11
PUBLIC LAND SYSTEMS (ONLINE)	1	4	10
PROJECT CONTROL COORDINATE SYSTEMS (ONLINE)	1	8	10
ADVERSE POSSESSION (ONLINE)	1	3	10
LAND BOUNDARY SURVEY (ONLINE)	1	6	10
GIS/GPS (ONLINE)	1	20	10
MONUMENT STANDARDS (ONLINE)	1	3	10
WATERFRONT TITLES (ONLINE)	1	3	10

BLM MANUAL (ONLINE)	1	2	10
HYDRO SURVEYS (ONLINE)	1	5	10
ADVANCED LAND SURVEYING (ONLINE)	1	14	10
PHOTOGRAMMETRY (COLLEGE COURSE)	1	15	1b
PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM (COLLEGE COURSE)	1	15	1b
GEODATIC/GPS SURVEYING (COLLEGE COURSE)	1	15	1b
NSPS Meeting	1	5	5
FIG WORKING WEEK (CLIMATE CHANGE, INCREASING TRANSPARENCY ON REAL ESTATE MARKETS, DYNAMIC DATUMS GNSS REFERENCE STATIONS, APPLICATIONS OF LIDAR, AI AND REMOTE SENSING, UPDATE ON NOAA CORS NETWORK AND OPUS, AND SPATIAL PLANNING INSTRUMENTS FOR LAND GOVERNANCE)	1	12	11
CORNER RESTORATION FUNDAMENTALS	1	2	2
PUBLIC LAND SURVEY: RECTANGULAR SYSTEM	1	8	2
AEIRIAL PHOTOGRAMMETRY	1	5	2
AIRBORNE TOPOGRAPHIC LIDAR	1	3	2
INTRO TO SUAS FOR LAND SURVEYORS	1	4	2
PREPARATION FOR DESIGN COORDINATOR FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS	1	6	7
LEGAL ASPECTS OF LAND SURVEY (COLLEGE COURSE)	1	45	1b
BOUNDARY SURVEYS (COLLEGE COURSE)	1	30	1b

NOTE: November 2023 audit included 5 licensees. All responded and were approved.

January 2024 audit included 10 licensees. Seven responded and were approved. Remaining have been contacted. Two responded and units are reflected above. One did not respond.

March 2024 5 audited. Four audited from complaints received. Three responded, 1 did not have PDHs. One audited from system. All that have responded are reflected above.

May 2024 audit included 6 licensees. 2 have responded and were approved. The remaining 4 have 2 to 3 months before their licenses expire.

During this period 2 PLS' were audited due to complaints received. One failed to obtain all their continuing education, and the other has not sent in their PDH information. Currently there is no separate summary of PDHs from complaints.

June-July 2024: 1 selected for audit. As of May-July 2024 of the 6 audited, 4 were approved, 1 stated they would not be renewing their license in the future, 1 has asked for an exception (under review by KH). None audited due to complaints.



August-September 2024: 4 selected for random audit. 2 responded and approved 2 will not be renewing – retiring license. Four audited due to complaints. Those have not been evaluated by the CM.

October-November 2024: 4 selected for random audit. One response received. Three audited due to complaints.

**TOTALS**

**30 audited from random selection.**

**13 audited as part of the complaint process.**