Cleveland Surveying News

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Full page: 9.6"x7.3" \$400 yr 1/2 page: 4.8"x7.3" \$200 yr 1/4 page:4.8"x3.6" \$100 yr Veverka.ps7513@yahoo.com

Cleveland Chapter of PLSO P. O. Box 81713 Cleveland, OH 44181-0713

NOVEMBER 2017

Issue 17 Vol. 7

PLSO 2018 Annual Conference

Feb 21—24, 2018

Sharonville Conv. Center

Cincinnati, Ohio



Newsletter Features

Chapter Meeting December 12, 2017

(if needed)

Neff & Associates office 6405 York Road Parma Heights

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A MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON





<u>From Gary Schuller – University of Akron – AWARD</u>

This is the Surveying Education Award from NCEES (licensing test people). It recognizes program quality, especially for efforts at promoting professional licensure. NCEES recently created a task force to address the dwindling number of candidates for the surveyors exams. This award is intended to help address it through building up some of the surveying programs who share the same goal and a track record of success. The fact that nearly all of our faculty have the P.S. is a big factor, as well as the fact that a majority of graduates pursue and obtain the license after their experience and testing. The student competitions, community outreach, strong PLSO partnerships, and promoting the surveying profession also factor in on the application.

UA is one of only five schools in the nation to have won the award twice. The award — presented Thursday — also came with a check for \$10,000.

The money award will be used equally to increase scholarships, make minor equipment/lab purchases, and marketing and promoting the profession and the program. The Augmented reality sand table that we recently built here (you'll have to come see it soon!) is one of the results of last year's award and has attracted a lot of attention.

An example with videos (click on Movies near the bottom of page) can be found at http://idav.ucdavis.edu/~okreylos/ResDev/SARndbox/.

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Competition

We have a group of five students already beginning to prepare for the competition in Las Vegas from Feb. 17-21 (same week as PLSO annual Conference!). They will be driving 45min. outside of Vegas to complete a day's field work, spend a day computing, drawing, and creating a presentation, and presenting their project on day 3. The topic is "Surveying Service" as if they are in a third world country with less than the latest field equipment, but with a laptop and the latest software. We could use an expert software advisor/consultant to help them get ready for that part. So far, they have been measuring around the halls and auditorium of SHS with various equipment in the evening after classes.



<u>University of Akron news – Donation – SEE PHOTO</u>

Donation of surveying equipment will make it easier for new graduate to share knowledge.

When Alhagie Darboe returns home to the Republic of The Gambia in June, he will be bringing not just newfound knowledge to share, but much-needed equipment on which he can help train the West African country's next generation of surveyors.

"Our Surveying and Mapping Program is donating surplus, unused surveying equipment to Gambia Technical Training Institute (GTTI)," explains Professor Gary Schuller, director of the program in the College of Applied Science and Technology. "Most of the surveying work in The Gambia is done manually and inefficiently. This equipment is still functioning and could allow students there to begin using electronic instruments for more accurate and efficient surveys."

Darboe, who learned his surveying skills on the job, was sponsored by his government to come to the United States to study more advanced surveying methods and technology applications. While here, he has earned an AAS in Land Surveying.



RANDOMLINES, DECEMBER, 2017 THREE LITTLE WORDS

There are three little words in the American lexicon that should define us, embolden us and move us forward. They are very important to us and are probably the most misunderstood.

The words are "WE THE PEOPLE", the first three words of the United States Constitution. Too many people do not take those words personally. They consider only in the concept of a nation. They were not intended to create a nation of bystanders; they were intended to create a nation of involved people who would take an active part in building and looking after their lives and futures.



John Dailey, P.S.

Nations do not build cities, WE THE PEOPLE do. Governments did not start churches, schools, hospitals, colleges or businesses, WE THE PEOPLE did.

WE THE PEOPLE came together as communities with common goals, common desires and common needs. WE THE PEOPLE joined together for protection, livelihood and beliefs. WE THE PEOPLE even created Professional Associations such as PLSO. And it is WE THE PEOPLE who must carry it on..

There are some very serious challenges facing our Profession and we re the ones who have to face those challenges. There is a movement afoot to do away with professional registration for Surveyors, because, with the new equipment available, "anyone can do it." "Professional registration for Surveyors restricts business." I can go on but you get the drift.

Don't be a bystander, be an active participant. Your Society needs not only your financial support, it needs your active involvement and it needs it NOW. Contact any Chapter officer. Trust me, you will not regret it.

John E. Dailey, P.S. Retired jdaileye@sbcglobal.net

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www.plso.info

Chapter Members can visit our Online Survey Database to search and view about 10,000 surveys mostly within Cuyahoga County.

Forgot your log-in info?
Email Website Committee Chair
Dino Lustri: dino@dlengineeringlc.com

Welcome two new members to the Cleveland Chapter Ben Stafford of Chagrin Valley Engr. Matt Sarver of Neff &

To All members:

The 2018-2019 Continuing Education requirements will be 30 hours total for both years and will include a minimum of 2 hours in the study of ethics.

Associates

Do not be caught of guard.

Cuyahoga County Recorded Plats are on line at:

www.http://fiscalofficer.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/PlatSearch.aspx



Perry A Trunick – Editor - POB Magazine -

Attended our November Executive Meeting

And is now a Berea resident.

https://www.pobonline.com/

Delegates Report Nov. 10,2017 State Executive Committee Meeting

Meeting called to order about 6:10 PM at The Office of PLSO 150 East Wilson Bridge Road Suite 300 Worthington, Ohio 43085

It was determined that a quorum was not present , motions can be made but the vote would need to be tabled

Secretary's minutes for the September, 2017 motion was made and seconded, motion was tabled..

Treasurer report for September, 2017 was accepted for financial review.

Motions were made to accept membership of 10professional, 2 associates, 5 affiliate, 7 students, motion was tabled.



George Hofmann Delegate

State Board: Bert Dawson was reappointed to the State Board. 13 registrants passed the PS so far this year. This is a renewal year do not forget you need 30 hours for the past two years, do not sign the form until you have actually completed the hours. Beginning in 2018-2019 you will be required to have 2 of the 30 hours in ethics.

Political Action: Balance \$1,435.35

Standards: Brad Kramer is currently reviewing and taking comments on changes to the standards. Brad will put on a seminar at the annual meeting to discuss proposed changes.

CST: Their has been a 20% increase in the use of CST on nationwide level.

Legislation: We continue to watch HB 289 which involves State Li censure in not only Surveying but many other jobs. This bill looks to reduce the number of licenses. Also HB 75 which would allow the spouse of a person in the military to be granted a 12 month license without any testing.

Finance: George Hofmann reviewed the finances for September 2017 and ask that the executive director verify a couple of categories that did not add up. Also the Budget for the 2018/2019 Fiscal year was introduced for the delegates to take back to their chapters for discussion. This will be voted on at the January executive committee meeting.

Nominating Committee: Curt Diebel announced that we have a full slate of officers for 2018. President will be Curt Diebel President Elect. Tom Silva Treasurer Josh Mihelcic Secretary: Brian Bingham

President Charlie Harkness reported that he is look at restructuring the committees, combining some and putting others in an inactive state.

Annual Conferences

2018 Sharonville Convention Center , Cincinnati, 2019-2021 Hilton Easton , Columbus, contracts completed

Fall Seminar 2018 Toledo 2019 Mason 2020 Cleveland Marriott Airport

Brief summary's were given on Chapter delegates reports.

Closing remarks were given by President Elect Curt Deibel, Ex. Director Melinda Gilpin and President Charles Harkness

President Harkness thanked all for attending and closed the meeting Meeting adjourn about 8:30PM

Respectfully submitted George A. Hofmann ,2017 Cleveland Chapter Delegate

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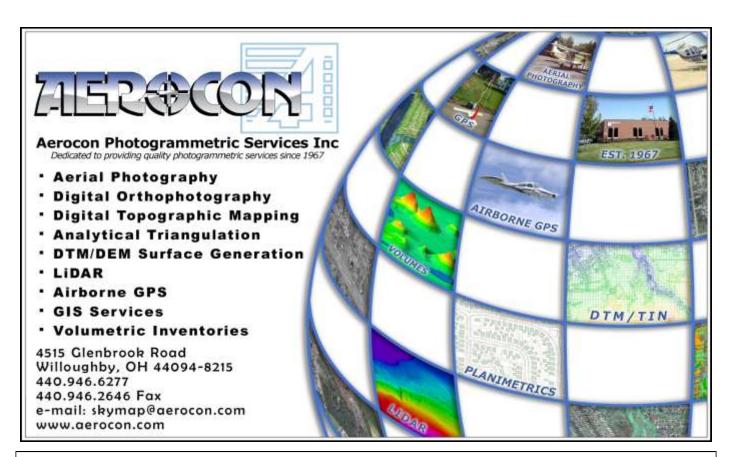


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Cleveland Chapter



Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - October 26, 2017 at 6:00 PM

BOMBA Tacos and Rum 19880 Detroit Road, Rocky River OH

Meeting called to order at 6:15 p.m.

In attendance: Steve Metcalf, George Hofmann, Tim Feller, Dino Lustri and Michael Kral. In addition to the Executive Committee, there was a large crowd of PLSO members attending the CPD seminar immediately following the Ex-Comm Meeting.

Secretary's minutes:

Executive Committee meeting minutes from September 13, 2017 accepted as submitted by Michael Kral.

Treasury:

No financial report was submitted by Tim Feller, the finical report to be submitted and discussed at the next scheduled Executive Committee Meeting.

Chapter Delegate:

No State Executive Meeting notes to discuss. George Hofmann referred the crowd to see the complete notes that will be published in the next Cleveland Chapter PLSO newsletter.

Committees:

Membership Committee:

No new members

Newsletter Committee:

Deadline for submission will be November 3, 2017.

Website Committee:

Dino briefly discussed the need to hire someone to create a data base for the records that are in need of scanning, so these records can be published for use on The Cleveland Chapters PLSO

Program Committee:

Tom Snezak looking into next year's golf outing,

Education/ Scholarship Committee:

The scholarship committee was introduced and the 2 recipients of the scholarships were named.

Financial matters to be discussed at the next scheduled Ex-Comm Meeting.

Anyone interested in serving the PLSO as a committee member or on the executive committee, please contact one of the current members to add your name into the list.

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

Nothing to report.

Meeting adjourned 6:30

President Steven Metcalf simincleveland@ yahoo.com

President-Elect Your name here, volunteer to this position to help your profession

Treasurer Timothy Feller timf@mcsteen.com

Secretary Michael Kral secretarycleveland plso@gmail.com

Delegate George Hofmann Louise Veverka george hm@am eritec.net

Past President veverka.ps7513@y ahoo.com

cleveland.plso.com

plso info

P.O. Box 81713 Cleveland, OH 44181-0713



5119 Pegasus Court, Suite Q Frederick, MD 21704 240-439-4615 www.nsps.us.com

NSPS Serves the Profession

NSPS is the voice of the professional surveying community for interaction with legislators in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, as well as with their respective staff; with federal agencies; with organizations representing other professional and non-professional groups; and to the general public through its outreach programs.

NSPS is a member of the NCEES Participating Organizations Liaison Council (POLC), and collaborates routinely with NCEES on a number of initiatives, including the development and distribution of promotional materials related to the surveying profession.

NSPS is an active member of the Council on Federal Procurement of Architectural/Engineering Services (COPAES), and is routinely successful in getting improper procurement solicitations for professional surveying services turned around. In the context of federal procurement, the term "architectural/engineering services" includes surveying and mapping services.

NSPS works very closely with other organizations on business issues affecting private-practice surveying and mapping firms through the Business Coalition for Fair Competition.

NSPS is a founding member of the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) which is collectively engaged in issues affecting the entire geospatial community. COGO is a unanimous consent organization, and cannot state a position as COGO unless all parties agree. When there is disagreement, COGO member groups can speak to issues on their own, or in concert with other COGO members, but not on behalf of COGO.

NSPS nominees were selected for recent appointments to both the FEMA Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC), which was re-instituted by the Biggert-Waters Act, and on the FGDC National Geospatial Advisory Council (NGAC).

NSPS serves as the Lead Society within ABET for the evaluation of university/college programs which provide surveying/geomatics education and are seeking accreditation, or reaccreditation. There are currently 30 such programs for which NSPS is responsible.

NSPS is often asked to coordinate the feedback to an entity known as O*Net which works with the Department of Labor in providing, among others, the definitions for surveying occupations/activities.

NSPS routinely meets with staff at federal agencies, among which are NGS, BLM, FEMA, and others on matters related to surveying practice, and provides exposure for the initiatives of these agencies in NSPS News & Views and on the NSPS website.

NSPS is also actively involved in the international surveyor's organization, FIG. The NSPS delegation attends and participates in FIG Congress meetings (every four years) and FIG Working Week meetings (during years between COFPAES Congress meetings). The delegation has members on all FIG Commissions that are directly focused on surveying activities.



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How NSPS benefits members/ the profession:

Advocacy Program

Political Action Committee (PAC)

US Congress

Federal Agencies

Assistance on state specific matters (if requested)

Other geospatial organizations

International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO)

Education

ABET-Lead Society for surveying/geomatics program evaluation for accreditation

Scholarship Program - 15 annual awards

Licensing/Standards

NCEES - Participating Organizations Liaisons Council (POLC) ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey Requirements

NSPS Model Standards

Outreach Opportunities

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National Surveyors Week

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We at NSPS have joined forces with Assurance Risk Managers Inc. dba ARM

Multi Insurance Services to provide you with a great multi-carrier program that offers competitive rates, be of service attitude with state-of-the-art on-line risk management, and loss control services finally causing one to say, "It Pays to Belong". Our program will tailor a land surveyor's insurance policy to protect you and your crew from those exposures that you face everyday.

Even the most well run business can face disaster. Despite your hard work and successful management, the unexpected can occur. Whether you have a crew or work on your own, focus on residential jobs, commercial work or both, boundary surveys or construction staking, your specific operations come with a set of exposures and challenges that require the experience and expertise of a firm that specializes in protecting the land surveyor for over 20 years. That firm is Assurance Risk Managers dba ARM Multi Insurance Services and the NSPS Insurance

Our program can cover you for injuries and damages caused to your customer or employees; damage to your equipment in the event of a loss; damage or loss to your trucks, trailers and other vehicles; error & omission; and much more.

We also understand the importance of Professional Liability (Errors & Omissions) coverage to secure that contract, defending your work performance, or in proving that you operate your business in compliance with state and local government rules and regulations. As a Design Professional specialist, and through our multi-carrier approach with A- or better insurance companies, we can provide you with the Professional Liability policy you need at affordable pricing.

But, we go even further. Providing land surveying services may be just the beginning of what you may offer and understanding all the services you make available is critical at Assurance Risk Managers and the NSPS Insurance Program. We will review your operation in detail to make sure you have the right coverage and adequate limits for the services you are providing as your ONE STOP SHOPPING experience.





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Assurance Risk Managers

http://ohiosurveyor.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/PLSO-DEC2.pdf

Western Reserve CPD Program

WORKSHOP IN AKRON, SATURDAY DEC. 2ND, 2017

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED TO westresPLSO@gmail.com ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 24TH. PAY AT DOOR, CASH OR CHECK. RESERVE YOUR CHAIR W/ FULL NAME, PHONE. STATE CHICKEN, ROAST BEEF, OR VEGGIE (FOR A CLASSIC BOX LUNCH). A.M. DONUTS, COFFEE, BANANAS, WATER. FREE PARKING ON WEST SIDE OF SUMMIT ST. \$110/MEMBER. 120 SEATS MAX.



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Certificates of attendance at end of program. PDH acceptance is between the registrant and the State Board.

Sponsor reserves the right to cancel.

Western Reserve Chapter's Surveyor's Workshop. A fundraiser for scholarships.

Anticipated Programs

7:30 - 8:00 sign in, opening remarks.
Coffee, donuts, baranas.
8:00- 10:30- Professor Gary Schuller, PS
"Old Datum, New Datum, 2020"
10:30-12:00 - Tom Peak, PS
"Datum Conversions with Carlson Survey"

12:00-1:00 Classic Box Lunch provided.

1:00-2:20 - Dennis Tubba, GISP, Summit County GIS Coordinator. "GIS Resources for Surveyors" 2:30-4:00- Mike Wytrzyszewski "Surveying for the Akron Tunnel. Purpose, Right of Way, Equipment & Methodology". 4:00 - Certificates of Attendance on the back table. 7 hours anticipated.

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ompleted slip and hand in with the so sign the attendance sheet after PLSO*. Thank you for your support.
STUDENT FEE \$20
PLSO/NSPS MEMBER FEE \$110

SIGN NAME.

NSPS Government Affairs Update October 2017 – Frisco, Texas

John M. Palatiello & Associates, Inc.

3DEP
NSPS has endorsed the USGS 3DEP program to provide a consistent elevation data, primarily through LiDAR collection, for the United States, and has been a leader in efforts to assure the program is fully funded. Efforts are also include provisions as part of both the FEMA/NFIP Flood Map Reform bill as well as the 3DEP connection to Infrastructure

NSPS has met with key members of Congress to advocate for fully funding USGS at \$146 million per year through the Appropriations process. NSPS has also organized and mobilized other organizations that support 3DEP, such as the National Association of Realtors, who made a similar request of Congress. NSPS met with the OMB Budget Examiner for USGS on June 15 to discuss the budget cut. NSPS hosted a 3DEP Coalition meeting June 26 with USGS' Kevin Gallagher featuring as the keynote presenter.

NSPS continues to communicate with key USGS staff regarding the budget cuts and where and how the 3DEP Coalition can be helpful. Here is the summary provided to NSPS by USGS staff related to the President's FY2018 Budget Submission:

"Thank you very much for your ongoing support, and for your questions and interest in the FY18 President's budget for 3DEP. The following is provided to help clarify:

 Following increases in the FY17 Omnibus of \$2M for lidar and \$2.5M for Alaska IfSAR (total \$4.5M), the current USGS 3DEP Base Funding is approximately \$29 Million. Of that, approximately \$10M is planned for lidar acquisition and \$7M is planned for Alaska ifsar acquisition.

 The FY18 proposed budget describes a 3DEP cut of \$3M. However, it does not take into account the \$4.5M increase enacted in FY17. Taking the FY17 increase into account, the FY18 proposed budget reduces 3DEP lidar acquisition by \$5M and IfSAR acquisition by \$2.5M for a total of \$7.5M.

• In addition, the FY18 budget proposes a reduction of \$5.1M to USGS National Geospatial Program (NGP) to 'Eliminate Geospatial Research and Reduce 3DEP Technical Support', which supports 3DEP, Hydrography (National Hydrography, Watershed Boundaries, and NHDPlus High Resolution datasets), and US Topo (topographic map production), including maps for Alaska. The proposed cuts at a total of \$12.6M would reduce the 3DEP program to a level less than the 2015 base, defer completion of national lidar coverage to the year 2033 and defer Alaska Mapping progress as well."

The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee finished their 2018 bill which included the following report language:

Core Science Systems.—The Committee recommends \$114,737,000 for core science systems, of which
\$24,397,000 is for the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping program. The recommendation includes
\$67,354,000 for the National Geospatial program, of which \$22,500,000 is for 3DEP National Enhancement.
\$67,354,000 for the National Geospatial program, of which \$22,500,000 is for 3DEP National Enhancement.

Landscape level assessments—Chesapeake Bay, Geospatial Research and 3DEP Technical Support, 3DEP

Landscape level assessments—Chesapeake Bay, Geospatial Research and Technical Support, 3DEP

Program Functions, and the Federal Geographic Data Committee Functions are funded at fiscal year 2017

enacted levels.

On June 28, Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) introduced 3DEP authorization language in Section 10104 of S. 1460, the "Energy and Natural Resources Act of 2017". This language is similar to the March 22 bill introduced by Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA), S. 698, the "National Landslide Preparedness Act" with 3 cosponsors. Companion legislation the House, H.R. 1675, was introduced by Rep. Susan DelBene (D-WA) with 8 cosponsors. In addition, NSPS will soon have a bill introduced in Congress designating 3DEP as the nation's enhanced elevation data collection program. On October 3, a bill introduced in Congress designating 3DEP as the nation's enhanced elevation data collection program. On October 3, a bill introduced in Congress designating 3DEP as the nation's enhanced elevation data collection program. On October 3, a bill introduced in Congress designating 3DEP as the nation's enhanced elevation data collection program. On October 3, a bill introduced in Congress designating 3DEP as the nation's enhanced elevation data collection program. On October 3, a bill introduced in Congress designating 3DEP as the nation's enhanced elevation data collection program. On October 3, a bill introduced in Congress designating 3DEP as the nation's enhanced elevation data collection program. On October 3, a bill introduced in Congress designating 3DEP as the nation's enhanced elevation data collection program.

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Appropriations (Continuing Resolution, CR) Funding the Government Through December 8, 2017

In September, President Trump signed into law H.R. 601, the "Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 and Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2017". As a result, P.L. 115-56 contains the following highlights: Expiration Date...Sec. 106. Continues appropriations through December 8, 2017, or the enactment of the pertinent

 Periodic Censuses and Program Exception Apportionment...Sec. 118. Allows the Census Bureau spending flexibility to keep preparations for the 2020 Decennial Census on schedule and on budget.

 National Flood Insurance Program Extension...Sec. 130. Extends through the duration of the CR the authorization date of the National Flood Insurance Program, which is set to expire on September 30, 2017.

WIFIA Administrative Expenses...Sec. 133. Provides through the duration of the CR a higher rate for operations to cover costs associated with ongoing water infrastructure projects.

The current authorization of the FAA and aviation programs expires September 30. Congress on Thursday, September 28 approved for the President's signature a six-month extension of Federal Aviation Administration taxes to give lawmakers more time to debate contentious, long-term airline policies, through March 31. NSPS is trying to add language to the full FAA reauthorization to reform Part 107, UAS operations. On June 27, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee bill was approved while the Senate Commerce Committee bill was approved June 29. The Senate bill does not contain the ATC privatization measure. The House bill does contain the ATC privatization measure, and as a result is still several dozen votes short of needed support before bringing the bill to the House floor.

Council on Federal Procurement of Architectural and Engineering Services (COFPAES) & OBS In January, H.R. 679, the "Construction Consensus Procurement Improvement Act of 2017" was introduced by Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC). This legislation would limit the use of one-step design-build and reverse auctions in federal procurement of design and construction services. Sens. Rob Portman (R-OH) and Mazie Hirono (D-HI) are planning to introduce the Senate companion bill.

NSPS and COFPAES have filed comments and questions with GSA and NGA on the CIBORG IT Schedule 70 proposal. GSA's responses were inadequate. On September 27, NSPS Executive Director Curt Sumner, Government Affairs Consultant John Palatiello, and Federal Lobbyist John "JB" Byrd met with the Judith Zawatsky, the Chief of Staff for the Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) office of the General Services Agency (GSA) to work to address the inherent conflict GSA is promoting through the use of the GSA schedules, such as CIBORG, in that QBS related services are listed on these price schedules. Ms. Zawatsky agreed to review this policy and then communicate back to NSPS and COFPAES in late October or sometime in November after a policy review is complete.

As an additional threat to QBS, NSPS has been alerted through COFPAES regarding the Section 809 Panel that was directed by Congress in the FY2016 National Defense Authorization Act to look at ways to make DoD procurement faster. NSPS believes this panel is getting out of control. It is now looking at government-wide procurement reform (not just DoD) and there are members of the panel who want to attack or even repeal QBS. This is coming from concerns regarding the speed and efficiency of the QBS process.

This issue has been brought to the attention of the Trump transition team and current staff at the Department of Labor. On July 14, NSPS staff met with Rep. Francis Rooney (R-FL) and learned that he is planning to introduce a bill before the House Education and the Workforce Committee this fall containing targeted revisions to Davis-Bacon and is open to having a NSPS drafted provision. In addition, the Small Business Administration (SBA) is also planning to advocate repealing AAM 212. SBA staff contacted NSPS in August following the public forums around the country where NSPS members successfully advocated the repeal of AAM 212.

On May 25, the Digital Coast Act of 2017, S. 110, passed the Senate by unanimous consent. A House companion bill will soon be introduced by Reps. C.A. "Dutch" Ruppersberger (D-MD) and Rep. Don Young (R-AK). On September 21, NSPS Government Affairs Consultant John Palatiello and Federal Lobbyist John "JB" Byrd were among those who attended a standing room briefing, co-hosted by Reps. Ruppersberger and Young, as Congressional staff and stakeholders gathered in the U.S. Capitol for a briefing on the benefits of the NOAA Digital Coast project. The session featured the project's applications to coastal resilience and economic development, as well as to disaster preparedness, such as the recent hurricanes. Disaster response is a major application of the data from Digital Coast, assisting with preparedness and recovery efforts.

Reps. Bill Huizenga (R-MI) and Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) will soon introduce FPI reform legislation with safeguard language preventing federal inmates from accessing sensitive geospatial, mapping and surveying data, including as part of GIS services, with the potential of adding the bill as an amendment to the House version of comprehensive criminal justice reform legislation.

On May 23, NSPS Government Affairs Consultant John Palatiello testified before Congress on H.R. 2199, the "Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform (FLAIR) Act of 2017" introduced by Reps. Kevin Cramer (R-ND) and Ron Kind (D-WI) on April 27. The bill was approved by the House Natural Resources Committee by a unanimous vote on July 26 and the Committee report has been filed, H. Rept. 115-322. On June 28, Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) reintroduced the Senate version of the bill, which is a modified version of the House bill and found in Section 6101 of S. 1460, the "Energy and Natural Resources Act of 2017".

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government included the following report

language for the FY 2018 bill:

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Federal Real Property Profile.—The Committee remains extremely frustrated with the slow pace at which GSA and other Federal agencies are improving the accuracy of the Federal Real Property Profile. The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) named managing Federal real property to its 2017 High Risk List. The Committee is concerned that despite language in the fiscal year 2015, 2016, and 2017 reports, GSA has not made progress on the value and accuracy of its inventory, taken steps to include public lands as required by Executive Order 13327, made the FRPP available to the public, or geo-enabling the FRPP. The Committee is outraged that the Federal Government cannot provide an accurate accounting to the American public of all the property that it owns. The Committee expects GSA to work with agencies across government and utilize geographic information technology to improve the data contained in this report and enhance transparency to the American taxpayer. The Committee directs GSA to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on steps taken to improve the quality and transparency of the profile within 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense included the following report language for the FY 2018 bill: MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY

The Committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), in conjunction with the Service Secretaries, to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act that outlines the total real property with a zero percent utilization rate of five years or more currently accounted for in the Department of Defense real property inventory database and assesses the feasibility of conveying or selling this property.

Jointly introduced May 25 by Sens. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Mark Warner (D-VA), Dean Heller (R-NV) and Ron Wyden (D-OR), S. 1253, the "Geospatial Data Act (GDA) of 2017" is a bill to improve the coordination and use of geospatial data. NSPS was listed in Sen. Hatch's news release as a supporter of the bill. NSPS successfully advocated reforms which were included: 1) FGDC becomes housed in the Office of Management and Budget, not the Department of the Interior; 2) outlines, by law, a role for the private sector; 3) clarifies, broadens and codifies application of the Brooks Act; and 4) establishes the primacy of state surveying licensing law. In July, Reps. Bruce Westerman (R-AR) and Seth Moulton (D-MA) introduced H.R. 3522 which is companion legislation to S. 1253.

Primarily developed at the urging of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC), National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO), the National Association of Counties (NACo), the legislation is intended to improve the governance and coordination of federal geospatial activities. MAPPS and NSPS were among the organizations consulted by the bill's sponsor and it reflects many of these organizations' suggestions.

Sections 11 and 12 are strongly opposed by GIS organizations as it has been claimed that geospatial services are part of information technology (IT), not the field of architecture and engineering (AE). However, surveying and mapping, and now "geospatial" activities have long been considered part of the broad field of architecture and engineering, not only in procurement, but employment and other government categorization, including the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).

NSPS served on a working group created by COGO leadership to try to find consensus of the Geospatial Data Act. The following statement was issued on September 28 by COGO leadership, via NSGIC's Cy Smith, after over a month of

"As you know, I have been facilitating a work group to try to develop consensus concerning revised language for the Geospatial Data Act of 2017 (S. 1253). The Geospatial Data Act work group that was formed at the COGO Face to Face meeting in San Diego in July completed its effort late last week. The work group was unable to reach consensus on revised language. Some member organizations are philosophically and strongly opposed to inclusion of procurement and associated definitional language in the Geospatial Data Act (GDA). Others are philosophically adamant concerning its inclusion in the GDA. We are at a stalemate."

FHwA published new regulations governing the procurement, management, and administration of engineering and designrelated services, including surveying and mapping, on federal-aid highway projects. The rules include changes and clarifications to State DOT procurement policies and QBS procedures, contract negotiation and administration, audit and accounting of allowable costs, and program management and oversight. The rules took effect in June 2016. State DOTs will have one year to update their policies and procedures to comply with the new regulations.

In April 2015, NSPS responded to a request for feedback on proposed changes in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) loan underwriting guidelines on multi-family projects. In its response, NSPS provided suggestions and volunteered to assist in resolving the numerous redundancies and problems related to the HUD Multi-family survey requirements. Examples include the use of a separate "Surveyors Report," requiring an additional certification, and other requirements that cause confusion such as those related to wetlands and references to "as-built" surveys. Gary Kent, PS, chair of the NSPS committee on the ALTA/ACSM Standards, coordinated the NSPS participation.

Hydrographic Services Improvement Act (HSIA)

A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report found that NOAA needs to improve efforts to track and report costs under its hydrographic survey program. GAO found that NOAA did not consistently provide complete or accurate cost data in its cost comparison reports from fiscal years 2006 through 2016. GAO added that NOAA has yet to develop a strategy to increase private sector involvement in the hydrographic survey program as required by law.

In January, Rep. Don Young (R-AK) introduced H.R. 221, the "Hydrographic Services Improvement Act (HSIA)" which was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. The Senate Commerce Committee marked up S. 171 on January 24 and reported the bill out of Committee as amended.

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Infrastructure is critical to our nation's prosperity. President Trump and Congress are planning a major infrastructure program of an estimated \$1 trillion for roads, bridges, airports, and other types of infrastructure. All of these projects require quality and accurate surveying and mapping data, products and services. In recognizing the importance of accurate geospatial data, Congress should include legislative language calling for surveying, mapping and geospatial data for the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance for all related infrastructure projects. Data needs include: Elevation; Boundary; Topo; Planimetrics; As-Builts; Asset Management, and others. NSPS is urging sponsorship of provisions enabling the utilization of surveying and mapping technologies and applications in infrastructure legislation in the 115th Congress.

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation (THUD) included the following report language for the FY 2018 bill:

Infrastructure mapping with geospatial tools.—DOT possesses and collects much information on airports, airways, roads, bridges and transit infrastructure, but this rich data source is neither location-based nor integrated across asset types. As the nation contemplates making a significant investment in improving infrastructure, the Committee encourages DOT to establish a location-based, comprehensive, integrated asset database that would allow the selection, management, measurement, cross-asset analysis and impact of infrastructure investments using competitively acquired commercial geospatial tools. This would optimize the Department's ability to properly analyze the condition of assets, project outcomes of investments, choose investments that would be most impactful, accurately report where investments were implemented, monitor infrastructure projects, measure the results of the investments, and provide data for public oversight in a modern, completely transparent environment.

In 2016, LightSquared, which has rebranded with a new name, Ligado Networks LLC, continued to concern the Air Force LightSquared command that operates U.S. military satellites over possible interference with GPS signals. General John Hyten, head of the Air Force Space Command, told a subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services of the U.S. House of Representatives he wants to see results from new tests that will begin in April. In May, Reps. Mike Rogers (R-AL) and Jim Cooper (D-TN) introduced a "Sense of the Congress" amendment, which eventually was adopted by the House, to the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to prevent the next version of "LightSquared" from damaging GPS signals. DoD is working with the Department of Transportation through its adjacent band study to evaluate this new proposal and to conduct GPS-adjacent band compatibility testing. The FCC will analyze the report and public comments before making a final recommendation and before it issues a final decision, and possible rulemaking. The FCC, DoD, and USDOT are working together, cooperatively, to develop the technical record to support a final recommendation on the revised proposal. S. 2943, the "National Defense Authorization Act of 2017" and signed into law by President Obama on December 23 contains this language as found in the Conference Report to S. 2943:

"Section 1698 indicates that the House amendment contained a provision (Section 1673) that would amend the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conditions on commercial terrestrial operations (47 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) by adding that the FCC shall not permit commercial terrestrial operations in the 1525-1559 megahertz band or the 1626.5-1660.5 megahertz band until 90 days after the FCC resolves concerns of widespread harmful interference by such operations in such band to Department of Defense GPS (GPS) devices. The provision would also require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a review of harmful interference of Department of Defense GPS devices and to notify congress if the Secretary determines the existence of widespread harmful interference. The Senate bill contained no similar provision. The Senate recedes with a technical amendment;"

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A parcel system has been a NSPS public policy goal for many years. NSPS remains optimistic that this session will result National Address and Parcel Data in actions that will finally result in a parcel system that will assisting with economic development, housing, homeland security, land management, and dozens of other government and commercial activities.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) & Flood Map Reforms

In September, a short-term extension for the NFIP was enacted moving the current deadline to approve comprehensive reform to December 8. Rep. Alex Mooney (R-WV) will soon introduce legislation known as the Improvement of Mapping, Addresses, Geography, Elevations and Structures (IMAGES) Act to accomplish NFIP reforms. On June 15, the House Financial Services Committee approved several bills that will be merged into one comprehensive bill. The goal is to have the soon to be introduced Mooney added to the comprehensive bill in time for or during floor consideration in the House. On July 17, the Senate Banking Committee released its bill, S. 1571, but has not yet marked up its bill. Section 202 of this bill Directs the Administrator to utilize the most up-to-date mapping technology and develop, in consultation with the Technical Mapping Advisory Council, a digital display environment to store and disseminate flood maps and hazard data.

While the President's FY2018 budget request zeroed out flood mapping within the NFIP, the House Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee bill does fund the mapping activities for the NFIP:

Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis. The Committee recommends \$177,531,000 for Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis, \$177,531,000 above the amount requested and the same as the amount provided in fiscal year 2017. In lieu of discretionary funding for FEMA's Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program, the fiscal year 2018 budget proposed to establish a new surcharge on National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies to fund these activities. The Committee believes the Risk MAP program is critical to a wide range of users, not just flood insurance policy holders. In addition to informing flood insurance rates, flood mapping data is used to establish zoning, land use, and building standards, and to support infrastructure, transportation, and emergency management planning and response. Therefore, the recommendation sustains funding for the program at fiscal year 2017 levels. Accurate flood mapping data is the foundation of ensuring that communities are resilient in the face of disaster. FEMA's data collection and modeling processes must be transparent from beginning to end and involve the active participation of local jurisdictions to ensure maps accurately reflect local conditions and minimize costs to local communities. FEMA is directed to assess its existing processes to identify potential areas for improvement, including the process for reviewing and responding to appeals of preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps received from local communities. FEMA shall brief the Committee not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act on any changes planned or implemented as a result of this assessment. Further, FEMA is directed to allocate flood map funding to assist local governments and cooperating technical partners in acquiring the data collection tools necessary to produce accurate, local data that meet FEMA's standards for use in the agency's modeling processes to re-map local jurisdictions.

Recommendation The Committee recommends \$13,573,000 for salaries and expenses associated with flood management and \$189,927,000 for flood plain management and flood mapping. Flood mitigation funds are available until September 30, 2019, and are offset by premium collections. In addition, the bill establishes obligation limitations on the use of mandatory NFIP collections, including \$175,000,000 for flood mitigation and flood mitigation assistance grants and \$5,000,000 for the Office of the Flood Insurance Advocate (OFIA). The recommendation does not include the proposals to establish a new surcharge or to increase premiums and surcharges on flood insurance policies, as the authorization of these proposals is not under the jurisdiction of this Committee. A comparison of the budget request to the Committee recommended level by budget activity is as follows:

National Flood Insurance Fund Floodplain Management and Mapping

Budget Request \$239,927,000 Recommendation \$189,927,000

The Committee continues to support the OFIA and encourages the Advocate to assist policy holders in accessing resources to validate applicable premium rates as FEMA establishes the rating criteria for all NFIP policies. The Advocate is required to aid potential policy holders under the NFIP in obtaining and verifying accurate and reliable flood insurance rate information when purchasing or renewing a flood insurance policy under the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are the basis for establishing the floodplain management responsibilities of communities participating in the Community Rating System program and for determining which properties require flood insurance coverage as a condition of receiving a mortgage from a federally regulated or insured lender. The Committee is aware that, as FEMA updates FIRMs across the country, it requests documentation from local communities and levee sponsors to demonstrate that levees meet or continue to meet the regulatory criteria for accreditation: According to a November 2014 Memorandum of Understanding between FEMA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), levee inspection reports by USACE may satisfy certain criteria for FEMA accreditation. FEMA is directed to work closely with USACE to share information related to levee accreditation and avoid imposing unnecessary costs on levee sponsors or surrounding communities. In many communities, particularly in coastal areas, there are often a relatively small number of high-value homes existing alongside far more modest homes and businesses that have been present for decades, with a commensurate disparity in household income and financial resources. The Committee is aware of concerns that the use of micro-simulation models in determining eligibility for NFIP vouchers would result in skewed assumptions regarding average home values and incomes of NFIP policy holders, resulting in the disqualification of some homeowners who truly need the vouchers. As a means to address affordability of the NFIP, it is critical that accurate data be used in determining eligibility for and distribution of vouchers. For the forthcoming statutorily mandated affordability framework in which vouchers are being considered, FEMA is directed to collaborate with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Census Bureau to use data on actual home values and household income instead of simply relying on micro-simulation modeling.

Cleveland Chapter & State 2017 Schedule

Dates, times and locations subject to charge, emails will be sent out with notification of any charges

Friday, January 13 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

Thursday - January 26, 2017 – Cleveland Chapter Annual General Meeting and installation of officers

February 15-18, 2017 PLSO State conference in Annual Conference, Kalahari, Sandusky, Ohio

Friday, March 10 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

Tuesday, March 14 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 3/17/17)

Friday, April 14 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

Tuesday, April 18 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 4/21/17)

April STATE CPD Workshop (date and location TBA)

May 18 - Cleveland Chapter General Meeting & CPD

Friday, May 12 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

Tuesday, May 16 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 5/19/16)

May STATE CPD Workshop (date and location TBA)

Friday, July 14 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

July (TBA) - Clev. Chapter Education Recognition Meeting (newsletter deadline 7/21/17)

Friday, September 8 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 12 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 9/15/16)

October 12-13 - PLSO State Fall Seminar Hilton Polaris, Columbus, Ohio

Tuesday, Oct. 17 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 10/25/16)

Nov. (TBA) - Cleveland Chapter General Meeting & CPD

Friday, November 10 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 14 – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 11/19/17)

Friday, December 9 (tentative) - State PLSO Executive Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 12 (if needed) – 6 p.m. Cleveland Chapter Executive Meeting (newsletter deadline 12/15/17)

Friday, January 13, 2018 - State PLSO Executive Meeting

2017 State PLSO Officers

President—Charles R. Harkness, PS, Muskingum Chapter

President –Elect—Curt Deibel, PS, Tuscarawas Valley Chapter

Imm. Past Pres.—Kenneth Taylor, PS, Toledo Chapter

Secretary—Brian Bingham, PS, Central Ohio Chapter

Treasurer—Josh Mehilcic, PS, Miami Valley Chapter

NSPS Director—Robert L. Akins, PS, Tuscarawas

Valley Chapter