

# MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2020 MEETING OF THE MARYLAND BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

Date: May 6, 2020

Place: Access Using Video Conferencing  
[meet.google.com/uco-pbjj-dfn](https://meet.google.com/uco-pbjj-dfn)  
Phone: 1-475-441-4524  
Pin: 427 851 222#

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Present: John V. Mettee III, Chair, Professional Land Surveyor  
Donald J. Ocker, Property Line Surveyor  
Thomas M. Orisich, Professional Land Surveyor  
T. J. Frazier, Professional Land Surveyor  
Tammy L. Rollins, Consumer Member

Others Present: Joseph Cullingford, Executive Director  
Carla M. Zamon, Acting Assistant Executive Director  
Milena Trust, Board Counsel  
Vickie Wilkins, Commissioner  
John Papavasiliou, Deputy Commissioner  
Daniel Burke Jr. (MSS) President-Elect, PLS  
Carla Gourdine, Board Administrator  
Frazier West, Investigator

Absent: None

## CALL TO ORDER

John V. Mettee III called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion (I) was made by Donald Ocker, seconded by Tammy Rollins and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes with corrections of the meeting held on March 4, 2020.

## COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Thomas Orisich reported on the status of complaints:

- 02 – LS -20 – Closing
- 03 – LS -20 - Investigating
- 04 – LS -20 - Investigating
- 05 – LS -20 - Investigating

Motion (II) was made by Donald Ocker, seconded by Tammy Rollins and unanimously carried to accept the recommendations of the Complaint Committee report.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Joseph Cullingford asked the Board to provide an update on a waiver request that was discussed in last month's Board meeting. Donald Ocker responded that it was discussed in the executive session. Milena Trust asked Mr. Ocker if he could send her any information regarding the request and she will follow up with Mr. Cullingford.

### NEW BUSINESS

Joseph Cullingford informed the Board that NCEES, while uncertain at this time, is still moving forward with planning the August Annual Meeting in Chicago. Mr. Cullingford requested the Board to select three people as funded delegates to attend the meeting. Thomas Orisich inquired since he was nominated for an award, if approved, will his travel fees be paid for. Mr. Cullingford responded that he will look into this if necessary.

The Board discussed who would attend the annual meeting.

Motion (III) was made by Thomas Orisich, seconded by Tammy Rollins to nominate Milena Trust as a funded delegate.

Motion (IV) was made by Thomas Orisich, seconded by Tammy Rollins to nominate John Mettee as a funded delegate.

Motion (V) was made by Donald Ocker, seconded by TJ Frazier to nominate Tammy Rollins as a funded delegate.

### OLD BUSINESS

John Mettee and Thomas Orisich attended the MSS January General meeting and both agreed that it was not worthy of a CPC credit. Milena Trust asked the Board what they do when they are notified that a preapproved provider provides a course(s) that are not relevant and do not meet the intent of the regulation. The Board discussed this with Donald Ocker stating that the Board should put the provider on notice but will take no action at this time.

Milena Trust asked if the MSS mentorship program still exist. MSS stated that the Mentoring Program is, for all intents and purposes, currently defunct. Although there is no formal program, MSS actively encourages and supports mentorship opportunities.

Tammy Rollins informed the Board she received her reappointment to the Board for another term.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The executive director reminded the Board to submit their annual Ethics disclosures by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Cullingford also reported the new Board member, Jeanne Nebre, has been appointed and will begin her term July. However, he will invite her to attend the next board meeting as a member of the public.

Mr. Cullingford informed the Board there is no update on the consumer member vacancy that the Board has. Mr. Cullingford reminded the Board that Donald Ocker's last Board meeting will be next month.

Mr. Cullingford updated the Board on the COVID Operations, reporting that his staff continues increase their proficiency and ability to service customers during the pandemic. The staff is still processing applications and renewing licenses. However, Mr. Cullingford discussed concerns regarding CEU's from the MSS. He noted that MSS had moved their meeting to July, adding challenges to completion of CEU's, since this is when most surveyors plan to earn their hours. Mr. Cullingford informed the Board that the Board of Professional Engineers online Ethics exam is near completion and the Board can consider this option for their use in the future.

## BOARD COUNSEL REPORT

Melina Trust informed the Board that the Educational Equivalency Requirements Regulations (COMAR 09.13.07) have been finalized and were effective on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Trust also noted that since Governor Hogan's executive order to extend licenses for 30 days, adding that Land Surveyors are encouraged to continue to renew their licenses if they have the ability to do so.

## MARYLAND SOCIETY OF SURVEYORS

Daniel Burke Jr., President elect of the Maryland Society of Surveyors (MSS) reported:

MSS thanked the re-appointed Board Members for their continued service towards the Profession.

Mr. Burke reported that MSS presented their first webinar on April 21, 2020. The webinar was a presentation, by the Klein Agency, on Best Practices in Surveying during the Coronavirus environment. MSS sought and received direction from the Board on how best to track attendance/satisfactory completion of Webinars and administration of their respective CPCs/certificates.

The MSS Spring Conference has been rescheduled for June 15 -16<sup>th</sup>, pending the ongoing statewide safety measures related to the Coronavirus. MSS will determine by May 15<sup>th</sup> whether the Spring Conference will need to be cancelled. In the event of a cancellation, MSS is proactively organizing a series of virtual learning sessions to replace the Spring Conference.

MSS will conduct another Webinar and General Membership meeting on May 19, 2020. The intent of this Webinar is to replace the previously scheduled General Membership meeting. Next year's slate of MSS Officer Nominees will be announced and/or nominated from the floor at the General Membership meeting. The training will be a presentation by USGS.

MSS plans to provide the proposed language revisions to both the Maryland Coordinate System and the Practice Act to the Board prior to the June Board meeting.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

Applications will be reviewed at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Motion (VI) was made by Thomas Orisich, seconded by Donald Ocker and was unanimously carried by the Board, to adjourn the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

Approved:  without corrections  with corrections

  
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John V. Mettee III, Board Chair

Date: 6/3/2020