



# National Association of County Surveyors

## MINUTES OF THE 2020 NACS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Kalahari Resort and Convention Center Mangrove Room January 31, 2020 10:20 AM - Noon

### NACS Members in Attendance:

Reid Demman, Utah	President Elect
Martin Dunn, Michigan	Central States Director
Charles Gitzen, Minnesota	
Robert Merry, Wisconsin	
Brian Meyer, Wisconsin	
Marv Myers, Michigan	President
Chuck Pearson, Oregon	Past President, Secretary/Treasurer
Jason Towne, Wisconsin	
Patrick Veraguth, Minnesota	
Ron Whitehead, Utah	Western States Director

### Guests:

Aaron Austin, Wisconsin  
Jason Bolz, Wisconsin  
Kevin Boyer, Wisconsin  
Brad Buechel, Wisconsin  
Tom Carlson, Wisconsin  
Tony Dallman, Wisconsin  
Ryan Duckart, Wisconsin  
Steve Geiger, Wisconsin  
Brian Gross, Wisconsin  
Jeremy Hildebrand, Wisconsin  
Richard Kleinmand, Wisconsin  
Peter Kuen, Wisconsin  
Tom Leslie, Wisconsin  
Jim Morrow, Wisconsin  
Mark Netterlund, Wisconsin  
Daniel Pleoger, Wisconsin

Glen Schaefer, Wisconsin  
Brad Tisdale, Wisconsin  
Dave Tlusty, Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order by President Myers at 10:40 AM.

Introductions were made by those present.

Officer's and Director's Reports (in packet)

- a. Marv Myers, President
- b. Reid Demman, President Elect.
- c. Chuck Pearson, Past-President, Secretary/Treasurer
- d. Marty Dunn, Central States Director
- e. Ron Whitehead, Western States Director

#### NACS Business

1. Approval of the March 25, 2019 Annual Membership Meeting minutes (copy attached): A motion to approve was made and seconded. **MOTION PASSED**
2. Approval of FY 2020/21 Budget (copy attached). A motion to approve was made and seconded. **MOTION PASSED**
3. Election of Officers: No other nominations being made from the floor a motion for a unanimous ballot was made and seconded to elect the following NACS Officers and Directors: **MOTION PASSED**
  - a. Ron Whitehead, Utah, President-Elect
  - b. Chuck Pearson, Oregon, Secretary/Treasurer
  - c. Joe McNichols, Massachusetts, Eastern States Director
  - d. Marty Dunn, Michigan, Central States Director
  - e. Ray Mathe, California, Western States Director
4. The Chair was turned over to the incoming President, Reid Demman. Reid presented outgoing President Marv Myers with a plaque of appreciation for his service to NACS during his term.
5. President Myers opened the floor to the members and guests as an open forum:
  - a. The issue of funding of PLSS remonumentation was brought up. The diversity of funding sources in the US was noted.
  - b. Discussion was held regarding whether a questionnaire of status of county surveyors, state CS organizations, population, area, PLSS corners, etc. is available. Chuck noted that he had prepared a comprehensive questionnaire several years ago (so long that he had to

manually prepare the results). Chuck agreed that it is time to do another and that he will begin to work on that project.

6. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:20 AM

After the meeting, Chuck Pearson did a verbal presentation of the duties of the County Surveyors in Oregon including survey filing, plat recording, PLSS issues, PLCPF fund, etc. He also noted that he would like NACS to provide links to all of the state laws pertaining to the county surveyor. If possible, it would be a link to a specific statute rather than citing the actual statute. That way, if there were amendments they would be shown.

The meeting was reopened to vote on a proposed motion for NACS to compile state laws at 11:40 AM.

Chuck explained the rationale behind the amendment. A motion to approve the amendment was made. **MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting was re-adjourned at 11:43 AM

Respectively submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Charles Pearson', written over a horizontal line.

R. Charles Pearson  
NACS Secretary/Treasurer

**Reid Demman, PLS  
Salt Lake County Surveyor, Utah  
NACS President  
2021 Annual Meeting Report**

It has been an honor and a great pleasure to serve as your NACS President this past year. I must give great accolades to my fellow officers, President-Elect Ron Whitehead, Immediate Past-President Marvin Meyers, Secretary/Treasurer Chuck Pearson, and Board Directors, Martin Dunn, Ray Mathe and Joseph McNichols for their diligence and attention to conducting the business of this organization and their representation in our behalf.

This year has been a strange and difficult year to say the least. All in-person National Association of Counties (NACo) meetings were cancelled due to Covid-19, however, most were held virtually. The pandemic had serious effect on organizations throughout and impacted membership and networking opportunities for our organization. I virtually attended NACo Board and committee meetings at various times during the year.

In addition to representing NACS on the NACo Board, I serve on the NACo Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee, Technology Committee and serve as the Vice-Chair of the GIS Subcommittee. I represented NACS interests and networked virtually as best I could with other NACo Committees and County Officials from all over the country. Locally, I serve as the President of Utah's County Surveyors Association (UCSA).

#### Other Related Activities.

As of this writing, I will be attending this year's virtual NACo Legislative conference starting March 8 and running through to March 26th. The conference typically covers six days, however, is being stretched out over a long timeframe to accommodate the various meetings virtually. Our existing resolution regarding the protection of the PLSS is current as adopted by NACo and remains valid as part of the lobby platform through the NACo annual meeting in July. The Annual Meeting of NACo is currently scheduled to be held in Austin, Texas. Whether it happens as an "in person" conference is still under review at this time.

NACS membership and renewals have remained relatively strong and the organization fiscally sound due to reductions in expenses related to the pandemic.

I'm looking forward to serving NACS this coming fiscal year and to work with all of you to improve our organization. I intend to focus on promoting adoption of PLSS language in the NACo platform, increasing membership and improving our communication with NACo, and other related organizations. Of course, suggestions and comments from NACS members are always welcome.

**Ron Whitehead, PLS  
Washington County Surveyor, Utah  
NACS President-Elect  
2021 Annual Meeting Report**

Our last membership meeting was held in Wisconsin Dells at the Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors Institute January 30, 2020. The meeting, held jointly with the Wisconsin County Surveyors Association, was well attended as was the entire Conference. Our next annual membership meeting will be held as a virtual meeting on April 14 2021.

Opportunities to attend State Conferences in other states have been very limited this past year with the Covid-19 pandemic issues across the nation. I hope everything is getting back to normal for you and that we will start to see opportunities to get together as surveyors again in the coming year.

The Utah Council of Land Surveyors held their Annual Surveyors Conference in February this year and offered it for both in person and virtual attendance. So far, I have not heard of many States offering their conference for in person attendance. I believe that Georgia is looking into one for their upcoming conference, but they are waiting to see how the Covid-19 numbers are going before making a final decision. Let us know if you hear of any other conferences being offered in person this year.

We need to remain vigilant on all County Surveyor issues and work to educate those wanting to make changes to the County Surveyors Office, so they know the importance of the County Surveyors Office.

Hope to see you soon in a County Surveyors Forum at a State Conference or with NSPS at one of their meetings.

**Marv Myers, PS**  
**Crawford County Surveyor, Michigan**  
**Roscommon County Surveyor, Michigan**  
**NACS Past-President**  
**2021 Annual Meeting Report**

Covid-19 has impacted everyone. In March 2020, we were sent home to self-quarantine for 14 days, then a month, then months continued with the time to return to the office and normal working conditions being extended several times. As I write this report remotely from home, the decision to continue having our offices closed to normal operations was extended for at least another month.

Last year I received an email that offered a solution: "Dear God, Could we please uninstall 2020 and re-install it? 2020 has a virus!!" Working remotely has kept our IT staff busy as we made the transition from office to home and I think of that message every time I called them for assistance.

2020 was a busy year for us. Survey requests and real estate sales increased creating a shortage of available homes for sale. New construction of homes provided a back log of work for contractors and infrastructure funded projects. Surveyors in Michigan are classified as essential workers and I don't know anyone that does not have a backlog of work.

In 2021 the backlog continues, and projects are scheduled out several months with some surveyors turning work down. Will this last? Can qualified staffing be hired to meet the demand? Will the vaccine be available to all of us this year? Just a few things to ponder.

The Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors hosted their 1<sup>st</sup> 'virtual annual conference.' The program had about 360± attending with only a few technical IT issues. I believe even when we can meet in person, virtual learning will be part of the future. Our speakers recorded their presentations and were available for live chat to answer questions. That was the good part. The programs were excellent and all those who worked to put it together are to be commended for their hard work. The bad part was not being able to socialize with everyone and checkout the exhibits. Given a choice, I would prefer to meet in person.

The 2020 NACo Legislative Conference met in person (the last in person meeting) where I participated in the NACo Business & Interim Policy Resolutions meeting and committee meetings with a 147 page agenda. Conference highlights included: President Donald J. Trump; (Ret.) General Colin Powell; Secretary David Bernhardt; US Department of Interior; Secretary Ben Carson; US Department of Housing and Urban Development to name a few speakers. The 2020 NACo July meet was held virtually using Microsoft Teams with a 73 page agenda. It was very different for me to transition

to a meeting format that has become so common place. I had a voting app on my phone and attended the meeting on my laptop at the kitchen table. I was reappointed to the Public Land Steering Committee by President Gary Moore and will continue to be active in NACo and support NACS interest too.

The 2020 NACS annual Board of Directors meeting held at Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells was held in person with the changing of officers. Two new board members were elected. Joe McNichols, from Massachusetts is our new Eastern States Director and Ray Mathe from California is our new Western States Director. They are welcomed to their new leadership roles on the board. Their experiences may differ from a metes and bounds eastern states region to a public land survey system western states region, but we all benefit from their diversity.

The Wisconsin County Surveyors Association was provided a draft copy of a Memorandum of Understanding between the NACS and WCSA to become a member of NACS.

We received notification that NACS resolution submitted to NACo: "Resolution to Repair and Maintain the Public Land Survey System", was extended.

Retired Oscoda County Surveyor Norman Caldwell, author and frequent contributor to our NACS newsletter, won the 2020 NSPS Best Feature Article – "Autobiography of Land Survey Monument." It was submitted by a young surveyor, Paul McClung, who is the editor of the Michigan Surveyor Magazine where it appeared summer of 2019. It can be found in the May 2017 NACS newsletter.

We have lost a few members to retirement, passing and elections. All members can help keep our membership strong by inviting new County Surveyors to join NACS. Please do your part to keep us strong. Include staff as association members they need you as mentors and someday they will be making footsteps for other Surveyors to follow.

**Chuck Pearson, PLS  
Clackamas County Surveyor, Oregon (ret.)  
NACS Secretary/Treasurer  
2021 Annual Meeting Report**

In addition to preparing agendas for face-to-face meetings, virtual meetings, conference calls and the Annual Membership Meeting; preparing the minutes of all meetings; preparing sufficient copies of information for the Annual Membership meeting whether it be an actual face to face meeting or a virtual meeting; and continuing to be the “thorn” in the side of the rest of the Board trying to assure that they know the where, what and when of the organization’s event.

The other part of my duties is to pay the organizations bills, manage annual dues (with the participation of our management firm, Association Management), and manage the assets of NACS. Previously, finding a bank that was willing to pay a reasonable interest has been very difficult. However, last year I contacted Wells Fargo and took advantage of a special offer which raised our monthly interest from about 0.02% annually to a special rate of 2.65% annually.. Unfortunately, NACS did not have sufficient funds for the \$25,000 threshold for this rate. To make up the difference, I made a loan from my personal funds in the amount of \$5,000. The NACS Board authorized the payment of interest on my loan in the same amount Wells Fargo was providing. This resulted in an actual repayment to my personal account of \$5108.81. This special interest rate has since expired, and we transferred the majority of the remaining NACS funds of \$21,001.44 to our checking account (\$1,501.44) and to CD accounts at a Credit Union (\$19,500). While we’re only earning 0.5% currently on the CD’s, it is far better than the 0.02% offered by Wells Fargo,

**2021 Membership:** The dues notices for 2021 were sent this past December and a second notice has been sent. Remaining dues are current, with the exception of about 20 members, and some from the Washington Council of County Surveyors; the Wisconsin County Surveyors Association; and the Kansas Association of County Surveyors (all of the members if the Kansas and Wisconsin Associations are also members of NACS through Memorandums of Understanding), Unfortunately, the Kansas Association has fallen in disarray. Evidently no County Surveyor appears to be in charge, most likely due to the pandemic, and they have lost their IRS tax exempt status and their state Corporation status. Hopefully as the nation recovers, they will also be able to recover their Association.

**New Members:** If you are aware of others who are not members, please send us their contact information ([nacs@countysurveyor.org](mailto:nacs@countysurveyor.org)). If you have a statewide association of county surveyors or other similar association, a copy of the roster would be very helpful. Barring that, a copy of the state surveying association roster or a link to a web site would also help.



**Membership Certificates:** If you do not have a certificate, please let Association Management know ([nacs@countysurveyors.org](mailto:nacs@countysurveyors.org)).

**Corporate Status:** We continue staying on track with incorporation in Oregon with a recent renewal with the Department of Commerce. We are also complying with the IRS filing requirements.

**Budget:** A copy of the proposed NACS budget for 2021/22 is presented for your consideration.

**Membership Development:** We have contracted with “Association Management Services (AMS)”, who continues to provide membership services and billing, a web site ([countysurveyors.org](http://countysurveyors.org)), a periodic newsletter, and are continuing to develop new membership contacts throughout the country.

**Facts of Life in Oregon:** Regarding the status of County Surveyor’s Offices in Oregon, the majority of them are working remotely. While some offices have minimal staffs, they are still offering service to the public often by appointment only. The Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors are meeting monthly in a virtual mode which also includes their conference. The Professional Land Surveyors in Oregon (PLSO) are doing the same. The Oregon Legislature, which is in session now, is having in person committee meetings and Legislative meetings. However, the public is not allowed to enter the capitol to testify but must rather offer written testimony on proposed legislation or testify by Zoom which is very difficult to arrange.

**Ray Mathe, PLS  
San Diego County, California  
NACS Western States Director  
2021 Annual Meeting Report**

I am somewhat new as the Western States Director of the National Association of County Surveyors, joining the Board for the first Board conference call on June 24, 2020 and as the Western States Director during the September 9, 2020 Board conference call. Since then, I have participated in one additional conference call this year and am looking forward to the “virtual” NACS Annual Membership meeting this coming April 14<sup>th</sup>.

In the western states, there does not appear to have been a slowdown in map submittals despite the Covid-19 pandemic. In fact, several areas have experienced an increase in workload over the last year. Some offices have remained open with in person services implementing various Covid-19 protocols and others have relied on an increased use of technology to provide services to professionals and the public.

One interesting fact is that some County Surveyors have experienced an increase in inquiries concerning boundary disputes between neighbors. It seems that since property owners have been working from home during the day, they can see their property lines in and some are taking exception to their neighbor's home improvements which are affecting their apparent property boundaries.

**Martin C. Dunn, P.S.  
Macomb County Surveyor, Michigan  
NACS Central States Director  
2021 Annual Meeting Report**

I attended the 2020 Western Regional Survey conference at the Kalahari Resorts and Conventions in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. This was a fantastic venue and I am planning a summer vacation with my family there this year.

I participated in the Annual Membership Meeting of the National Association of County Surveyors with fellow board members. The meeting was well attended and members were able to voice their opinions and concerns regarding the past and the future of County Surveyors. Many of the questions and concerns were related to the preservation of Public Land Survey System Corners. Ideas were presented as to how we could have the federal government provide funding for the re-monumenting and maintaining the government corners that they originally set.

I participated in 3 Special Board Meeting Telephone Conference Calls. Topics of discussion included: By-law revisions, membership growth, the location of 2021 meeting, budgets, brochures, NACO meetings and election of Officers

I have been the Surveyor Representative of the Macomb County Michigan Remonumentation Program since 2003. Contractors continue to research, monument and record PLSS corners.

In 2020 we prepared an updated Macomb County Remonumentation Plan. The plan includes the progress made remonumenting section, protracted (i.e. center posts) and property controlling corners over the last 28 years. We have been remonumenting corners since 1993 and we are scheduled to complete remonumenting by the end of 2022. Beginning in 2023 we will move into maintaining the corners.

The State of Michigan's Remonumentation Program has benefitted surveyors in the state, providing accurate locations that surveyors can rely on in performing their work. Other County Departments also have reaped the benefits of the Remonumentation Program. The Planning Department is provided the Latitude and Longitude of the corners and they use them to accurately prepare their GIS base maps. The County Department of Roads uses the corners in the planning and construction layout.

**Joseph M. McNichols, PLS  
Norfolk County Surveyor, Massachusetts (ret.)  
NACS Eastern States Director  
2021 Annual Meeting Report**

The Covid-19 pandemic has presented issues related to the surveying profession. Public works construction projects have continued without issue. While most states deemed that construction was an essential industry, several including Massachusetts did not include surveyors in their initial orders. Later guidance clarified that those professions associated with or in support of construction were deemed essential. As a result of being essential, many surveying companies were required to adjust working conditions to protect their workers. Overall guidance from the federal and state governments was quite broad and general. In my state the Massachusetts Association of Land Surveyors and Civil Engineers presented a webinar in April where several firms shared their decisions on how to cope with surveying, with the crews in the field and employees working remotely.

Employment remains robust while the pool of qualified personnel is extremely limited. One local firm was offering a \$2,500 signing bonus for crew chiefs, field technicians, and office technicians.

The following colleges and universities offer an on-line ABET accredited undergraduate degree program:

University of Maine - Surveying Engineering Technology (BS, TAC)  
North Carolina A&T State University - Geomatics (BS, ANSAC)  
East Tennessee State University - Surveying and Mapping (BS, ASAC)

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic NCEES cancelled the 2020 Surveying Education Awards.

# National Association of County Surveyors

## Proposed Budget 2021/2022

	2019/2020 Actual	2020/2021 Budget	2020/2021 Year to Date	2021/2022 Proposed
<b>INCOME</b>				
Beginning Balance	\$ n/a	\$ 4,194.37	\$ 4,194.37	\$ 11,000.00
Transfer from Wells Fargo (savings)	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,108.81	\$ 0.00
Transfer from Wells Fargo (savings)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,501.44	\$ 0.00
Transfer from Wells Fargo (savings)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 19,600.00	\$ 0.00
Wells Fargo Interest	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.00
Dues	\$ 7,215.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 8,055.00	\$ 8,500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 11,215.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,194.37</b>	<b>\$ 38,460.30</b>	<b>\$ 19,500.00</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
<b>Travel</b>				
President				
NACo Annual Meeting-July	\$ 2,051.47	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,000.00
NACo Fall Board-December	\$ 86.86	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
NACo Legislative Conference-March	\$ 1,413.94	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
NACo WIR Board-May	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Board Member Travel	\$ 1,450.16	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,000.00
<b>TOTAL TRAVEL</b>	<b>\$ 5,002.43</b>	<b>\$ 8,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,000.00</b>
<b>Materials and Services</b>				
Awards	\$ 139.41	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 250.00
Bank Charges - Charged to OnPoint Checking	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Conference Calls	\$ 163.89	\$ 250.00	\$ 132.53	\$ 250.00
Credit Card Fees	\$ 63.76	\$ 61.28	\$ 61.28	\$ 150.00
Office Supplies/Misc	\$ 258.53	\$ 384.30	\$ 384.30	\$ 750.00
Professional Services				
Management Services	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 3,600.00
Corporation Filings	\$ 0.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Refunds	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 250.00
Loan Repayment	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,108.81	\$ 0.00
To OnPoint Credit Union (CD's)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 0.00
OnPoint Checking Account (required)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 98.00	\$ 100.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 4,825.59</b>	<b>\$ 3,445.58</b>	<b>\$ 27,936.92</b>	<b>\$ 5,300.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 9,828.02</b>	<b>\$ 11,445.58</b>	<b>\$ 27,936.92</b>	<b>\$ 11,300.00</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ n/a</b>	<b>\$ -7,251.21</b>	<b>\$ 10,523.38</b>	<b>\$ 8,200.00</b>