

**MEETING NOTES**  
**SURVEYING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) MEETING**  
**TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS**

**July 22, 2022**  
**10a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**TBPELS Offices, 1917 S IH-35, Austin, TX**  
**Also via Zoom**

**Discuss and Possibly Act on the Following Agenda Items:**

- Call to Order
- Introductions / Agenda -Attendees

Jon Hodde, RPLS, SAC Member

Paul Kwan, RPLS, SAC Member

Manny Carrizales, RPLS, SAC Member

Stan Piper, RPLS, LSLS, SAC Member

Heather Welch-Westfall, RPLS, SAC Member

Davey Edwards, PhD, RPLS, LSLS, SAC Member (via Zoom)

Coleen Johnson, RPLS, TPBELS Board Liaison

Mark Neugebauer, RPLS, LSLS, TBPELS Board Liaison

Lance Kinney, PhD, PE, TBPELS Executive Director

Michael Sims, PE, TBPELS Director of Compliance & Enforcement

Rick Strong, PE, TBPELS Director of Licensing & Registration

Ed Brannan, PE, TBPELS, Technical Specialist

Tejashri Kyle, PE, TBPELS, Technical Specialist (via Zoom)

- Exam Update
  - State Specific Exams / Timeline
  - Current Exams

Mr. Strong shared information about the current state specific exam development process and the timeline for the exam. The SAC discussed the milestones and possible dates for conversion to the NCEES PS Exam + state specific exam model. They emphasized the importance of a long lead time to allow examinees the chance to prepare for the new exam process. The committee also discussed allowing the PS and state specific to be taken in any order (one not dependent on the other) and encouraged more frequent state specific offerings since PS is year-round.

- Rules Report
  - Clean Up Package Update

Mr. Sims reported that the recent rule clean-up package was adopted by the Board at the May meeting and has been posted in the Texas Register. He provided a summary of rule provisions.

- LSLs Sealing rules

Mr. Sims reported that the amendments to the LSLs sealing rules as discussed previously with the SAC were approved by the Board at the May meeting to solicit public feedback and has been published in the Texas Register. Pending public comments, they will be presented at the August meeting for possible adoption.

- AG Opinion Update

Mr. Sims reported that the AG opinion regarding subdivision requirements in counties near the Texas / Mexico border has been received and posted on the website. It has also been shared with TSPS and included in our outreach materials. We are working on an FAQ as well.

- SAC Membership Application Update

Dr. Kinney reviewed the application process for new SAC members that was previously developed by the SAC and approved by the board. This included an application process and application review by staff, the SAC, and the Board. 3 new members will be added to the SAC for a total of 9 members. SAC members will serve 3-year terms and each year, 3 members terms will end and 3 members will be appointed.

Demographics were discussed as it relates to the membership of the SAC and the intent to provide a broad coverage of the state geographically, representation of different years of experience, areas of practice, small/large firms as well as sole practitioners, representation by gender, and inclusion of underrepresented groups. Given the current makeup of the SAC, gaps were identified to help focus the search.

79 applications were received; 76 were separate individuals (3 duplicates / blank). Of those, 16 were very short or incomplete. Of the remainder, staff sorted applications based on content and responses, providing 38 qualified applications that were then sorted by demographic needs. Of those, 14 were selected as qualified and addressed demographic needs for the makeup of the SAC. NOTE: This does not mean that other applicants were not qualified; rather that they may fit in the future as members roll off and new representation is needed.

The 14 names were presented to the SAC for discussion and consideration. After a robust discussion and feedback from members, including board liaison members Johnson and Neugebauer, the following three members were nominated for consideration by the Board:

- Vasileios Kalogirou, RPLS
- David McDow, RPLS, LSLs
- Dorothy Taylor, RPLS

- Surveying FAQ Draft

Mr. Sims presented a draft surveying FAQ that staff is developing for the TBPELS website. He asked SAC members to review and provide feedback both on current questions and wording as well as additional items to add to the FAQ going forward. He will set a deadline for edits to be submitted.

- 32 Hour Course Guideline Discussion

Mr. Strong presented a summary of the current breakdown of hours required to meet the 32-hour requirement for associates degrees as well as for non-surveying bachelors degrees. Staff has a list developed previously by TPBLS but would like to review and update as needed. The committee discussed the current content and possible changes.

During the discussion, it was noted by TBPELS staff that an outreach goal is to connect with associates degree programs that both offer surveying certificates and those that offer surveying courses that could count toward the 32 hours (but possibly not a fully degree or certificate). This has been challenging. Mr. Piper reported that TSPS has begun an education task force related to this topic. Instead of duplicating efforts in the same area, Dr. Kinney asked to partner in this effort. Mr. Piper reached out the task force contact and we will be meeting together to discuss outreach, course content, and efforts to encourage engagement in surveying as a profession.

- Pipeline / Floodplain Issue – Piper

Mr. Piper presented an issue he has encountered in his practice to get feedback from the RPLS members of the SAC. Feedback was provided.

- Adjourn