Minnesota Association of County Surveyors

Minutes from March 15, 2018

Cragun’s Resort MNDOT Technical Conference

Meeting called to Order 4:30pm

Introductions: Nick Stewart, Robin Mathews, Ryan Miller, Jay Krafthefer, Pete Jenkins, Pat Veraguth, Steve Jobe, Dale Lempke, Jeff Ekblad, Mike Fangman, Tim Eklund, Russ Heiling, Lisa Hanni.

Approval of March meeting minutes stayed until final draft is complete

Committee Reports

Membership (Steve Jobe):

Discussion was held about creating a survey monkey questionnaire to get feedback for more convenient times, dates and places for MACS meetings. This may be beneficial to increasing attendance. Electronic attendance was discussed (e.g. Skype, GoToMeeting, and conference call in). Also the questionnaire would inquire how counties are employing surveyors (e.g. by individual contract, county surveyor contract, as needed, full time, part time, etc…).

ROW Manual (Pete Jenkins):

The manual is in last review status as exhibits need to be added. The committee needs one more meeting to complete its final draft to present to MSPS and MACS membership. Discussion was held that the manual should be ready for a full/whole package review by May 1, if possible, this would give time for review and discussion at the May meeting.

PLSS (Pat Veraguth, Lisa Hanni):

Handouts were given (see attachments). Discussion was held on possible funding avenues for the PLSS remonumentation project. Legacy funding has been applied for a pilot project. Recorder’s funds and possible Mortgage/Deed tax funding were discussed as possible funding options. The consensus of the group was that the completion of this project is going to take public and private surveyor cooperation along with possible partnerships and that not every county would need, nor can they afford, a full time county surveyor. All agreed the work needs to be done by a Licensed Land Survey per State Statute. Possible partners such as MNGEO and other GIS groups were discussed. All Corner Certificates would be held in the County Recorder’s Office or on file in the County Surveyor’s Office as applicable by State Statute. The need for continued maintenance of the corners was discussed.

Legislative:

There is not any survey related items of interest.

AMC:

Our representative will remain Tim Eklund. Robin may attend the upcoming meeting in his place to represent MACS.

Business Items:

Tim Eklund attended the annual NACS meeting in conjunction with the Western Regional Surveying Conference. There were 30+ attendees at the meeting. Among other topics discussed, NACS is putting efforts into the importance of County Surveyors and the advantage of having a surveyor on staff. The 2019 meeting location is TBD.

Discussion was held for second week in October for the Fall Seminar in St. Cloud, Board will ask Jim to schedule (avoid conflict MEA and MN GIS/LIS conference). Possible topics/presenters were discussed such as Rod Squires (U of M), “Photogrammetry 101” and its applications by Martinez, Digging for monuments by Pat V., Ground Penetrating Radar, Official Maps and Statutes, ROW plat manual, safety in the workplace, roadway vacations,… Other possible topics should be emailed to a Board member. Continued support and cooperation with MSPS for the student “social hour” was agreed upon.

Discussion was held on setting goals and expectations for the committees. The Board/membership should have clearer and more specific goals to help direct the committees.

Other Business:

Official County Maps were discussed. These are prepared per State Statute 394.361. An Ordinance is required to prepare such maps. Discussion was held on the purpose of these Official Maps

Lisa Hanni presented reordering of promotional supplies was voted and motion approved. Items involved are MACS logo rulers, historic maps, name tags and mugs.

Steve Jobe will get cost estimates will be sought for the updating and maintenance of the survey Kiosk in New Albin, MN (Initiated by Don Borcherding, Ed Otto, Pat Veraguth and others) representing the location of historical importance to the beginning of the land survey for Minnesota.

Nick Stewart presented an overview of a platting issue involving metes and bounds and Torrens lands. Discussion was held on how the prior adjacent roadway dedication and the possible vacation could affect the proposed platted rights. The property title research revealed a possible historic School District interest also. All agreed that future discussion of this issue should be discussed as the plat moves toward possible recording.

Next MACS meeting (time and dates TBD):

May Olmsteadt County

July Pioneer Village (see handout)

September Pine County

October Seminar in St. Cloud

Meeting Adjourned 6pm