

# TEXAS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

## OFFICIAL REPORT FORMAT

### CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER 13 REPORT

DIVISION: Society Affairs      DIV #: 1      DIVISION OFFICER: Alan Mclain  
COMMITTEE: Chapter Activities      CHAIRMAN REPORTING: David A. McDow

BOARD MEETING DATE: August 29, 2009

### CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER 13 REPORT

#### **Regular Membership Meetings:**

Chapter 13 has had three regular meetings during this quarter; two were held on the third Thursday of the month and the other on the fourth Thursday.

May 21, 2009 – The Manager of the Lower Colorado River Authority's (LCRA) Surveying, Mapping & GIS Department, Fred Crawford was May's speaker. The meeting was held at Cannoli Joe's and there were approximately 30 members and guests who enjoyed the informative speech Mr. Crawford presented. Mr. Crawford's presentation was on the LCRA's land acquisition along the Highland Lakes area of Central Texas. Mr. Crawford had explanatory maps showing the various acquisition areas and history of those acquisitions. Chapter 13 raised \$20 at the meeting for SURPAC

June 25, 2009 – Certified Federal Surveyors Program (CFedS) and Licensed State Land Surveyor, Davey Edwards, was June's speaker. The meeting was held at Cannoli Joe's and there were approximately 25 members and guests who enjoyed the informative speech Mr. Edwards presented. Mr. Edwards reported on the process it takes to become certified in the CFedS program. In addition, Mr. Edwards discussed the importance behind the CFedS certification and the reasons the program was created. Mr. Edwards provided attendees with a CFedS information DVD that explain the program in greater detail. Chapter 13 raised \$20 at the meeting for SURPAC.

July 16, 2009 – Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying (TBPLS) Investigations/Complaints Officer, Garey Gilley, was July's speaker at the annual Capital Area Chapter 13 and Alamo Chapter 11's Joint meeting. The meeting was held at Gruene River Grill with approximately 40 Chapter 13 members in attendance. Mr. Gilley reviewed the complaint process as regards to how a complaint comes into TBPLS and the ultimate outcome of the complaint. He then discussed the Jefferson County surveyor and his use of incorrect elevation information and the stance TBPLS has toward elevations. He then spoke about Texas Administrative Code, Title 22 Examining Boards, Part 29 TBPLS, Chapter 663 Standards of Responsibility and Rules of Conduct, Subchapter B Professional and Technical Standards, Rule §663.17 Monumentation and the difficulty the Board has had in creating wording to cause surveyors to set all property corners in their survey (as it stands now not all property corners have to be monumented). All in attendance enjoyed Mr. Gilley's informative speech. Chapter 13 raised \$22 for SURPAC.

#### **Executive Committee Meetings**

Chapter 13 has had three Executive Committee (ExComm) meetings all occurring on the first Wednesday of each month.

May 6, 2009 – The replacement of Second Year Director, Jim Boswell, was the first item discussed. Jim was one of the casualties of this economic downturn and has been unemployed for a few months. He had the option of moving to Big Spring, Texas, and he took advantage of that opportunity. His hopes are that he is able to return to the Central Texas area soon. We wish Jim all the best and hope he is able to return to the Austin area soon. Article VII, Election of Officers and Directors, Section 3 of the Chapter Constitution states: "In case of vacancies, officers and directors shall be appointed by the Executive Board to fill the unexpired term". Due to Jim's vacation of the Second-year Director's position, we (the ExComm) discussed potential candidates and all agreed to appoint Eric Dannheim, RPLS, with Chaparral Professional Land Surveying as the interim Second Year Director. The ExComm welcomes Eric and we look forward to working with him for the rest of this term. The ACC Books item remained tabled until John Barnard could be in attendance. Dana Schaeffer has been in

contact with Westbank Library but has not heard back yet. Miguel Escobar is working on a roving surveying display, but was not present to report on the progress at the time of this meeting. Upcoming lunch speakers was the next item discussed. The last lunch speaker spot to fill during the present administration is for our August Lunch. David McDow suggested asking Gina O'Hara to discuss Errors, Omissions, and Professional Liability Insurance for the August lunch. David agreed to follow up with Gina. James Redmon reported that the CST exam would be offered at Convention and that a CST course should be scheduled for 10 weeks prior to Convention (sometime in July). James was checking with Paul Easley to see if the facilities at PBS&J could be used for the CST Preparation Course.

June 3, 2009 –Logistics as regards to the Chapter supplying books for incoming ACC students that planned on getting a degree in surveying had been plaguing the ExComm. We removed this item from the agenda until after the Annual Meeting. Miguel Escobar and Dana Schaetter were not present to report on the Westbank Library and Round Rock ISD public relations items and were tabled till the next meeting. The ExComm had been tasked with creating Chapter Level position descriptions. These "cheat sheets" are to be turned in July so other ExComm members can circulate them for review and comments. James Redmon reported that the CST Preparation Course is setup for August 8th and he is coordinating with Paul Easley, PBS&J, for a space to hold the event. New meeting locations for Chapter lunches were discussed, but nothing decided upon. Eric Dannheim reported the progress on the upcoming Tree Seminar. He reported that the event would be held at Zilker Rock Garden at Zilker Park and it would be held on July 11, 2009. We then discussed how much we wanted to charge and we agreed that if TBPLS approved the course for CEUs we would charge \$120 for professionals and \$60 for para-professionals. David McDow reported that the course was in the process of being approved by TBPLS and the Board will vote on to approve it at their next board meeting.

July 1, 2009 – The Westbank Library item has been tabled until further notice. David McDow is working on compiling all of the position descriptions the ExComm members wrote and agreed to present them at the August meeting. Dana Schaetter reported that she is checking with China Star on pricing as a potential lunch meeting location. James Redmon reported he was waiting on confirmation from PBS&J for the CST Course location. David agreed to send out the flier for the course, once the location was confirmed. The upcoming tree seminar was discussed and everyone agreed we should provide water for the attendees. David reported that the Tree Seminar had been approved for 4 CEUs from the Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying (TBPLS). The November meeting speaker was the first new item discussed. John Barnard agreed to contact Doug Meeks, a representative for DigTess, to see if he would be our speaker for the November meeting. Dave Klotz and Mark Allen reported that forms for the Chapter awards to be presented at the upcoming convention had been submitted.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David A. McDow