



STATE OF TENNESSEE
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR LAND SURVEYORS
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March 22, 2014 - Minutes
Embassy Suites Hotel
Murfreesboro, TN

The Tennessee Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors met on Saturday March 22, 2014 to hold a “Roundtable Q&A” session at 11:30 a.m. in the Oakleigh Room of the Embassy Suites Hotel, Murfreesboro, TN, in conjunction with the Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors (TAPS) 46th Annual Conference.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Lingerfelt
Galyon Northcutt
Sue Braly
Jay Caughman

Chairman Lingerfelt read the following public meeting statement into the record: *This roundtable discussion is taking place at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 1200 Conference Center Boulevard, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, 37129, and notice of this Board/commission meeting was posted on the Land Surveyors Board website, www.tn.gov/regboards/surveyors, on February 6, 2014.*

Chairman Lingerfelt informed the attendees there would be no discussion on complaints or the “10-year rule”.

Chairman Lingerfelt invited all TAPS members to attend our board meetings at any time. The public is always welcomed to attend the board meetings.

Chairman Lingerfelt also talked about how it was a privilege to be a surveyor in Tennessee. He talked about the responsibility of the being a surveyor. Chairman Lingerfelt informed the attendees that it was their responsibility to keep their surveyor’s license active and their continuing education credits up to date. He stated that this was not the Board’s responsibility to keep them up to date on this matter.

Some of the other items that were discussed:

Right of entry and encroachments on someone's property

It is the surveyor's responsibility to notify their client and the adjoining property owner to inform them of the encroachment and to get permission to cross the adjoining property owner if there is a problem crossing their property while doing the survey.

Rules on Conduct of Practice:

If a licensed surveyor comes across a problem with another licensee or non-licensee, it is their responsibility to report them or the problem to the State Board.

If a licensed surveyor has someone working under them that want to become licensed, it is the licensed surveyor's responsibility to look over their application and the two maps they are submitting with their application. If something is found wrong with the maps, it reflects back to the licensed surveyor.

If a licensed surveyor has more than one office, they must have a licensed surveyor in each office.

Compliance: Communication between license surveyor and client is very important.

The floor was then opened for the following questions:

Jimmy Cleveland asked a question regarding continuing education requirements.

Do continuing education courses from other states count toward CE credits in Tennessee? *Courses must be presented to the board for approval if you are taking one that is questionable in Tennessee. Most courses that are allowed in other states are most of the time approved for CE credits in Tennessee. Tennessee allows fifteen (15) CE credits. If another state, for example Kentucky allows eight (8) hours, their hours are credited in Tennessee, but you are responsible for the other seven (7) hours needed to complete fifteen (15) CE hours in Tennessee. Note: Some courses taken in other states do not qualify in Tennessee.*

Paul Jones had questions about CE hours for surveyors over 65 years of age. He stated Tennessee should have some hardship clause stating that Surveyors over sixty-five (65) should be exempt from CE credits or not have to have as many hours. Sixty-five (65) year olds in Georgia do not have to have CE hours. They are exempt.

Jim Bower stated if there was a uniform National Standards of Practice all states would have the same CE credits and if you want to change the law, go to the legislature.

Henry Williams is an attorney and surveyor. He stated that he was seventy (70) years old and his age group needed CE credits more that anyone. If you do not keep up with all the changes and new technology, you will be left behind.

Jay Caughman stated that there was a hardship section in our Standards of Practice book.

Brian Bartlett thanked the Board for their hard work and all they do for the surveyors. He also stated that in 1995 you had to have four (4) hours of CE credits. In 1996, you had to have eight (8) hours of CE credits, and in 1997, you had to have fifteen (15) hours. So over the years you would have two hundred seventy-one (271) hours in CE credits. To get a PhD over those years you would have two hundred seventy (270) hours.

Mark Sorsby wanted to know who approved the courses. He was told the continuing education advisory committee approved the courses for the CE credits in Tennessee.

Explanation on Right of Entry: Sometimes you may have to get an injunction or a Sheriff's deputy to go with you to cross an adjoining property owner's property if he tells you to get off his property while doing a survey. There are really no rules for encroachments.

There being no further questions, the meeting ended at 12:21 p.m.