

**Wisconsin Presidents Council
Organization Reports**

November 2021

Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials – WI Chapter

Submitted by Christopher D. Johll, WI-NENA & WI-APCO President
cjohll@co.grant.wi.gov

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

ESINet roll out in Wisconsin

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

County Surveyors Association

Submitted by Ryan Duckart, President
ryan.duckart@browncountywi.gov

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

We do not have any at this time.

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

Our organization is really looking forward to having the PLSS Forum again this upcoming year.

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

Wisconsin County Surveyors Association (WCSA) Presidents Council Meeting Report – November 17, 2021:

COUNTY SURVEYOR STATUS: The current status of County Surveyors in Wisconsin is as follows: There are 61 County Surveyors in Wisconsin – 36 serving on a full-time basis, 28 serving on a part-time basis. 8 counties choose to function without a County Surveyor. Four Counties still elect their County Surveyor Iowa, Portage, Sauk and Vilas.

MEETINGS: In addition to an annual membership meeting held virtually in January, the WCSA board of directors met 4 times this year, a hybrid meeting twice in Neillsville and a hybrid meeting twice in Wisconsin Rapids. While these quarterly meetings technically constitute a Board of Directors meeting, we have anywhere between 20 and 35 people attend. There were educational segments with representatives from The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (Mick Heberlein), The State Cartographer's Office (Dave Vogel) and the National Geodetic Survey (Jacob Heck) in attendance. We are seeing not only surveyors, but many others from the land information community (GIS Mappers, property listers, vendors, etc.) taking part in our meetings.

GPS on Benchmarks: This year there was a big emphasis on the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) GPS on Benchmarks project within our organization. Several County Surveyors along with a handful of private entities have been working diligently to collect as many observations as possible on horizontal and vertical control stations across the state. These observations need to be a minimum of 4 hours long and each monument is required to have 2 observations since 2014 and need to be completed by December 31st to be included in the 2022 Geoid model. Currently, there are about 15,000 NGS benchmarks in Wisconsin and about 47% of the marks have been observed. NGS plans to update the reference epochs for the Geoid model every 5 years so observations will need to be done continuously on these monuments (at least once in a 10-year span) and any new monuments that were not completed this year to be included in the updates.

PLSS Forum: The Wisconsin PLSS Forum is titled "*The PLSS: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*" that was scheduled for April 28, 2020 in Marinette, Wisconsin was postponed due to Covid-19. There are plans to give it a try again in Marinette in April of 2022, but no dates have been set.

STATE BOUNDARY CONCERN: This was not addressed again this past year. I will again blame Covid-19. There were some similar discussions at one of our Board of Directors meetings about county boundaries that fall within the shorelines of rivers. The exact location of Wisconsin's western state boundary is uncertain. It lies within the shorelines of the Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers, but neither Wisconsin nor Minnesota can accurately point to an exact location of that line. Locating this line is important for four main reasons:

EMERGENCIES - Emergencies frequently take place on rivers. 911 dispatchers need to know immediately which municipal emergency response unit(s) to dispatch to those emergencies. Seconds count in emergency situations and uncertainty can cause unnecessary delays and possibly result in loss of life.

REGULATIONS - Boating, fishing and hunting regulations require adherence and enforcement. Both citizens and those responsible for administering regulations have a genuine need to know an exact location for the State line to enforce applicable laws.

CONSTRUCTION - Bridge projects take place to connect states. An accurate state line location is necessary to determine how many federal dollars each state would receive for these projects and to apply prevailing wage rates.

OFFICIAL RECORDS - Should a tragedy take place on the river, a death certificate would need to be filed. Knowing the location of the state line will determine which Coroner would be called to investigate the death and file the death certificate. Our attempt to remedy the situation is to create a boundary line agreement for a line that is workable for both states. We are in the early stages of this effort and we realize there is much work to be done to accomplish a final line.

WCSA Summary: 2021 was a better year than 2020 but I feel we still have some work to do to get past the effects of Covid-19. It was nice to be able to have in-person meetings (for those who were able to attend) but there are still some things that need to be worked out to improve the virtual side of having hybrid meetings like we did.

Respectfully submitted: Ryan Duckart – WCSA President

County Treasurers' Association

Submitted by Trenten Woelfel, President
Trenten.Woelfel@outagamie.org

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

See attached for current legislative initiatives. Unsure of any new initiatives in 2022.

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

We finally were able to hold a conference for WCTA members in October 2021. The conference was held at the beautiful, newly renovated Hotel Retlaw in Fond du Lac. It was wonderful to be able to meet in person.

We are currently transitioning to Bitrix24 for our communications. Rather than email communications where a lot of counties are having firewall issues and not receiving a lot of the emails.

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

Current

<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Statute</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Explanation</u>	<u>Current Status/Actions</u>
		Sale of County Owned Property	Requirement for County to pay back and proceeds to prior owner – regardless of Homestead status	Introduced by Realtors Assoc.
Act 55		Tax Rolls and Assessment Rolls to be filed Electronically w/ State-DOR	DOR to be central source of information Similar to SOA through file transfer Zipped by RE and PP by Muni.	Must be completed annually for Assessment Rolls and after completion of 2 nd installment payments.
AB254/SB247		2 nd year extension of Act 185 from 2020.	Potential of requirement to “refund” interest and penalty for delinquent payments rec’d within time period of 2/1/2021-9/30/2021.	County’s discuss with Administration and/or County Board. Do NOT adopt these provisions. Signed by Governor 10/15/2021; Wisconsin Act 80
	Ch. 70 and Ch. 79 (State Aids equality)	Personal Property Elimination	Elimination of Personal Property Tax Roll, with State Funding to Backfill...make all “Whole” Beginning in 2018.	Ongoing Discussion with DOR Tower company contract to State would cost state Hundreds of Millions of dollars if PP were eliminated.
Sen Marklein?	Ch. 74.09	MFL land classifications	Wisconsin Alliance of Forest Owners (WAFO) would like to see more specifics regarding MFL listed on the annual property tax bill. MFL is a special charge, not a tax levy Want more information on county websites to assist owners regarding options to stay in or opt out of MFL programs.	WCTA Position? WAFO contact Richard Wedephol 608-235-3946
AB609	Ch 66.1038	Municipalities can create local housing investment fund	Similar to TIF program; 4 types of qualifying properties 1. Vacant building converted into dwelling units 2. Acquired by muni from County thru tax foreclosure 3. New dwelling units 4. Dwelling units will be developed	Remain neutral-monitoring Rep. Armstrong Sen. Taylor

Dept. of Admin - Division of Intergovernmental Relations

Submitted by Jim Giglierano, Dept of Administration
jim.giglierano@wisconsin.gov

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

NG911

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

Status of lidar/elevation

Status of hydrography

Status of land cover

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

Dept. of Admin - Division of Intergovernmental Relations

Submitted by Peter Herreid, Wisconsin Land Information Program
peter.herreid@wisconsin.gov

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

None that I am aware of.

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

2021 WLIP Report was recently released, which summarizes program activities this past year:

https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/2021_WLIP_Report.pdf

2022 WLIP Grant Application was also recently released.

ROD deed recording fee revenue up:

The number of real estate documents recorded rebounded from the previous state fiscal year with a total of 1,355,032 documents recorded statewide in State Fiscal Year 2021. This is the largest number of documents recorded since FY 2007. As the WLIP is funded with \$7 from each \$30 Register of Deeds document recording fee, the recent high level of revenue will allow us to award Strategic Initiative grants at the \$60,000 level for the year 2022. As in previous years, Strategic Initiative grants are prioritized to meet benchmarks for parcel dataset improvement.

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

Dept. of Transportation

Submitted by Keif S Callaway, Bureau of Technical Services - Survey and Mapping
keif.callaway@dot.wi.gov

(see next page)

2021 Presidents Council Update: Wisconsin Department of Transportation

WISCORS Updates:

There are 104 active stations in the WISCORS Network. Of these, 90 are Wisconsin Department of Transportation stations.

- Ongoing testing regarding Iowa and Michigan stations.
- Portage station decommissioned in 2021.
- Eau Claire station to be incorporated in 2022. Located at the Eau Claire Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- Washington Island station to be incorporated in 2022. Located at the Washington Island Airport.
- Roberts 2 station to be incorporated in 2022. Located at the Roberts Park and Ride.
- Prairie du Chien station to be incorporated in 2022. Located at the Prairie du Chien Municipal Airport.
- Racine station to be incorporated in 2022. Located at Knapp Elementary School.
- Cudahy station to be incorporated in 2022. Located at Cudahy Public Works and Public Safety Building.
- Hudson station to be decommissioned in 2022 due to Hudson Safety Weight and Enforcement (SWEF) reconstruction project.
- The WISCORS Team to test partial coverage of the Beidou satellite constellation.

Geodetic Survey Updates:

The GPS on Benchmark campaign is enjoying tremendous success around the state of Wisconsin thanks to the combined efforts of public and private surveyors obtaining observations on NGS station monuments.

Horizontal stations that have an NGS accepted observation prior to the December 31, 2021 will receive a newly calculated latitude, longitude, and ellipsoid height when the 2022 datum is released. Vertical stations that have similar multiple observations will also receive a newly calculated latitude, longitude and ellipsoid height in addition to its leveled elevation. The 2022 datum release has been pushed back to 2025.

There are approximately 5,288 Vertical only stations Wisconsin Height Modernization (WI-HMP) and 3,553 WI-HMP stations with a Horizontal component for a total of 8841 stations.

As of November 1, 2021

- 3,000 observations have been processed and accepted by NGS for 2689 stations statewide. Vertical benchmarks and new stations added to the NGS National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) database require two or more observations.
- 93% of the NGS statewide hexagons have been completed.
- 76 of 80 Original Wisconsin HARN stations have been observed.
- List of non-WisDOT partners that have obtained observations. J.W. Austin Associates of Minocqua, Vernon County, LaCrosse County, Dodge County, Dunn County, Brown County, Sheboygan County, Washington County,

Burnett County, Manitowoc County, Jackson County, Clark County, Sawyer County, Washington County, Oneida County, Washburn County, Lincoln County, Rock County City of Madison, Landtech Surveying of Oconomowoc, Seiler Instruments, Leica Geosystems, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC).

Mick Heberlein will provide a wrap-up of the GPS on Benchmark campaign at the WSL Institute on Thursday, January 27, 2022.

Transportation Project Plat (TPP) Electronic Recording Updates:

- 59 of the 72 counties in Wisconsin have been contacted about E-recording TPPs.
- 49 of the 59 counties contacted are participating.
- 68 percent of the 72 counties are participating.
- As of November 1st, 2021, the Department has recorded 334 TPPs.
- 89 percent (297 of the 334) of the TPPs have been e-recorded.
- Simplifile is WisDOT's e-recording vendor.

Management Update:

David Layton accepted the position of WisDOT's Chief Surveying & Mapping Engineer.

Land Information Association

Submitted by Carmen Novak, WLIA President
carmen.novak@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

Continued support for WLIP

SB-673 Continued support for DMA budget request for NG911 GIS grant program funding

AB-371/SB-365 Broadband Expansion Grant Program

AB-426/SB-419 Sexually Violent Offender Placement

AB-65/SB-73 Real Estate Disclosure Reports

AB-217/SB-232 Provisional Licensure

AB-218/SB-233 Credentialing Board Licensure Review

AB-608 Assigning Addresses - The bill provides that a county, town, city, or village (approving authority) that has the right to approve or object to a map of a subdivision (plat) must, if the approving authority has the right to do so, assign street addresses to the lots within the plat no later than the date on which the plat is approved or deemed approved by the approving authority, unless the time is extended by agreement with the subdivider.

21-3677 The Ease of Easements Act (Draft) - This bill creates a simple exception from the statute, as is enjoyed by conservation easements, utilities and railroads easements, and interests of political subdivisions. Critical real estate access easements establishing ingress and egress to property owners' land would be honored as written and would not require re-recording after 40 years to remain in effect as intended. The presumption should be if the parties did not include a termination timeframe in the access easement, then the easement continues in perpetuity.

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

WLIA is moving ahead with planning an in-person meeting for our 35th Annual Conference, which will take place at The Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, WI on February 23–25, 2022. We have three keynote speakers lined up: Lucas Joppa, PhD, Chief Environmental Officer at Microsoft, Patricia Cummins, Government and Policy Strategy at ESRI, and Dr. Jason Stoker, Physical Scientist, USGS National Geospatial Program and ASPRS President. Furthermore, we will have an excellent lineup of educational sessions, technical workshops, an exhibitor hall, map and poster contest, networking opportunities, and much more! Learn more by visiting the conference webpage: www.wlia.org/annual-conference. The program is in the process of being finalized, but session ideas can still be submitted. If you would like

more information, please contact 2022 Conference Chair, Zach Nienow: nienowz@ayresassociates.com.

WLIA will also:

- Update foundational layers document
- Support next steps in gap analysis reports for NG911
- Monitor legislation that may impact the land information community
- Have a University and College subcommittee to get involved in the education system
- Plan conference and regional meetings to provide educational content to our members
- Undergo an AMS membership database and website upgrade

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

We are interested in learning how other organizations are navigating the planning of in-person, virtual, or hybrid events in the future. There is some demand for continued virtual events; we want to accommodate our membership while also honoring our wonderful sponsors and keeping up the networking opportunities that make WLIA so unique. Also, budget impacts and protecting the WLIP funds remains an ongoing concern and addressing future legislative efforts that might impact those funds.

Land Information Officers Network

Submitted by Robert Sommers, Chair
rsommers@greencountywi.org

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

We have formally indicated support for the idea of Next Gen 9-1-1 funding opportunities for GIS work done by/through county land information offices (grant opportunities).

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

Topics of discussion are how implementation of a WI "Daniel's Law" would work (which the WRDA has been following closely), and a proposal that subdivisions are assigned addresses upon recording. There is no official "stance" on such proposals within the organization.

We look ahead to implementation of WSRS2022.

Every county is updating its land information plan this year, applicable for the three year period beginning 2022.

Many counties have completed local redistricting on a compressed timeline, some of course are still working on it.

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

Land Title Association

Submitted by Jonathan Sayas, Board Member
jonathan.sayas@stewart.com

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

WLTA initiative - Assembly Bill 208 (Private Road Maintenance)

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

1. Continued implementation of Remote Online Notary - Wis. Stat. 140.145
2. Data security for transactions in general, including response to 2021 Wisconsin Act 73 applicable to insurance licensees for data security.
3. Statute of limitations under Wis. Stat. 893.33, specifically pertaining to easements.
4. Looking to create statutory protection for reliance on certification of authority for various corporate entities - similar to a certification of trust certificate under Wis. Stat. 701.1013.

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

- WLTA initiative - Introduced March 25, 2021 - [Assembly Bill 208](#) (Representatives Summerfield, Knodl, Rozar and Skowronski,) and Senate Bill 283 (Senator Ballweg) - House - Referred to Committee on Housing and Real Estate; Senate - Referred to Committee on Housing, Commerce and Trade.
- Problem being addressed - in residential world, FNMA prohibits lending on a private road which has no maintenance agreement BUT will lend if there is a state statute filling the gap

This bill requires all persons that have a right to use a private road or driveway located on an access easement (beneficial users) to contribute to the reasonable and necessary costs of maintenance and repair of the private road or driveway. If the beneficial users enter into a written agreement to determine how costs are shared, that agreement controls. In the absence of a written agreement, the bill requires the beneficial users to contribute an equitable share based on the amount and intensity of each beneficial user's actual use in proportion to the amount and intensity of all beneficial users' actual use.

The cost-sharing obligation created in the bill does not apply to any of the following:

1. Costs for repairing damage, beyond reasonable wear and tear, caused by a beneficial user or a guest or invitee of a beneficial user.
2. An access easement that benefits or burdens real estate owned by the state, a political subdivision, or certain entities, including railroad corporations and public utilities.

Link to 2021 Assembly Bill 208 - <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2021/proposals/ab208>

Real Property Listers Association

Submitted by April Schoolcraft, President
april.schoolcraft@co.jackson.wi.us

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

We don't plan to introduce any, but it seems as though we are watching many:

- Elimination of Personal Property (LRB-4737, repeal of AB191/SB189)
- Pre-assignment of addresses to lots within a plat (AB608)
- Elimination of Easement expiration after 40 years (we hear this is being introduced)

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

Register of Deeds Association

Submitted by Brent Bailey, President - Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association
brent.bailey@saukcountywi.gov

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

We will continue to support LRB1600, a bill that refers to certain condominium documents and various technical changes to WI Stats Chapter 703.

We are actively monitoring any state or federal legislation that is related to what is known as Daniel's Law, which deals with "CRIS" - Confidential Records Identity Shielding.

The WRDA is supporting the Private Road Maintenance Bill

The WRDA is closely monitoring any legislative activity regarding the restating of easements (TJ Auto v. Mr. Twist Holdings)

LRB3677/1 (Makes access easements permanent)

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

CRIS - Confidential Records Identity Shielding

Discrimination in Restrictive Covenants: Realtors Association will be drafting a bill on discriminatory language in the land records. Their goal is to record a declaration in the land records of the illegal and unenforceable nature of discriminatory covenants associated with a particular property. The bill has not been written yet, but we are told they are not going to propose anything be removed from the records. This document is proposed to be recorded without a recording fee.

Housing Bills: There are several bills that were introduced in the Assembly considered workforce housing bills. AB-608 states that a municipality presented with a subdivision plat must give address to each lot prior to the recording of the Plat.

HOA Bill: This bill is not written but will deal with disclosures of any HOA documents. There will be a recording in our office every time the board members are changed.

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association would like to reach out to surveyors and engineers with respect to the recording of Certified Survey Maps and Plats. Specifically, the electronic recording of these instruments vs. filing of paper versions.

Society of Land Surveyors

Submitted by Ed Harvey, President
eharvey@frontier.com

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

We have no proposed legislation at the state level for the 2022 year. The only bills which I know of that we are currently tracking are SB 561 and SB590 (both are Condo bills).

Through our affiliation with NSPS (National Society of Professional Surveyors) we are involved in the FLAIR Act, and are monitoring the Ligado situation.

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

Discussions have begun (still at a chapter level) concerning standardization of recording requirements in Wisconsin. This initiated from a discussion of media requirements for Certified Survey Maps.

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

State Agency Geospatial Information Committee

Submitted by Felipe Avila, Chair
felipe.avila@wisconsinhistory.org

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2022?

As a state agency working group we do not initiate legislation.

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2022?

NG911 and creating a state wide addressing database

Data sharing, and authoritative data in one place.

Update cycles for statewide LiDAR and orthoimagery

Inter-agency data sharing and cooperation.

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

State Cartographer's Office

Submitted by Howard Veregin, State Cartographer
veregin@wisc.edu

What legislative initiatives does your organization expect to introduce or support in 2021?

NGS's NSRS modernization plans, i.e., revising state statute to include new datums and definition of the foot

Also paying attention to forthcoming legislation for NG9-1-1 GIS data funding

What other items of interest is your association working to address in 2021?

We have a number of initiatives underway:

- Statewide parcels and PLSS (V8, E4)
- Flood-related infrastructure (WICDI and ABI)
- Expanding geospatial data access (geodata@wisconsin)
- Access to historical geospatial data and imagery
- Improved access to lidar and aerial imagery (NAIP processing, lidar processing and web access)
- WSRS2022 initiatives and meetings starting up again (Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:00 AM), at the Kalahari and remotely.
- GIS/Surveying Forum planned for April 2022 in Marinette (after missing two years).
- Post-covid recovery: new staff; new projects; new work habits; strategic plan.

See our annual report for more details: <https://www.sco.wisc.edu/pubs/state-cartographers-office-annual-report-2020-21/>

Does your organization have any concerns related to land information or land records that you would like to discuss at the Presidents Council meeting?

NG9-1-1: funding; oversight of grants process; data priorities.

NSRS modernization: coordinate transformation tools; funding for legacy data conversion; legislative changes; awareness and outreach.