



# Wyoming Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors

May 2014

*To safeguard life, health, and property; promote the public welfare; and assure those who practice the professions are licensed, and attain and maintain competence.*

## Special points of interest:

- New Rules and Regulations.
- New Mobile Application for your electronic devices.
- Nationwide verification system now available.
- EI/SI's take Professional Exams early.
- Land Surveyors 2-Hour State Specific moved to Computer Based Exam.
- In Memory of Martin A. Pedersen, LS.

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## Wyoming News

### From the President's Desk



The past year has been a very busy period for the Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. We were faced with several projects which were spawned by the Legislative and Executive Departments. Among these projects were writing our Rules to conform to the new Statutes that were put in place last year, working on a long range Strategic Plan, documenting policies for the operation of the Board, and creating pamphlets to better inform public officials of the requirements for the use of Registered Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors when submitting documents for the Public Record.

The rules process is ongoing; we need to edit portions of the Rules approved in December 2013. We have received input from those we serve and will continue to make our Rules such that we protect the Health, Safety and Welfare of the Public.

In an effort to provide a better pathway for the future of the Board, we initiated a Strategic Planning Process. In this process, we will identify long and short-term goals to better define the roll of the Board and Staff in our operations. This should give future Board Members a better understanding of how we worked in the past and going forward in the future.

A major goal of the Board is to improve our outreach to the Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors, Public Officials, and the Public. Our hope is that we can provide education as to the roll of Professionals in protecting the Public and a resource for resolution should a problem arise.

Our increase to a 9 member Board has benefited us greatly. We now have more flexibility in reviewing applications and Investigative board member issues as well as maintaining a quorum for disciplinary actions. I would like to express my personal appreciation to the efforts our staff, Christine Turk, Krista Wilson, and Troy Niesen, have given the Board and our licensees. Their dedication to the organization is a major reason we accomplish our goals toward improving the service to our licensees and the citizens of Wyoming.

Recently, we had the opportunity to work with other Member Boards in revising their Rules regarding Surveyors' ability to write legal documents necessary to their profession and the issue concerning trespassing in performance of their duties. It was gratifying to know we, as Member Boards, can work together to better serve the Wyoming Public.

On a closing note, it is with great sorrow that we lost Past Board President and Past NCEES President Martin Pedersen to cancer recently. He was active as a Board Investigator and Surveying Exam writer until his illness prevented continuing. Martin was an asset and will be missed.

Thomas V. Anderson—Board President

## In Memory Of



**M**artin A. Pedersen was born in Rawlins, Wyoming, to Rasmus and Ella Pedersen on 2 December 1946. He spent his youth in Rawlins, and graduated from Rawlins High School in 1965. He attended the *University of Wyoming*, for a short period of time. He spent approximately three months working with WYDOT before joining the surveying firm *Robert Jack Smith and Associates (RJS)*. Martin served as rodman, chain man, and instrument man, learning all the facets of land surveying that firm practiced. He completed his internship and applied for professional registration. In June 1973, the Wyoming State Board for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors awarded him his professional registration of land surveyor (No. 544). Martin was also a registered professional land surveyor in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, and South Dakota. He would then spend the remainder of his life doing the work he loved, and helping others in their trek up the road to professional registration. In 1974, Martin purchased *Robert Jack Smith and Associates* serving as its chief executive officer until 2010 when the firm became the Rawlins office of WLC.

Martin had a diverse career. He spent most of his life as a resident of Rawlins. Shortly after assuming the leadership of RJSA, Martin and former PLSW president S. Dennis Dawson, at the time a recent PLS registrant, met and executed a survey at Fort Steele. Dennis writes:

*I first met Martin in 1975 or 1976. We were both newly registered land surveyors, and had been assigned by our respective employers to work together to perform a sectional subdivision of land which encompassed the Fort Steele (historical site) and the WYDOT Fort Steele Rest Area just north of I-80 on the West side of the North Platte River. The survey was required by the State of Wyoming and the Warner Livestock Co. to describe and establish boundaries for the lands of Fort Steele to be donated to the State. We had been instructed that the survey had to be completed by 1 February. We initiated the survey in mid-January with over 12 inches of snow on the ground, and the river partially frozen. The lands to be surveyed were on both sides of the river, which would complicate our efforts. Any attempts to run survey lines across the river would not be an easy task, as the river was deep and the flow rapid. When I arrived from Cheyenne at the site, Martin was at the site with a handful of WYDOT and old railroad records indicating the GLO corners which had been found and located in earlier surveys. Invaluable assistance was provided by the rancher as he furnished two snowmobiles for the project. I immediately took Martin's records and searched the area recovering corners and other evidence required for the final boundary determination. Meanwhile, Martin performed a survey reconnaissance of the area searching for suitable transit stations with clear sight lines from which we could survey. He located a suitable site on a high point which overlooked the area. Because neither of our employers had a small, portable electronic distance measuring instrument, which had been introduced to the surveying market only one or two years earlier, his approach was to establish a small survey network covering both sides of the river and transferring lengths by triangulation. He laid out a baseline which we carefully taped. Once this network was completed, the remainder of the survey was an enjoyable snowmobile trek around the area incorporating the boundary data. I have witnessed other projects that Martin completed, and it seems to me that Martin approached each problem as a unique survey endeavor.*

During his residence in nearby Sinclair, Martin was elected to the city council and served as mayor. As far as this writer knows, this was Martin's only venture into the world of politics. He was a Boy Scout leader in Rawlins, and an active member of the *Christ Lutheran Church* in Rawlins. He served as director for the *Rawlins National Bank and Meridian Trust Federal Credit Union*. He participated in the Carbon County Search and Rescue. He joined and was active in the Elks BOPE No. 609 and the Rawlins Rotary Club. Over the years he hosted 18 Rotary Club International exchange students, and after they returned home he took the time to journey to their homes and meet their families.

**Martin Albert Pedersen**  
**2 December 1946—18 January 2014**

In January 1977, at the annual meeting of the *Wyoming Engineering Society*, Martin arranged and convened a session to explore the possibility of forming a statewide professional society for land surveyors. Martin was a major mover in the effort, and PLSW was formed on 26 April 1980. He was elected the first PLSW president. The entire history of PLSW and Martin's efforts are documented in the *History of PLSW*. Later he would receive the organization's highest honor - *Honorary Member*.

Martin was active in the *Wyoming Engineering Society*. He was elected Secretary/Treasurer (1989 - 1996). During his tenure, the secretary/treasurer's annual report was a much anticipated highlight of the WES annual meetings. Although the reports were accurate, his style of presentation was brief, but humorous and entertaining. In 1997, Martin was chairman of the annual meeting in Sheridan. He was elected WES president (1997 - 1998). Martin was also elected a WES Honorary Member.

Besides his activities in PLSW and WES, Pedersen was a member of the *American Council of Engineering Companies of Wyoming*, and was elected the organization's president. He was a member of the *American Congress on Surveying and Mapping* and the *National Society of Professional Surveyors*.

In March 1995, Pedersen was appointed a land surveyor member of the Wyoming State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. He would serve twelve years, and leave the board in March 2007. He was elected the Board's president. As a member of the Wyoming Board, Martin was affiliated with the *National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying*. He immediately became involved in regional (called *Zones*) and national activities. He served either as a consultant or a member of the Committee on Examinations for Professional Surveyors almost continuously. He served two terms as NCEES vice-president (Western Zone; 2000 - 2002). His national administrative assignments were: NCEES Treasurer (2002 - 2004); NCEES Vice-President (2004 - 2005); NCEES President (2005 - 2006); and NCEES Past President (2006 - 2007). From 1995 to 2013, Pedersen held over forty administrative or committee assignments. In 2007, the NCEES Western Zone conferred their Distinguished Service Award, and in 2008 the NCEES conveyed their highest award - the Distinguished Service Award.

In his free time, Martin enjoyed boating, camping, and its associated activities of fishing and hunting. His son, Hans, said that even though his father would spend all week outdoors surveying, he would then spend his weekends outdoors hunting and fishing, showing friends and guests the beauty of Wyoming. He also found time to ski and scuba dive. He even became a scuba instructor. Martin loved to travel seeing new vistas, making new friends, sharing culinary delights. Because Martin liked good food, he learned to cook, and prepared tasteful delights.

Martin was always interested in the people around him. It is apparent from the list of community service activities that Martin dedicated himself to helping others. If a problem arose, his first concern was immediately to address the problem and seek a method or procedure to fix the problem and continue the project. In that way, he felt time was conserved and the cause of the original problem would manifest itself later. He was a good listener when others had problems, and would offer advice if so requested.

Martin is survived by his wife, Shelly; children David, Hans, and Jennifer; step children, Jeremy Perkins, Heather Garrett, Ryan Perkins, and Brooke Gudahl; eight grand children (Jesse, Calysta, Savannah, Elliot, Taya, Rylee, Kael, and Taylor); his brother Jim Pedersen and wife Sandy (Cody); and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services took place on Saturday, 25 January 2014 at *Christ Lutheran Church* in Rawlins.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations in his name be sent to the *Upper Platte Chapter, Professional Land Surveyors of Wyoming* to support scholarships; to a cancer research charity; or to the Elks W.E.S.T. program.

\* \* \* \* \*

Herbert W. Stoughton, Ph.D.

P.E., P.L.S., C.P., F.A.C.S.M., F.A.S.P.R.S.

Geodetic Engineer

## Rules and Regulations



In February of 2014 both Corky Stetson, PE and Skylar V. Wilson, LS informed the Wyoming Engineering Society of the following: On February 11, 2013 Senate File 18, Enrolled Act 10, was signed into law by Governor Mead. As a result of this act, the Wyoming Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors began working on the Rules and Regulations. By December 23, 2013 the new Rules and Regulations became effective, superseding



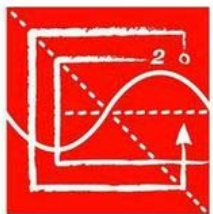
*Corky Stetson presents at the 2014 WES Convention*

the previous 2010 Rules.

The December 23, 2013 Rule changes include, but are not limited to:

- Board Structure, the size has moved from seven (7) members to nine (9), of which one (1) is an additional Professional Land Surveyor. The larger Board is necessary in order to have larger subcommittees for the review of applications, protection against insufficiency for a quorum and review of complaints.
- Key Terms have changed, our licensees are now Licensed as opposed to Registered, professions are seen as licensed in a more formal sense rather than recorded or followed as the word "registration" suggests. Intern titles have changed from Engineer-in-Training and Surveyor-in-Training to Engineer Intern and Surveyor Intern, terms which now reflect the national trend.
- Digital signatures, a signature electronically created which has the same authority and effect as an original signature.
- Exemptions/limitations section.
- Seal imprint changes, the Board has dropped the discipline of Engineering off the seal. Wyoming is now a discipline free state.
- Fee's, the renewal fee's are now \$90 and retired status is \$25.
- Examinations, and new pathways to licensure, which include Interns having the ability to take the Professional Examinations before obtaining their four (4) years of experience. The new pathways to licensure include PhD and 15 years of discipline free licensure in another state.

***If you haven't reviewed them, it is highly encouraged, as much has changed.***



**NCEES**

### PE/PLS EARLY EXAMINATION

Beginning April 2014 Interns are now able to take their Professional Principles and Practice Examinations early! Eligibility to take the professional exams through Wyoming is the completion of the NCEES Fundamental's Examination.

Nevertheless, approval of eligibility does not guarantee license in the State of Wyoming. In order to apply for the Professional License in Wyoming one must still meet the criteria listed in the Rules and Regulations and Wyoming State Statutes.

## Licensee Notices



### *Board Meetings*

Meetings of the Wyoming Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors are open to the public. Meetings are conducted at the Board office at 6920 Yellowtail Road, Suite 100, Cheyenne WY 82009 (unless otherwise noted). Persons wishing to be placed on the agenda should submit a written request to the Board address as follows: ATTN: Christine Turk, Executive Director, at least two weeks in advance of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. These requests should contain information concerning the nature of the business that you would like to discuss with the Board.

### *Renew On-line*

To streamline the PE/PLS license renewal process and to be environmentally friendly, the Board offers a paper renewal opt out feature. To opt out of renewing with paper, login to your online renewal account **license only** section on the Board's website using your license login information and follow the instructions. If you do not know your login information please follow the "forgot user id and password" section on the website, or call 307-777-7400 to speak with Technical Support.



### *Need a Speaker?*

Board members and staff are available to speak at meetings of professional and technical societies, as well as community-based organizations. Requests for speakers should be made as far in advance as possible to Christine Turk, Executive Director, at the Board office: 6920 Yellowtail Road, Suite 100, Cheyenne WY 82002.



## New Nationwide Verification System



The NCEES (National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying) has created a Nationwide electronic verification system. Wyoming, along with 52 other Boards has utilized this system and put it to full use. Licensees will no longer need to send in paper copies with self addressed, stamped envelopes to their State for a verification. The verification process is a simple four (4) fields form that consists of filling out your name, e-mail address, social security number, and date of birth. After the licensees' request has been fulfilled by the State, an e-mail is sent to the licensee indicating the request has been completed.

This system allows for more control on the licensees part and a more consistent system throughout the Nation. For those States requiring a fee for verification, that can be taken care of with a credit card, however, Wyoming will not charge for this service. A link has been provided on the Wyoming Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors website for quick and easy access to the verification request system.

## Wyoming PLS 2-Hour State Specific Exam Now Computerized


The Wyoming Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors is proud to announce it has now gone to CBT (Computer Based Testing) for the 2-Hour State Specific Land Surveying Examination. The exam went live April 2014 and now only requires a 24 hour window to reserve a spot. Licensing Officer Troy Niesen has been with the project since the initial design began in September 2013, and has seen the exam through to its finalization. "There were a total of six (6) people working on this exam, there were three (3) working on the technical side, one (1) exam

writer and two (2) designers/testers. We've had five (5) individuals take the exam thus far and another three (3) are scheduled to take the exam in May. There is a sense of gratification knowing that the applicants can call and schedule to take the exam the next day if they wish. With the CBT exam we can now notify the applicants within 24 hours instead of a week or two delay by having to send the paper exam to the grader."

The exam was redesigned from a 45 multiple choice question set-up to a 50 multiple choice set-up and the written legal description question was moved to the Take-Home Examination. Wyoming is one of the first states to have implemented the State Specific exam to a CBT.



## CPC Audit List for 2013 Renewing Licensees



SYED MN AKHTER	CURTIS B. INGRAM, JR.	SCOTT L. TAYLOR
DAREN S. ANDERSON	MICHAEL B. LASSISTER	MARTIN K. VALENTINE
JEFFREY A. BARON	LETHA C. LENCIONI	JOHN J. WARREN
JOHN C. BRIEST	REBECCA LINDEMAN	LEE A. WHEELER
MICHAEL J. BROCKA	SHELLEY MACY	MICHAEL R. WILL
ROBERT V. CLEGG	JOHNATHAN L. MARTIN	JOHN P. WITHERS
THEODORE M. COX	STEPHEN P. MASLAN	LAWRENCE H. WOODBURY
JAMES A. EVENSON	GERALD JESSEN	JOHN A. WOOLEY
BRETT GILBERT	JEFFREY B. JONES	BLAINE ZWHALEN
MICHAEL I. GOLDSTEIN	GREGORY R. MEINECKE	JOHN G. PIAZZA
JASON M. GUITERREZ	STANLEY M. MEYER	CORY G. RICE
TRAVIS E. GUTHRIE	ROSS T. MORI	CHARLES B. SCHWARTZE
JASON D. HAYSON	HOWARD NOBLE, JR.	DANIEL R. SHIOSAKA
JOSEPH L. HENDERSON	JEFFREY H. NUDI	ROGER T. STERLING
THOMAS HOLLINGSWORTH	KENNETH R. OTTEN	
SUZANNE B. HUHTA		

**A note to professional societies, corporations and employers who offer in-house training** for the benefit of providing Continuing Professional Competency credits. Please provide all attendees a “Certificate of Attendance”, or “Certificate of Completion”. Having some sort of attendance record eases the burden of producing CPC documents for your employee when they have been selected for audit.

**A note to registrants/licensees.** Make sure that when you attend qualifying courses/seminars, etc., for purposes of continuing professional competency, that you do not leave without getting some kind of proof/certificate of attendance. Having such documents are beneficial should your name be selected for audit.

## Enforcement Actions



- 2013-02** Letter of Warning issued for survey not meeting professional standards.
- 2013-03** Stephen P. Maslan, PE #5512 - Settlement Agreement for Probation prompted by disciplinary action in other jurisdictions, and failure to disclose disciplinary action in his renewal.
- 2013-04** John N. Reeve, PE #12640 - License subject to probation due to disciplinary action by another jurisdiction. Has since been reinstated due to meeting all requirements of the Board.



### Board's Mobile Application

The Board has a mobile application. Stay up to date with notifications that come right to your device, such as deadlines, public notices, and any changes that may occur. Visit your play store to download or simply scan the Q.R. image below.



**Wyoming Board of  
Professional Engineers  
and Professional Land  
Surveyors**

6920 Yellowtail Rd., Ste. 100  
Cheyenne WY 82002  
Tel: 307-777-6155  
Fax: 307-777-3403  
E-mail: wyopepls@wyo.gov

**Examinations**

**Fall Exams:**  
Environmental,  
Metallurgical Petroleum,  
Chemical, Fire  
Protection, Mineral,  
Structural, Civil,  
Industrial, Mining,  
Control Systems,  
Nuclear, Electrical and  
Computer, Mechanical

**Spring Exams:**  
Agricultural,  
Architectural,  
Environmental,  
Chemical, Mechanical,  
Civil, Naval Architecture  
and Marine, Electrical  
and Computer,  
Structural

**Professional Exams are  
held on Friday in  
Casper WY.**  
**2014**  
**April 11/October 30**  
**2015**  
**April 17/October 30**  
**2016**  
**April 15/October 28**

**Address can be changed by mail, phone, fax, e-mail, or during  
your online renewal process!**

**Don't Be Late... Mark Your Calendars for Your  
Renewal Date!**

**Schedule of Renewal with Monthly Penalties**

Month	Amount Due	Penalty Fee
January	\$105.00	15.00
February	\$120.00	30.00
March	\$135.00	45.00
April	\$150.00	60.00
May	\$165.00	75.00
June	\$180.00	90.00
July	\$195.00	105.00
August	\$210.00	120.00
September	\$225.00	135.00
October	\$240.00	150.00
November	\$255.00	165.00
December	\$270.00	180.00
	<b>Second Year Late Fees</b>	
January	\$285.00	195.00
February	\$300.00	210.00
March	\$315.00	225.00
April	\$330.00	240.00
May	\$345.00	255.00
June	\$360.00	270.00
July	\$375.00	285.00
August	\$390.00	300.00
September	\$405.00	315.00
October	\$420.00	330.00
November	\$435.00	345.00
December	\$450.00	360.00