

GAC PLSS Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: December 15, 2025

Time: 10 AM – 10:57 AM

Location: Teams/ Virtual Meeting

Chair/ Facilitator: Kory Thurnau (MNIT)

Attendance List:

Kory Thurnau (MNIT); Jared Baloun (Jackson County); Peter Jenkins (Retired-MnDOT); Pat Veraguth (Douglas County); Brian Praske (Carver County); Liz Lund (Roseau County); Alison Slaats (MNIT); Curtis Carlson (MNIT); Philip Raines (MSPS); Jon Gustafson (WSP); Emilia Holstine (Fond du Lac Band); Chris Mavis (Hennepin County); Christy Christensen (McLeod County); Mary Jean Becker (Koochiching County); David Zieglmeier (Anoka County); Ben Madsen (Madsen L.S.); Jorden Roggenbuck (Big Stone County); Ryan Stovern (St. Louis County)

Meeting Summary

1. [PLSS Remonumentation Legislation Subcommittee](#)

- **Funding Challenges:** Minnesota faces a \ \$3B surplus but a \ \$2.5B projected deficit, complicating long-term funding.
- **Proposed Legislation:** A bill is being drafted to provide \ \$10M/year via mortgage and deed tax.
- **Licensing Concerns:** Senator Rasmussen may propose eliminating the 4-year degree requirement for surveyor licensure.
- **Bonding Bill Limitations:** PLSS projects are not bondable, limiting inclusion in infrastructure bills.

2. 2024 PLSS Monument Grants

- **Progress Reports:** Average completion at 73%; many due by March 31, 2026.
- **Reimbursements:** \ \$5.6M processed (~62% of total).
- **Extensions Granted:** Cook, Wadena, and Roseau Counties due to various project needs.
- **Upcoming Support:** PLSS grant office hours planned for January–February to assist counties with final deliverables.

3. [PLSS Point Standard](#)

- **Purpose:** A voluntary data transfer standard to support aggregation and sharing.
- **Feedback Encouraged:** Public review period open; counties urged to comment.
- **Tools Mentioned:** Pat Veraguth’s spreadsheet for generating BLM identifiers; standard section and quarter corner designations.

4. Survey Record Inventory Initiative

- **Goal:** Centralize information on where counties store survey records.
- **Suggestions:**
 - Develop a web map linking to county surveyor data.
 - Use Survey123 to collect standardized inventory data.
 - Consider university partnerships or student projects for app development.
 - Maintain data annually with outreach and updates.

5. Future Planning/ Next Steps:

- Draft Survey123 form for county outreach.
- Explore integration with [MnGeo's GLO retrieval system](#).
- Investigate [Wisconsin's survey control finder](#) as a model.
- **Next Meeting:** January 12, 2026