

The Oregon Examiner.

Published by the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering & Land Surveying



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2024 Symposium

Welcome New Board Member:
Jakki Carter

Mission

The mission of the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering & Land Surveying (OSBEELS) is to regulate the practice of engineering, land surveying, photogrammetric mapping, and water right certification in the state as they relate to the welfare of the public in safeguarding life, health and property.

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Rob Sobotka
Tina Sorensen
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On the cover: Portland International Airport

Upcoming at OSBEELS:

September 10: Board Meeting at the University of Portland

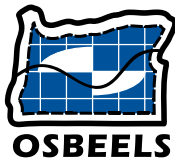
September 26-27: OSBEELS Symposium

October 2: *Renewals open for last names beginning with L-R*

October 8-9: OSBEELS Symposium Re-Air

October 10-11: Committee Meetings

[Download the full 2024 OSBEELS Calendar here.](#)



The Oregon Examiner is published by the Oregon State Board for Engineering & Land Surveying (OSBEELS). To stay up-to-date with all things OSBEELS, find us online at www.oregon.gov/osbeels

Director's Corner

From the desk of Jason Barbee, Board Administrator & Agency Director

As you may recall, in April of 2021, OSBEELS began an 18-month process to review, evaluate, and update qualifications for becoming a licensed land surveyor in Oregon. Our objective was to remove unnecessary barriers to licensure as well as identify alternate paths, while maintaining core competencies. This process involved meeting with various groups, gathering input and feedback from stakeholders throughout the state, and drafting updated rules based on that information. Once we drafted the updated rules, we reached out to those

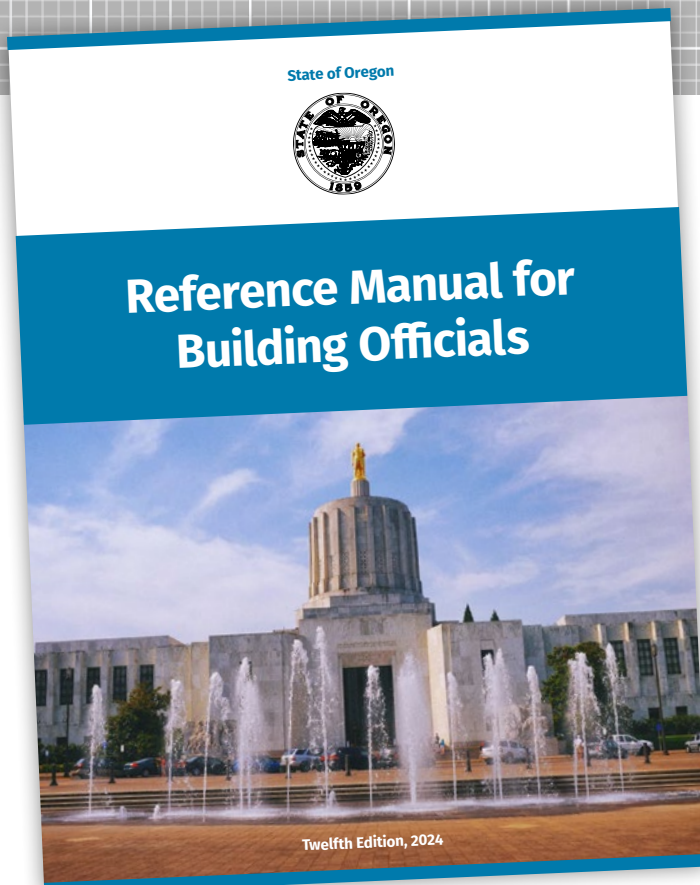
groups again for another round of input and feedback.

In November of 2022, we implemented our new rules with the alternate paths to become a licensed land survey in Oregon. During our meetings with various stakeholder groups, I committed to tracking the impact these updated rules had on both licensing and regulation (violations), and to share those results.

While it's still a bit too early to truly evaluate the impact these changes have had, the initial results are promising. In

the last 18 months, we have licensed 86 new Professional Land Surveyors, 39 of which qualified under our new rules. In the two years prior to our rule change, we had licensed a total of 58 new Professional Land Surveyors.

Thus far, we haven't had a single violation imposed on any of the new licensees who qualified under the updated rules. We will continue to track data and evaluate the results over the next few years. Congratulations to all of our new licensees!



2024 Reference Manual for Building Officials

In collaboration with the [Oregon State Board of Architect Examiners \(OSBAE\)](#) and the [Oregon Building Codes Division \(BCD\)](#), the **2024 Reference Manual for Building Officials** has been updated and published. You can find this Twelfth Edition on [our website](#) under the Public Resources page where it can be viewed online or [downloaded](#).



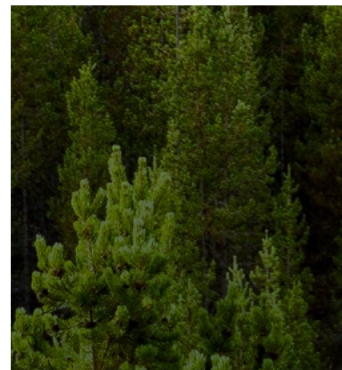
FORESIGHT

2024 OSBEELS SYMPOSIUM

Join OSBEELS for our Annual Symposium!

Like prior years we'll be fully virtual and offering two days of educational and inspiring sessions.

This year's theme is Foresight. As essential as a foresight is to a surveyor, so is looking to the future of the professions we license. Spend two days with us as we look ahead and earn 14 PDH hours toward your next renewal.





FORESIGHT

2024 OSBEELS SYMPOSIUM

September 26 & 27

Register Now

The sessions will be recorded for the re-air. You must be registered for the Symposium to attend the re-air (Oct. 8-9).

A zoom account is required to attend.

DETAILS ON THE WEBSITE

Meet OSBEELS

Rob *Investigator*

How long have you worked for OSBEELS?

Since April of 2017, but it feels like since only yesterday. Time flies when you're having fun.

What do you enjoy about your job?

Ultimately, I enjoy working a job that I can feel good about. The world can be a chaotic place, so if I can offer even the smallest bit of guidance to make people's lives easier, I feel accomplished.

What is your favorite place in Oregon?

I'm a huge fan of Bend and all the outdoor activities it has to offer. I also enjoy the Willamette Valley, but when I need some sun I escape over the Pass.

What are some of your hobbies?

I enjoy spending time with the family, riding motorcycles, taking leisurely strolls, and eating.

From the viewpoint of your role, can you share some reminders or tips for our registrants?

As an Investigator, the biggest tip I can provide is to reach out if you have questions regarding a particular rule or process. You can contact the OSBEELS office at OSBEELS.info@osbeels.oregon.gov or me directly at rob.sobotka@osbeels.oregon.gov. I can't promise I'll have all the answers, but I'll do my best to find them for you. We are here to serve you, so please consider us a resource.





Saying Goodbye to Daren Cone

Earlier this summer, the Board bid farewell to Daren Cone, who has spent the better part of eight years volunteering his time as a member of the OSBEELS Board. During his tenure, Daren has served as the Board President, the Law Enforcement Committee Chair, the Finance Committee Chair, and a member of the Law Enforcement Committee for the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). He rarely missed a meeting and was always prepared for whatever discussion topics were on the meeting's agenda. He has been a moderating voice on the Board that balanced education, enforcement, and how to best achieve long term voluntary compliance while serving and protecting the public.

When I joined OSBEELS as the agency director and board administrator in October of 2019, Daren was the Board President and my primary contact with the Board. He was incredibly supportive, made himself available to me, and provided great leadership and guidance during my first years. He remained a valuable asset to me and the Board until his last meeting in June of 2024.

While we are sad to see him go, we appreciate his dedication to serving the Board and to safeguarding the life, health, and property for the citizens of Oregon.



Help us help you!!

Speaking Engagements:

Do you have a meeting or event in Oregon involving engineers, land surveyors, water rights examiners, or photogrammetrists? We are available to give presentations on who we are and what we do, including how the licensure process works. We're also happy to set up an informational booth and be available during your event to answer any OSBEELS related questions.

Continuing Education Opportunities:

How are you earning your PDHs toward your biennial renewal? Send us opportunities that we can share on our webpage and in our Examiner newsletter of learning opportunities for our professionals. We want to help everyone keep up on those continuing education requirements.

Photos of Your Work:

We invite you to share your work experiences with the OSBEELS community! We're looking for photos of noteworthy projects, monuments, or work site locations that you think others will appreciate. They may be featured in future issues of the Examiner as well as our social media pages.

Send your event info, learning opportunities, and work photos (.jpg or .png format preferred) to our Communications Coordinator, Ashlee Graybeal at ashlee.d.graybeal@osbeels.oregon.gov

Q&A: How does OSBEELS define “final documents”?

Answer – OSBEELS has a rule addressing this question. When a registrant puts their seal on documents, they are certifying the documents are complete and prepared under their supervision and control. This is what OSBEELS considers to be “final documents.” (OAR 820-025-0015(1))

Furthermore, documents that are not final documents must be marked so the documents are not perceived as

final. Examples of such wording include, “preliminary”, “not for construction”, “review only”, “draft copy, subject to change”, or similar wording to indicate that the documents are not intended to represent the final work product of the registrant. (OAR 820-025-0015 (2))

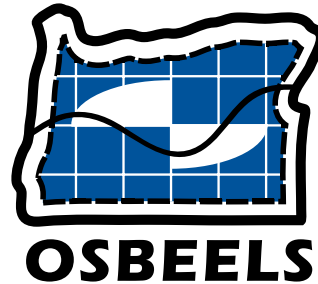
Remember, documents submitted to a client, customer, public entity, or any other person, are considered by OSBEELS as final documents and must

bear the seal and signature of the registrant under whose supervision and control they were prepared, unless those documents are clearly marked as not a final document. (OAR 820-025-0015 (2))

If a registrant submits documents to a client or for submittal that do not conform to the above referenced rules, that registrant could be subject to civil penalties under ORS (672.325).



OSBEELS Welcomes New Board Member: Jakki Carter



In July, OSBEELS gained a new member on our Board and we couldn't be more excited to introduce her to our registrants. Jakki Carter, PE, is a Civil Engineer, Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) graduate, and as a resident of Bend, she represents Congressional District 5. If you attended our Symposium last year, you may remember Jakki from her outstanding presentation on behalf of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Here's what Jakki had to say about her decision to join the OSBEELS Board:

"I was first introduced to the opportunity to join OSBEELS as a Board member after presenting at and attending the 2023 OSBEELS Symposium. It was refreshing to see the work that OSBEELS is doing to advance engineering and land surveying in Oregon, and, with the encouragement of current and past Board members, I was able to picture someone like me being a part of this effort. I am excited to provide my experience and perspective to the Board and I hope to encourage young minority women to consider careers in STEM."

Jakki brings an abundance of professional experience to this new role. She is currently an Automation Engineer with ODOT and has been with the agency for the last 12 years. As an Automation Engineer, she primarily works to implement and advance 3D Project Visualization for Project Delivery and Public Outreach at ODOT by establishing the ODOT Project Visualization Group (PVG) and researching software, hardware, and procedures for advanced 3D design and visualization.

Prior to her position as an Automation Engineer, she was a Roadway Designer in ODOT Region 4 (Central Oregon) for eight years. During that time, she prepared and designed the roadway portion of plans and estimates for a variety of transportation projects, as well as developed the 3D design data required for construction. Using this 3D design data, she also developed project visualizations for her own design projects for internal design concept comparisons, project meetings and external partner presentations. As Jakki explains, "It was this work that sparked

my passion for project visualization development, witnessing first-hand how powerful these communication tools can be for design discussions and public outreach by equitably conveying transportation project design intent and impacts to a wide-ranging audience of diverse backgrounds."

As mentioned, Jakki graduated from OIT in 2012 where she received her bachelor's degree in civil engineering. She believes it was the hands-on educational experience OIT provides that equipped her to succeed in her professional career in the public sector.

Outside of work, Jakki enjoys kayaking, roller skating and hiking with her dogs. She has a passion for fine arts, loves painting with oils and acrylics, and drawing with charcoal, graphite and like media. She loves to travel and her favorite places she's traveled thus far are Prague, Nicaragua and Scotland.

Join us in welcoming Jakki to the Board!

Recap:

OSBEELS 2024 Customer Survey

In June of this year, we emailed a customer survey to registrants. We want to thank the 1,171 folks who took the time to respond and let you know that our Board and staff reviewed all the responses. We loved seeing that over 90% of the responses were positive feedback and we appreciate the additional constructive feedback that was shared.

It has been two years since we sent out our last survey and a lot has changed since then! We also realize that when our registrants interact with our agency directly, it is likely only once every two years during their renewal period. While OSBEELS is always looking to streamline and improve our processes, it can take time for these changes to be seen by our registrants due to the infrequency most of you interact with us.

Based on the feedback we received from the survey, there were a number of shared themes in the comments that we want to address in this Examiner issue:

Phone Calls – Customer service is a top priority. We received comments stating that some of you had difficulty reaching a staff member when you needed assistance. While our policy is to answer phone calls whenever possible, some calls will inevitably go to voicemail.

We have renewed our commitment to keep our voicemails updated with out-of-office information, and to return all phone calls within one business day. If your call does go to voicemail, be sure to leave a message so we can return your call.

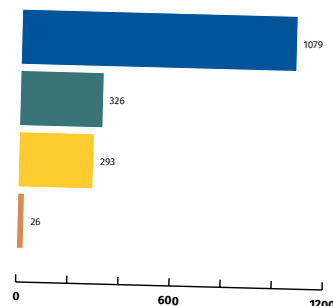
Renewals – There is a new Renewal Guide available on our website to help assist all registrants through the renewal process. It's in a PDF format and can be viewed online or downloaded. We launched the Renewal Guide this last renewal cycle that provides answers to many frequently asked questions, and it has been very successful. If additional assistance is needed during your renewal process, you can always reach out to us at OSBEELS.Renewals@osbeels.oregon.gov.

CPD/PDH Information – We have created a new page on our website with information to help you navigate your continuing education journey. See our [Continuing Education Information page](#) for details.

Audit Process – Based on the feedback received, we have made changes to our audit process and we will continue to

Rate your experience with the OSBEELS communications

Preferred method of receiving information



evaluate for additional improvement opportunities. Starting in 2025, if you are selected for an audit, we will first check your most recent renewal for PDH information submitted. If sufficient information has already been uploaded during your renewal, we will not request additional information. You will be notified that the audit of your PDH information was determined to be sufficient. While registrants must continue to hold verification of their earned PDHs for five years, we encourage folks to upload relevant documentation during their renewal process to save time in a potential audit.

Once again, thank you for sharing your experiences! We will continue conducting an annual survey and your feedback is essential in helping us help you.