



The Oregon Examiner.

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

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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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Erica Rooney, PE Vice President
Darryl Anderson, PE, PLS, CWRE
Jakki Carter, PE
Matthew Davis, PE
Scott English, Public Member
Jason Foose, PLS
Chris Janigo, PE, PLS, CWRE
Massoud Saberian, PE
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On the cover: Heceta Head Lighthouse

Heceta Head Lighthouse is a masterwork of late 19th-century maritime engineering designed to withstand extreme coastal winds. Constructed using a conical double-wall masonry technique—featuring an inner masonry core, an outer brick exterior coated in stucco, and an insulating air gap to prevent interior moisture buildup—the 56-foot tower supports a heavy cast-iron lantern room. Its focal engineering achievement is a massive, eight-panel First-Order Fresnel lens crafted in Paris by Chance Brothers, housing hundreds of hand-ground glass prisms arranged to bend and concentrate ambient light into a unified beam visible 21 nautical miles out. Mechanically, the lens assembly originally rotated atop a liquid mercury bath to eliminate friction, driven smoothly by a clockwork mechanism powered by a 200-pound descending counterweight that keepers had to manually wind every four hours. Electric power replaced the clockwork gears in 1934 and full automation followed in 1963, but the original optical assembly and mechanical apparatus remain intact, serving as a functional historic landmark.

Upcoming at OSBEELS:

October 2: December Renewal Period opens on MyOSBEELS

October 6-7: Symposium Re-Air

October 9: Committee Meetings, in-person

October 13: MyOSBEELS Renewal Webinar

November 10: Board Meeting, virtual

Download the 2026 OSBEELS Calendar



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



Administrator's Corner

from the desk of Jenn Gilbert



Many of our Oregon licensees also hold a license in another state, territory, or even internationally. As we come upon the December renewal period, a point to remember for those of you with licenses in more than one jurisdiction is to remember there is not a national standard for renewing your license.

Renewal periods vary, continuing education requirements vary, and reporting requirements vary. Although the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) provides Model Laws and Model Rules for the jurisdictions' licensing boards, licensure requirements are generally established at the jurisdiction level, and the rules guiding the renewal process are different from one licensing board to another. This means that those who work across state lines—or organizations employing licensees in multiple jurisdictions—should pay close attention to the specific requirements in each jurisdiction.

Renewal cycles may range from one-year to two-year or three-year periods and expire on your birthday, the day you were first licensed, or a staggered renewal schedule. Oregon falls into the latter category with a staggered renewal cycle based on the first letter of the licensee's last name.

But the length of the renewal cycle is only part of the equation. There are different continuing education requirements that must be satisfied before a license can be renewed with some licensing boards, and some licensing boards have no continuing education hours requirements. Others may impose different requirements depending on the license type, or area of practice.

In some jurisdictions, continuing education may not be required at all. In others, requirements may apply to one profession but not another. For example, a jurisdiction may require continuing

education for land surveyors while not imposing the same requirement on professional engineers—or vice versa.

Reporting requirements also vary. In Oregon, licensees must give written notification to the Board within 45 days of receiving any disciplinary action by another licensing agency related to your professional practice. In other jurisdictions, notifications are submitted with the license renewal, and some jurisdictions may not require this at all or have different time frames to abide by.

If you operate in multiple states, relying on a familiar rule from one jurisdiction can create compliance risks in another. The safest approach is to treat each jurisdiction's requirements independently. Understanding those differences is an important part of maintaining licensure and complying with the laws and rules of each jurisdiction.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN PRESIDENT'S COLUMN PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

from the desk of Renee Clough, PLS, PE



At the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon's (PLSO's) 2026 Annual Conference a well-known surveyor I respect used the open mic time to make a comment that struck a chord with me. It captured a truth that I had felt but had yet to clarify into words. His comments were a defining moment of "Yes, that's IT", and were so impactful that I would like to expand on them here.

For at least the last decade, Oregon has been experiencing a decline in the number of practicing surveyors. Engineering has fared slightly better, but even there, firms struggle to maintain licensed staff. Various efforts have been made to increase public awareness and increase interest in the surveying and engineering professions. Many people have poured time and energy into outreach—school presentations and career day events. We know it's working because students are asking questions and young people are showing interest. Despite this progress, it seems that nearly every time I look around a room it's the same faces. Regardless of how many people become interested, the downward slide will never stop if we don't hire them. The uncomfortable truth is: interest alone won't save us; when newly inspired individuals look for a way in, they find the door barely cracked open causing them to turn away.

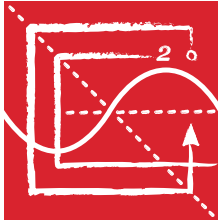
I'm very aware that there is a certain leap of faith aspect to being someone's first job in engineering or surveying. Some new hires struggle but plenty flourish; most of us can also point to individuals who entered the profession with little experience and went on to become valued employees and licensed professionals. Those success stories

exist because someone was willing to provide an opportunity. Yes, it's disheartening to train someone for several years and then have them leave for a competitor, but it is inconsistent to complain about a loss while being willing to recruit someone else's well trained staff. The profession cannot sustain itself on lateral transfers alone.

Mobility is a natural part of any profession, and it is something we all participate in. The long term health of surveying and engineering in Oregon depends not on holding talent in place, but on ensuring that new talent continues to enter the field.

If we are committed to protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare, then we must also be committed to sustaining the profession that upholds those values. That means keeping the door open.

The encouraging part is that this is entirely within our control. Every one of us has the chance to open a door for someone just starting out, and every door we open strengthens the profession for the long run. When you get a call from a high school graduate who took several drafting classes, offer them a job – even if they start with errands, administrative support, or part-time field assistance. Or ask one of the community colleges to help you hire a student for the summer. Hiring entry level staff is imperative and it's not something you can expect the next person to do on your behalf. I'm optimistic that if we keep showing up for the next generation the way so many of you already do, Oregon's engineering and surveying community will be in great hands for decades to come.



NCEES

*advancing licensure for
engineers and surveyors*

NCEES seeks volunteers for PS Geospatial exam development

NCEES is recruiting subject-matter experts to help write and evaluate questions for a new Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS) Geospatial licensing examination.

Earlier this year, the NCEES board of directors approved developing a licensing exam that will test geospatial surveying, mapping science, photogrammetry, remote sensing, and similar geospatial subject areas. This exam will test for minimum competency on non-boundary content for any NCEES member boards that choose to issue such a license.

Exam development volunteers for the PS Geospatial exam must have an active professional license issued by an NCEES member board, must be a subject-matter expert in the areas covered by the exam, and must be familiar with the requirements for and capabilities of candidates who are minimally qualified to practice in these areas.

Exam development meetings are hosted at NCEES headquarters in Greenville, South Carolina. NCEES funds costs associated with travel, meals, and lodging, including a travel stipend. Additionally, serving as an exam development volunteer may qualify for continuing professional competency credit for license renewal.

Individuals interested in serving on the PS Geospatial exam development committee should complete the form online at ncees.org/volunteer.

**NEW / Submit your Speaker Requests using the our new
[Speaker Request online form](#)**

Help us help you!!

Speaking Engagements:

Do you have a meeting or event in Oregon involving engineers, land surveyors, water right 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

WELCOMING NEW BOARD MEMBERS



From Navy Fire Controlman to Hydroelectric Engineer

Matthew Davis, PE

Please join us in welcoming Matthew Davis, PE, to the Board. Matthew's engineering story begins aboard a Navy ship. After graduating from high school in 1983 and attending the University of Washington and Western Washington University, he enlisted in the US Navy as a Fire Control Technician, operating and maintaining surface-to-air missile systems. Over six years of service, he made two Western Pacific deployments aboard the USS England (CG-22). The second came during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990, and his ship spent four months in the Persian Gulf.

Matthew and his wife were married between Navy technical schools, and their family grew to include three boys, the youngest being identical twins. After his honorable discharge in 1991, the whole family headed to Pullman, where Matthew studied at Washington State University while raising young sons. He graduated in four years with a B.S.E.E. and a minor in mathematics, working as a student technician in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science department along the way.

In 1995 he began his engineering career at Kaiser Aluminum's smelter in Mead, Washington. Nearly four years later he joined Chelan County Public Utility District and moved his family to Waterville. Working at three hydroelectric powerhouses on the Columbia River, he found his calling in turbine and generator rehabilitation. After more than 14 years, with his sons off to college, he joined global consulting firm Black & Veatch in Lake Oswego, and he and his wife settled in Canby.

It was as a consultant that Matthew was strongly encouraged to pursue the PE license he had long wanted. He failed the exam twice before passing, and about 20 years and 7 months after graduating from WSU, he became a licensed PE in Washington. He later served as MEP Manager at Salem's Lenity Architecture, just across Hawthorne Avenue from the OSBEELS office, and found the work designing senior living facilities rewarding. A persistent recruiter eventually drew him back to hydroelectric work. He spent five years as a Systems Engineering Manager leading 10 to 15 Professional Engineers and is now a Senior Electrical Engineering Advisor. Today he is licensed in 36 states.

What Matthew enjoys most is the thrill of troubleshooting: digging into a problem and finding a solution on the

spot. He traces that instinct back to his Navy training, which taught sailors to be as self-sufficient as possible at sea. The Navy also showed him systems that were hard to maintain and hard to troubleshoot, and he promised himself he would design with maintainability and constructability in mind. "Paying it forward, so to speak," he says.

For years, Matthew read other states' newsletters and their calls for board members, but he usually fell short of the residency or years-as-PE requirements. When the OSBEELS opening came along, he decided to give it a try. As he puts it, "why not." His motivation is simple: to give back his time and support to Oregon and the engineering profession.

He hopes to help the digital signature task force make Oregon's rules the easiest to understand and apply in practice. He also wants to see continuance of registrant complaints reviewed with consistency and adherence to our laws and regulations, and to help revise them based on NCEES direction and his experience with other state boards.

Away from work, Matthew is proud of his three grown sons, all college graduates, and delighted to be a grandfather to two granddaughters and a grandson.



Safeguarding Public Trust, One Stamp at a Time

Chris Janigo, PE, PLS, CWRE

We are pleased to welcome Chris Janigo, PE, PLS, to the Board. Chris grew up in Anchorage, Alaska, and earned a bachelor's degree in environmental engineering at Northern Arizona University. His first job took him to the Bakken oil field in North Dakota, where he worked on environmental spills and groundwater remediation. It was also where he met his wife. The two eventually made their way to Oregon, and Chris started at an engineering firm in Newport as an engineer intern before earning his PE.

After a couple of years, Chris joined the City of Newport as a senior project manager. When COVID hit, he stepped up as acting city engineer for two years. The public side of the work gave him a new perspective. He reviewed other people's work, held projects to code and public standards, and made decisions that had to hold up to public scrutiny, not just a client's preference. He then returned

to his former firm, earned his PLS, and took on more surveying work. A couple of years later he started his own firm, offering civil engineering, land surveying, and certified water rights examiner services to public agencies and private clients.

What Chris values most about his work is that it "only means something

if it's done right." A survey that's off or a design that skips a step doesn't simply fail; it puts the public at risk. He takes real satisfaction in following the standards, documenting his reasoning, and making sure the record will hold up for whoever looks at it next, whether that's a client, another professional, or a regulator. He also cares deeply about the profession as a whole. Communities count on engineers and surveyors to certify that boundaries, structures, and infrastructure are safe and accurate, and Chris sees that as a responsibility bigger than any single project.

Chris has been through the NCEES and OSBEELS exam process himself, in engineering, land surveying, and certified water rights. The experience gave him a deep appreciation for what licensing protects: the public's trust that a stamp or license means something consistent and enforceable. He is also concerned about declining licensure

numbers in land surveying, because a shrinking, under-licensed profession creates more risk for the public. He wants to help the Board protect the public and keep the profession healthy at the same time.

During his term, Chris hopes to help the Board continue to apply standards consistently and fairly. He wants to keep responsible charge and accountability in step with the digital tools that are changing how we practice. And he wants to support licensing and mentorship efforts that strengthen the pipeline without loosening the standards that protect the public. For Chris, safeguarding public trust in these professions comes first, and everything else follows from that.

WELCOMING NEW BOARD MEMBERS



A Surveyor Who Treasures the Craft and the Mentors Who Shared It

Jason Foose, PLS

We are delighted to welcome Jason Foose, PLS, to the Board. Jason started out in the land title industry with a high school diploma and US Army basic training behind him. He followed an experience track to licensure in Colorado, earning his license on January 24, 2000, and he is now licensed in four western states, including Oregon. He describes every day since as “an enduring cumulation of professional development and continuing education.”

Jason spent the early part of his career in the private sector, mostly on boundary surveys mixed with construction and mapping work. Since 2005 he has served in the County Surveyor arena as both deputy and county surveyor. He has also given his time to the Arizona Geographic Information Council and the Arizona Board of Technical Registration. He has written for a national trade publication as a regular columnist and

has contributed to several state land surveying association publications. He also shares what he has learned by presenting at state land surveyor conferences and public agency events.

Ask Jason what he loves about surveying and you’ll hear real enthusiasm. Both the science and the art of it caught his attention early. He is still captivated by the American promise that acquiring land title has no prerequisites or birthrights. He points to Oregon’s Donation Land Claim Act of the early 1850s, which explicitly set aside the gender and marital formalities that lingered in other places.

The math of measuring land fascinates him too, though it wasn’t always that way. Algebra made little sense to him in high school. Then “an old and unpretentious surveyor” took him out on a survey, and he saw for himself what math could do. That experience led him to more college coursework and a lasting appreciation for

math as a tool. Technology now spares many people the burden of knowing math, but Jason believes it still takes someone like his mentor surveyor to connect the classroom with the real world we all live in.

Jason joined the Board to protect the public’s health, welfare, and safety. For surveyors, that largely means preserving property rights. His earlier service on the Arizona board taught him that serving on a board is among the most valuable professional development a registrant can find. He says no other professional engagement, good or bad, was more enlightening, and he brings that appreciation to OSBEELS.

His hope for his time on the Board is a gracious one: “to pass along the experience and wisdom shared by the old unpretentious surveyor that came before me.”

2026 Certified Water Right Examiners Workshops

Offered to Current and Future Water Right Examiners 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the following locations:

**Pendleton
Bend
Salem Day 1
Salem Day 2**

**Tuesday, October 6
Thursday, October 8
Tuesday, October 13
Wednesday, October 14**

**Hamley, 8 SE Court Ave
McMenamins, 700 NW Bond St
North Mall Office Building, 725 Summer St NE
North Mall Office Building/Virtual, 725 Summer St NE**

*You do **not** need to be a Certified Water Right Examiner (CWRE) to attend.*

Why You Should Attend This Workshop

The Oregon Water Resources Department offers this workshop to provide information to help examiners with Claims of Beneficial Use, applications for Permits, and Transfer applications. We also provide updates on current legislation and rules related to water rights for the state of Oregon.

If you have questions, or to register contact Angee Harris, Angelee.m.harris@water.oregon.gov

Meet OSBEELS

*For this issue's Staff Spotlight,
we would like to introduce our
new Deputy, Elizabeth Boxall!*

Elizabeth **Deputy Director**



Where did you work prior to joining OSBEELS and what did you learn in that role that will help you here?

I've worked in Oregon state government leadership positions for more than 15 years, including eleven years as the executive director of smaller semi independent agencies similar to OSBEELS. Nine of those years were spent with licensing and regulatory agencies. Most recently, I served as the Executive Director for the Oregon State Board of Architect Examiners.

Working for small, self funded boards requires a high degree of resourcefulness and broad knowledge across multiple program areas within both the agency and state government. I hope that my experience navigating this landscape will be an asset to OSBEELS and the people we serve.

What do you look forward to in your new role?

Public service is at the heart of what we do and is a major reason I enjoy working in state government. I look forward to continuing to serve registrants and the public to safeguard life, health and property for everyone who lives in or visits our beautiful state. I'm also delighted to support the Board, Board Administrator, and staff as we continue to prioritize effective and responsive service delivery.

What is your favorite place in Oregon?

It's difficult to choose just one. One of my favorite places is the Oregon coast. Recently, I've spent a lot of time visiting state historical markers, lighthouses, and covered bridges. I enjoy exploring Oregon's history and the deeper connection to community that these experiences create.

What are some of your hobbies?

My favorite pastimes include game nights with friends and family, spending time with my two adult children, watching my partner's band play live music, or just pulling up a chair next to the river.

2026 OIT Career Fairs

Civil Engineering & Geomatics Fair

Wednesday, October 21 from 1:00-4:00

Engineering Technology & Management Fair

Thursday, October 22 from 1:00-4:00

<https://www.oit.edu/career-services/employers/recruiting-on-campus>

For questions, contact career@oit.edu

Continuing Education Opportunities

ASCE Oregon Capital Branch Monthly Luncheons

The ASCE Oregon Capital Branch hosts regular monthly luncheons to facilitate networking and professional development for civil engineers in the Salem and mid-Willamette Valley area. These meetings provide a platform for technical presentations on regional infrastructure, legislative updates, and emerging engineering practices.

Date: Monthly, typically on the third Thursday of each month.

Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. (includes catered lunch)

Location: Salem Public Library, Room Anderson A, 585 Liberty St SE, Salem, OR 97301

Registration: Attendees must register in advance through the official branch portal at <https://www.asceor.org/capital-branch>.

PLSO Annual Conference

January 13-15, 2027 in Salem

[Information & Registration](#)

PEO CON27

May 12-14, 2027 in Hood River

[Information & Registration](#)



COORDINATES OF CHANGE

2026 OSBEELS SYMPOSIUM RE-AIR

OCTOBER 6-7

MUST HAVE REGISTERED FOR THE SYMPOSIUM TO ATTEND

My OSBEELS Renewal Webinar

October 13 / 11am PST

[Information on the next page](#)



Have Leads on Continuing Education?

We are currently building our upcoming professional development calendar and want to hear from you! Do you know of any high-quality workshops, technical seminars, or expert speakers currently available to the engineering and surveying community?

Let us know! ashlee.d.graybeal@osbeels.oregon.gov

MyOSBEELS RENEWAL WEBINAR AGENDA

Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Time: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm (Pacific Standard Time)

Location: Online via Zoom virtual webinar –
Attendees must pre-register to receive meeting link.

[Register Here](#)

Cost: Free

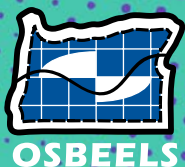
Purpose: Staff will demonstrate MyOSBEELS login and dashboard features that make it easy to manage license information and renewals and to provide helpful tips to submit renewals across different license status types. Attendees can engage through moderated Q&A to clarify renewal processes.

We'll cover:

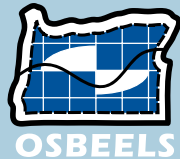
- Overview of MyOSBEELS updated login process
- Dashboard features
- Eligibility and options for renewal
- Renewal examples: Active, Inactive, Retired, Active-Military
- OSBEELS website navigation
- Applicable Oregon Administrative Rules
- Attendee Q&A

Professional Development Hours (PDH): 1 hour webinar = 1 PDH unit

For questions, contact the Board office at osbeels.info@osbeels.oregon.gov



MyOSBEELS



Protect the Public & Be Aware

Over the last few years, the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) and other state licensing boards have seen a steady increase in complaints alleging fraudulent use of engineers' seals, specifically through "gig" or freelance websites. The complaints generally involve individuals who are advertising professional services on these websites **without the required professional license**.

As an example, OSBEELS received complaints which all involve a similar scenario—a member of the public or a general contractor needs engineering plans or a stamp for engineering plans already in their possession. This customer will contract with an "engineer" found on a freelance website who will agree to create plans, or to review and stamp plans, usually for a fraction of what the customer would pay should they hire an actual, professionally-licensed engineer. The hired "engineer" will then "draft" plans or "stamp" the plans the customer provided and return those plans to the customer. The customer will then submit those plans to a jurisdiction for review and permitting. Once submitted, the plans reviewer may notice an error in the plans or in the stamp itself (such as an inaccurate expiration date) and then reach out directly to the professionally-licensed engineer whose name is on the stamp. At this point, the PE whose stamp was used notifies the reviewer they were never involved in this project at all.

By the time OSBEELS investigates these complaints, the hired "engineer" has deleted their freelance account and essentially vanished. When OSBEELS does manage to uncover the hired "engineer's" true identity, that "engineer" is typically located in another country, which makes enforcement of licensing laws very difficult.

Ultimately, the PE's stamp is used without their knowledge and the customer who paid for services through the freelance website is left with plans they cannot use.

While OSBEELS does forward these cases to the Oregon Department of Justice for further review, we want to provide guidance to OSBEELS registrants to please be aware that their seals may be used without their knowledge. OSBEELS recommends licensees contact plans reviewers in jurisdictions they typically work with and notify them of this issue, as well as request the plans examiners contact them directly should any plans with their stamp appear suspicious.

OSBEELS requests licensees be vigilant and report any suspected fraudulent use of their seals to OSBEELS, either through [email \(osbeels.info@osbeels.oregon.gov\)](mailto:osbeels.info@osbeels.oregon.gov), or through our [complaint portal](#).