

GIS Council Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2012

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Nebraska Department of Roads - Main Auditorium

1500 Nebraska Hwy 2, Lincoln Nebraska



GIS Council • Nebraska Information Technology Commission

Meeting Summary

GIS Council Membership Kelly Mueller, Deputy Assessor of Antelope County was recommended by NACO to serve on the GIS Council. The recommendation will be forwarded to the NITC Council as a nomination for their vote. Three other recommendations were received that represent local government and are representative of other areas of Nebraska not currently being served. No action was taken at the meeting for moving forward the three other recommendations.

OCIO Update Ms. Decker thanked the members for participating on the Council. She reiterated the importance of the Council and whom they represent. The Council is responsible for setting policy for not just state government but for the whole state. The intent is that GIS shared services are resources that can be shared among agencies and the state's citizens. Much of the data already collected at various levels is already paid by taxpayers. The Council members were asked to keep this focus in mind as they do the strategic plan.

Working Group Discussions The NebraskaMAP working group identified Jeff McReynolds as the spokesperson. Additional themes were indentified to address through the working group, they included: data sharing issues with other various data sources; public versus private and information security reasons; assessors at local level involved with data issues and sharing; cost recovery and value-added trade-off's; and marketing and communicating NebraskaMAP. The group discussed several technical aspects relating to web services. This information was started in the final report but will need to be updated. Topics included what types of services to add at what level, caching services, geometry issues, projections, web interface, cloud hosting, and web user interface issues. The imagery working group will have more to report at the next GIS Council meeting. Land records developed an initial draft data model template for the committee to review and provide feedback. The next meeting will focus on additional specifications to the land records data model. The street centerline-address group has secured commitments from key agencies for the first meeting and will be meeting in April for the first time. An online document sharing solution will be identified for use in future meetings among the various working groups.

GIS Council Member Presentation A presentation was provided by Josh Lear, GIS Council Member, Department of Natural Resources.

Updates from Member Agencies Several updates were shared by the GIS Council members respective agencies and associations. Several themes permeated the updates including development of specific applications, training, and examples of partnerships related to data sharing and project collaboration.

Nebraska Geospatial Strategic Planning A draft outline of the Vision and strategic goals was presented for the first time. Members were asked to review the outline and provide their recommendations and suggestions by April 20th. An email went out prior the GIS Council meeting for summary and feedback on the strategic plan material. Plans are underway to identify a day in June for a planning workshop for GIS Council members and a luncheon seminar for state agency/association directors input on the strategic plan.

NIROC III Additional partners to join the project include Fremont, Wayne and Columbus along with the current counties. MAPA will be signing the contract in June. During that time, the partners will need to sign the contract. If other city and county administrators are interested please have them contact Mr. Schonlau.

Motions

Motions Carried:

- The March 7, 2012 minutes were approved as presented.

Motions Failed:

There were no motions that failed.

I. Roll Call and Quorum	
Members Present: * <i>Authorized to Vote</i>	Members Absent:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * <i>John Beran</i>, State Surveyor * <i>Karis Bowen</i>, DHHS * <i>Rose Braun</i>, Department of Roads * <i>Nancy Cyr</i>, Legislative Research * Lash Chaffin, League of Nebraska Municipalities * Tim Cielocha, Public Power Districts * <i>Eric Herbert</i>, NACO * <i>Les Howard</i>, Conservation and Survey Div. – UNL * <i>Tom Lamberson</i>, Dept. of Environmental Quality Jim Langtry, USGS * <i>Josh Lear</i>, Department of Natural Resources * Jeff McReynolds, Lincoln Metro Area * John Miyoshi, NE Assoc. of Resource Districts * Paul Mullen, Omaha Metro Area * <i>Kyle Otte</i>, Nebraska State Patrol * <i>Jim Ohmberger</i>, Office of the CIO * <i>Sudhir Ponnapan</i>, Game and Parks Commission * Mike Schonlau, Member at Large * Mike Hybl, Public Service Commission <p><i>Italicized names are designees to council seats.</i></p>	<p><i>Chad Boshart</i>, NEMA/Military Dept. <i>Dick Clark</i>, Governor’s Policy Research Office Mike Preston, NE Geospatial Professional Assoc. <i>Ruth Sorenson</i>, Property Tax Administrator</p>
NITC Representatives:	Brenda Decker, CIO; Nathan Watermeier, GIS Council Coordinator; and Lori Lopez Urdiales, Office of the CIO
Public Visitors:	Suzy Fredrickson, Neb. State Patrol; Chad Kudym, GIS Workshop; Ed Kelley, Dept. of Roads, Michael Munson, Dept. of Roads, and Jim Koch, Dept. of Revenue

I-III. General Meeting Formalities (continued)	
Roll Call and Quorum	The Chair, Mr. Ohmberger, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. There were 18 members present at the time of roll call. A quorum (greater than 50% of voting members) existed to conduct official business.
Introduction of Audience Attendees	Public visitors were welcomed and were asked to introduce themselves if they wished. Visitors who wished to identify themselves as attending the meeting were to sign the visitor log and their name and affiliation would be reported in the minutes.
Public Meetings Regulations and Posting of the Same	The meeting notice was posted to the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on January 4, 2012. The meeting agenda was posted on the GIS Council website March 16, 2012. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act information was posted in the room for interested persons to review.
Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting	The Chair, Mr. Ohmberger asked if there were any suggested changes or clarifications to the previous meeting’s minutes. There was no discussion or comments in regards to the minutes. Ms. Braun corrected her agency report. The conference was called GIS-T in Transportation Conference and it was hosted by the State Departments of Transportation. Motion: Mr. Mullen moved to approve the March 7, 2012 minutes with the noted correction. Mr. McReynolds seconded. Roll call vote: Ohmberger-Yes, Braun-Yes, Howard-Yes, Bowen-Yes, Beran-Yes, Otte-Yes, Ponnapan-Yes, Mullen-Yes, Miyoshi-Yes, Cielocha-Yes, Herbert-Yes, Chaffin-Yes, Lear-Yes, McReynolds-Yes, Schonlau-Yes, Cyr-Yes, and. Results: Yes-17, No-0, Abstain-0. Motion carried.

IV. GIS Council Membership**DISCUSSION**

Kelly Mueller has been recommended by NACO to serve on the GIS Council. Ms. Mueller is the Deputy Assessor for Antelope County in Neligh, Nebraska. The recommendation will be carried to the NITC commission meeting as a nomination and to be voted on at their next meeting.

There are still three members-at-large vacancies on the council. Three nominations have been submitted:

- Suzanne Wicks, GIS Technician-Scotts Bluff County, Gering, Nebraska
- Ryan Parks, Communication Response Specialist-North District Health Department, O'Neill, Nebraska
- Dan Guenther, Lincoln County Emergency Management, North Platte, Nebraska

Two seats are already represented with NEMA and DHHS. There was a comment that although the two are already represented, their geographical location was not and that they may be able to provide the rural perspective. In addition, Suzanne Wicks, Scotts Bluff County GIS Technician is from a regional area in the panhandle and would be a positive contribution on the Council. No action was taken at the meeting for moving forward the three other recommendations.

V. OCIO UPDATE – Ms. Brenda Decker**DISCUSSION**

Ms. Decker thanked the members for serving on the GIS Council. The Council is being rejuvenated with a new coordinator, Nathan Watermeier, and is working through the strategic planning process for the state. Technology is not the primary focus of the GIS Council. The Council is responsible for setting policy for not just state government but for the whole state. The Office of the CIO is committed to making sure that GIS/geospatial is a shared service. The intent is that GIS shared services are resources that can be shared among agencies and the state's citizens. Much of the data already collected at various levels is already paid by taxpayers. The Council members were asked to keep this focus in mind as they do the strategic planning. Mr. Watermeier has been talking to agency directors. The GIS Council is also part of a bigger picture within the state. The (Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC) has six advisory councils – the Community Council, the Education Council, the eHealth Council, the State Government Council and the Technical Panel. There is a lot of collaboration among the councils. For example, the eHealth Council has a GIS issue in regards to electronic records and emergency services so there is a marriage there. The OCIO is here to support the Council and will dedicate resources to make this happen - how are we going to share information and how are we going to set policy. Members were given an opportunity to ask questions.

Funding issues. The OCIO has spending authority generated from service fees. It is unlikely that the legislature will give the OCIO funding for the GIS effort. On the other hand, the legislature does see the importance and in the past when presenting them a collaborative project for the good of the state, they have agreed. The OCIO has the authority to collaborate joint projects. There are some senators that are interested in GIS and could be potential leaders – Senator John Harms for example. Ms. Cyr also knows of interested senators. She would like to organize a meeting with them and invite Mr. Watermeier to talk about the GIS Council.

NIROC III collaboration. Funding comes from multiple resources for NIROC III. Currently, MAPA (Metropolitan Area Planning Agency) is the contract holder and is seeking financial partners in the project. The question was raised as to whether the OCIO could assist or contribute to this collaborative effort. Ms. Decker stated that if the GIS Council felt this was important and if the data would be shared with cities, counties, etc., the OCIO could have the contractual authority, and even negotiate the rates on behalf of the Council.

There was discussion regarding the definition of services and costs. Costs are dependent upon on the services, the resources, and the usage basis. For example, NIROC III would be a single cost but hosting the infrastructure would have to include rent, utilities and staff resources. The Office of the CIO we will provide dollar by dollar cost per customers. In the very near future, the OCIO website will have cost information estimates for customers indicating what it would cost if X amount of customers used X service. Rates will not go up unless usage rate decreases tremendously. In order to save costs, the OCIO also looks at what other projects are being implements and offers a discussion about partnering

in the project.

The question was raised as to how will GIS services to the public be funded? Providing this service to the public would not be any different than what the OCIO is doing today. The OCIO is primarily concerned about collaborating to provide the service so it is provided at no charge to the public.

There is a national initiative going on right now. The states of Utah, Oregon, Colorado and Montana have written an RFP to hold GIS data in the cloud. This would be open to all states under a governmental contract. States will be able to connect to other state's data. This will be an opportunity for Nebraska to cut our costs and have cheaper storage. This will need to be an item for discussion by the GIS Council.

With no further question, Ms. Decker invited members to call her with any other questions.

GIS Council Planning Timeline. Mr. Watermeier presented a proposed timeline for the strategic plan, the business plan, the working groups' reports, and future Agency Directors meeting. The thought would be to have Agency Directors participate once or twice a year at the GIS Council meetings. The Agency Directors meeting could possibly be held on the same day that NITC State Government Council meets which is in the afternoon on the 2nd Thursday of the month. The GIS Council could meet with directors in the morning. The Work Group meetings and recommendations would be staggered for reporting at the regular GIS Council meetings. Due to time commitments, Mr. Watermeier didn't see the need for every work group to report at every meeting. Mr. Watermeier will continue to work on the draft timelines and asked that council members send their ideas and feedback on the timeline. The updated version will be presented at the next meeting. Council members requested that the documents be posted to the GIS website. Members were interested in seeing the timelines of the other NITC Advisory Councils as well.

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE / DEADLINE
Update GIS Council Timeline	GIS Coordinator	May 2, 2012

VI. WORKING GROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

COMMENTS	
	<p>Nebraska Geospatial Data Sharing and Web Services Network (Jeff McReynolds, Nathan Watermeier reporting). The working group met on March 22nd. Jeff McReynolds has agreed to be the spokesperson for the NebraskaMAP working group. There is currently a project charter that was started and a final project report that was completed in January 2011. The purpose was discussed and was still relevant to the group. Additional themes were added to the purpose of the working group. These included: data sharing issues with other various data sources; public versus private and information security reasons; assessors at local level involved with data issues and sharing; cost recovery and value-added trade-off's; and marketing and communicating NebraskaMAP. The group wanted to review the charter and provide changes prior to the next working group meeting. They also wanted a clearer definition from agencies on who is a data user versus and data creator/user. This will also help define data stewards and assess data sharing partnerships. Training and technical assistance to core user group for metadata and for web services was identified as a need. In particular, the need to continue metadata training. A discussion occurred on data sharing and what this meant for various users. These topics focused around information security, privacy, and what is allowed for public versus private consumption. The group wanted some examples and clearer clarifications before getting too far ahead in planning other items of this working group. The group discussed several technical aspects relating to web services. This information was started in the final report but will need to be updated. Topics included what types of services to add at what level, caching services, geometry issues, projections, web interface, cloud hosting, and web user interface issues.</p> <p>Street Centerline-Address Database (Sue Vanicek, Mike Hybl reporting). Mr. Hybl reported that the agency has secured commitments from key agencies for the first meeting and will be meeting in April.</p> <p>Land Records (Eric Herbert). Since last month's meeting, the working group has developed a data model template for the committee to review and provide feedback. The next meeting will focus on specifics to the land records data model. The next meeting is scheduled for April 10th at the Papillion</p>

	<p>NRD office in Omaha.</p> <p>Imagery (Mike Schonlau). There will be more to report at the next GIS Council meeting after their next meeting which is scheduled for April 10, 8:30 a.m. at the Papillion NRD office.</p> <p>Mr. McReynolds suggested to identify an online technology solution to share documents for the working groups and GIS Council members. It is easier to go to one location rather than get several emails of attachments. Mr. Watermeier will explore opportunities and share at the next meeting.</p>
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ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE / DEADLINE
Plan and implement next working group meetings and provide update at next GIS Council meeting.	Working Group Spokespersons	May 2, 2012
Identify online solution to share notes and documents for working groups.	Working Group Spokespersons	May 2, 2012

VII. GIS COUNCIL MEMBER PRESENTATION

DISCUSSION	<p>Josh Lear, GIS Council Member representing Department of Natural Resources provided the member presentation for the April meeting. The presentation is located at http://nitc.ne.gov/gisc/mtgs/docs/4-4-12/GISCouncilDNR422012.pdf.</p>
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VIII. UPDATES FROM MEMBERS AGENCIES

DISCUSSION	<p>Nebraska State Patrol (Lt. Otte). Lt. Otte provided any overview of how they use GIS. The agency is attempting to use GIS to do the best job possible. All state troopers have mobile devices connected and will be utilizing GIS to determine where troopers are located for dispatch purposes. Google Maps is also being utilized. Western Nebraska is a concern in using Google Map. It provides the ability to know where crash and crime trends occur. NSP is working with Omaha Police Department who is already doing this at the county level with their current technology.</p> <p>Nebraska Public Power District (Tim Cielocha). The agency is working on data sharing agreements with Kearney and other communities. They are working to develop appropriate data sharing on power line and GPS coordinate to locate these areas in case of power outage. Mr. Cielocha gave kudos to the Nebraska State Patrol who provided assistance during a power outage.</p> <p>Douglas County/City of Omaha (Mike Schonlau). Omaha has a lot of projects under development such as looking at ArcGIS online to replace desktop software for accessibility, developing mobile applications, as well as more web applications. There are currently 15 web applications in production.</p> <p>Game and Parks Commission (Sudhir Ponnapan). A mobile device application has been developed to locate hunting and fishing locations. It should be implemented within six months. The agency has also been videotaping the falcons if anyone is interested can visit their website.</p> <p>Environmental Quality (Tom Lamberson). The agency has been dealing with the potential activities of a pipeline that may be going through Nebraska.</p> <p>State Surveyor (John Beran). The agency has been dealing with surveyors for reciprocity regarding potential pipeline.</p> <p>USGS (Jim Langtry). Josh Lear presented a session at the USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) conference regarding NHD steward activity in Nebraska. He discussed how other states can take advantage of this effort. Nebraska was acknowledged as having one of the best NHD datasets in the nation.</p> <p>Nebraska Association of County Officials (Eric Herbert). At the Planning and Zoning Conference in Grand Island, he presented a GIS session and introduced them to the GIS Council and GIS/LIS</p>
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	<p>Association. Kelly Mueller has been working with local NRDs on certifying acres.</p> <p>Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (John Miyoshi). Western counties have all of the attribute information towards NHD. They had good cooperation from the project.</p> <p>League of Municipalities (Lash Chaffin). State agencies have been helping a lot of cities in regards to flooding. He stressed the importance of collaboration in respects to imagery and other data particularly as they find specific holes of data missing through the state.</p> <p>Legislative Research (Nancy Cyr). Ms. Cyr has been actively promoting GIS as a resource tool to various legislative processes. Many new legislatures are finding the benefits already.</p> <p>Dept. of Conservation and Survey Division (Les Howard) – No Report</p> <p>Dept. of Health and Human Services (Karis Bowen). The agency has been gathering Radon versus lung cancer data. She and Mr. Lin have been working on internal GIS training. On April 10th, there will be an intro to GIS training internally to public health and other DHHS staff. There will be more advanced training this summer. The agency receiving a grant to attend a three-week GIS training in Michigan in April. This is a first for the agency.</p> <p>Dept. of Natural Resources (Josh Lear). Neil Domini is the agency’s newly hired soil scientist. Currently, there is no way to download the entire state of Nebraska but he is willing to work with the specific working groups to get this done. Similar exercises found areas needing to be remapped, such as the case in Missouri. New benchmark data set is available on the DNR website.</p> <p>Dept. of Roads (Rose Braun). The agency is thankful that the federal government has extended the transportation bill to the end of June.</p> <p>Public Service Commission (Mike Hybl). Last Friday, the Commission submitted the 5th round data for the broadband map project. Data will be up on the website within the next couple of days and will present information at the next GIS Council meeting.</p> <p>Omaha Metro Area (Paul Mullen). MAPA is in the process of starting the Heartland 2050 project to share data. There is a GIS component and MAPA is working with necessary staff on the data. The 8 MSAs participating in the project.</p> <p>Lincoln Metro Area (Jim McReynolds). Lincoln has several projects under development, this includes the AVL and Asset Management project. The City of Lincoln is coordinating with the OCIO regarding eDocument management which will be tied into updating their permitting software system. This has a large GIS component. Omaha and Lincoln are collaborating for cleaner and greener environment through a Re-energize project. Both communities are re-energizing citizens to apply for low interest energy saving home improvements. There is updated imagery for Lincoln with time and date stamp of last Tuesday. This is available through Google Earth. It is not available on Google Map as of yet. He reminded the Council that the MAGIC Conference is coming up in a few weeks.</p>
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IX. NEBRASKA GEOSPATIAL STRATEGIC PLANNING	
DISCUSSION	<p>Vision and Strategic Goals. The draft vision and strategic goals were developed from input from the regional workshops, working group meetings, and meetings with agencies. Members were asked to review the outline and provide their recommendations and suggestions by April 20th.</p> <p>Planning Workshop and Seminar for GIS Council members and state agency/association directors. The Office of the CIO will find dates in June that will work for agency directors to come in for an update on the strategic plan. The Council will meet with AppGeo for a part of the day. The agency / association directors will be invited for a luncheon discussion on the strategic plan. If there are dates in June that do not work for the Council members, they were to inform Mr. Watermeier. Mr. Mullen is not available week of June 10th.</p>

ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE / DEADLINE
Submit comments on the Vision and Strategic Goals to the GIS Strategic Planning Committee	GIS Council Members / Strategic Planning Committee	April 20, 2012
GIS Strategic Planning Committee summarize changes and suggestions	GIS Council Strategic Planning Committee	May 2, 2012
Identify dates for Agency/Association Director Seminar and planning workshop for GIS Council Members	OCIO office / GIS Council Strategic Planning Committee	May 2, 2012

X. NIROC III

COMMENTS	Mr. Schonlau reported that the committee will be meeting next week on Friday, April 13th. Additional partners to join the project include Fremont, Wayne and Columbus along with the current counties. MAPA will be signing the contract in June. During that time, the partners will need to sign the contract.
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ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMELINE / DEADLINE
Other city and county administrators contact MAPA if they wish to be included in the project.	GIS Council Members	April 13, 2012

XI. INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM ATTENDEES

COMMENTS	There was no public comment.
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MEETING CONCLUSION

Adjournment	Mr. Chaffin moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cielocha seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting was ended at 3:13 p.m.
Next Meeting	The next meeting will be May 2, 2012, 1:00-3:30 p.m. at the Nebraska Department of Roads - Main Auditorium, 1500 Nebraska Hwy 2, Lincoln Nebraska.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Nathan Watermeier of the Office of the CIO/NITC.