

GIS COUNCIL

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011, 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Nebraska Dept. of Roads - Main Auditorium
1500 Nebraska Hwy 2, Lincoln, Nebraska

MINUTES

ROLL CALL PRESENT (authorized to vote*):

Chad Boshart	*	NEMA/Military Dept.
Karis Bowen	*	DHHS
Rose Braun	*	Dept. of Roads
Lash Chaffin	*	League of Municipalities
Tim Cielocha	*	Public Power
Eric Herbert	*	NACO Representative
Jim Langtry	*	USGS
Josh Lear	*	Dept. of Natural Resources
Jeff McReynolds	*	City of Lincoln/Lancaster County
Paul Mullen	*	Metropolitan Area Planning Agency
Jim Ohmberger	*	Office of the CIO
Mike Preston	*	GIS Professional Organization
Mike Schonlau	*	Douglas County/Omaha – At Large Rep
Les Howard	*	Conservation and Survey Division – UNL

Others Present:

Larry Zink, Outgoing GIS Council Coordinator, Office of the CIO/NITC; Nathan Watermeier, Incoming GIS Council Coordinator, Office of the CIO/NITC; Lori Lopez Urdiales, Office of the CIO/NITC; Jerry Carlson, Department of Revenue; Ge Lin, DHHS; Milda Vaitkus, UNL Calmit; Suzy Frederickson, Nebraska State Patrol; Ed Kelley, NDOR; Jack Dohrman, GIS Workshop; Marcus Tooze, GIS Workshop; Dan Erker, Infogroup; and Kevin Kuhlmann, Sanborn.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE ATTENDEES

The Chair, Mr. Schonlau, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. There were fourteen members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business.

PUBLIC MEETINGS REGULATIONS AND POSTING OF THE SAME

The meeting notice was posted to the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on July 26, 2011. The meeting agenda was posted on GIS Council website November 30, 2011. The Public Meetings regulations were posted in the room for interested persons.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 10/5/11 MEETING

Mr. Mullen moved to approve the [October 5, 2011](#) minutes as presented. Mr. Chaffin seconded. The motion was approved unanimously on a roll call vote.

UPDATE ON GIS COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Nathan Watermeier was introduced as the new NITC GIS Administrative Manager. Mr. Zink announced that he will be retiring at the end of the year. Mr. Watermeier provided a brief biography of his background and career experience. He plans to meet with each of the GIS Council members individually and stated that he will be spending much effort in the coming months with the strategic planning process and the various working groups. He has an open door policy and invited members to contact him with ideas and issues pertaining to moving GIS forward in the state of Nebraska.

Jayne Scofield, Office of the CIO, along with GIS Chair and Co-Chair, presented Mr. Zink with an appreciation plaque in recognition of his years of service and efforts with GIS.

NEBRASKA GEOSPATIAL STRATEGIC PLANNING

A request was made to FGDC to extend the Nebraska Geospatial Strategic Planning grant. The deadline has been extended until June 2012 to complete the GIS Council's Strategic Plan.

An online survey to gather information prior to the strategic planning workshops is currently being revised by the committee. Applied Geographics, Inc. has been developing a final draft that will be ready by Monday for final approval. Email lists are still needed to get the survey out to users. Additional organizations to be contacted include the ACEC, GITA, Nebraska Chapter American Planning Association, and NIROC. Members were asked to send Mr. Watermeier additional email list recommendations. The Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO), and Natural Resource Districts (NDR) will be providing mail lists.

It was recommended that the email message would be more beneficial if it came from the organization's president or chair. The intent is to send out communication to potential respondents about the survey prior to the holidays. Otherwise, information to complete the survey will be sent in early January 2012.

Due to the different types of end users, the expectation is to have several staff per entity complete the survey and not one representative per entity. If it is not too late, it was suggested to include a question on the survey, "Are you familiar with the GIS office and staff in your region or locality?" The survey will remain open during and after the regional workshops to gather input from those unaware of the survey.

There was a discussion on proposed workshop locations. The Office of the CIO would like to have a contact in each of the regions that would assist with planning the regional meetings. The following are proposed sites and suggested contacts:

- Scottsbluff or Gering, North Platte (Jim Hawk)
- Norfolk or Columbus
- Grand Island or Kearney (Pat Larson)
- Lincoln and SE (Jeff McReynolds)
- Omaha (Mike Schonlau)

Members were asked to provide lists of persons to be invited to the regional workshops. It was suggested that there be a regional representation in Omaha in addition to the southeast region location which would most likely be Lincoln.

Mr. Zink reminded council members that there are still vacant seats on the council. Regional representation is also needed on the GIS Council. As the regional workshops were being conducted it would be a good time to identify interested individuals interested in serving on the Council who represent rural and western areas of Nebraska.

Other suggestions for the regional workshops were to offer video conference capabilities in case of bad weather or time constraints. The workshops could also be recorded for viewing at a later date. It was suggested to wait and see what kind of responses come back from the survey and regional location organizers prior to committing to video conferencing.

The Nebraska Strategic Planning process will involve [regional workshops](#) to gather input for the strategic plan. These workshops will be planned sometime for the end of January through March. Members were asked to let Mr. Watermeier know of other dates during this time frame that are committed to other conferences, meetings, and regional/statewide events that would impact attendance of the regional workshops.

In addition to meeting with each of the GIS council members individually, Mr. Watermeier plans to attend all the regional meetings to make contacts and learn about needs and issues to support the strategic plan. The end goal from the strategic plan is to make recommendations and begin preparations for a business plan to the GIS Council for a statewide spatial data infrastructure. To help this process, Applied Geographics will be using various

resources provided by the FGDC while working with the committee. These and other resources have already been used and verified by various states for their data collection and reporting process for their strategic plans.

NEBRASKAMAP

[NebraskaMAP Partners Committee Recommendation](#). Last week, the Chair sent the Office of the CIO the council's response. The Office of the CIO has not responded.

[GIS Workshop Presentation on Private Portal Hosting](#). Jack Dohrman, formerly with the Legislature now with GIS Workshop, provided the presentation and thanked the council for giving GIS Workshop an opportunity to provide information about their company and to respond to the issues indicated on the GIS response to the CIO. The presentation can be viewed via the link above. There were no questions by the council. Mr. Dohrman was thanked for providing the presentation.

NIROC III

The group met about 2-3 weeks ago to discuss plans for the next imagery project that will occur in the Spring of 2013. Entities who are interested are welcomed to attend the meetings. The workgroup's meeting notes will be posted on the website. The next meeting will be held on December 16th at Paul's place. The Office of the CIO will find out what the FSA's plans are for the update. In addition, the council asked for the Office of the CIO to contact Central Nebraska regarding their interest in the project.

2012 MEETING SCHEDULE

All proposed GIS Council meeting dates will be held on the first Wednesdays of every month with a few exceptions. GIS Council meetings will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will conclude at approximately 3:30 p.m. The meeting location will be at the Department of Roads-Main Auditorium, 1500 Nebraska Highway 2 in Lincoln.

January 11, 2012 (*second Wednesday due to start of new year*)

February 1, 2012

March 7, 2012

April 4, 2012

May 2, 2012

June 6, 2012

July 11 or July 18, 2012 (*second or third Wednesday due to holiday and ESRI conference conflict*)

August 1, 2012

September 5, 2012

October 3, 2011

November 14, 2011 (*second Wednesday due to room conflicts*)

December 6, 2011 (*Thursday due to room conflicts*)

Mr. Mullen moved to approve the proposed meeting dates and to hold the July meeting on the 18th. Mr. McReynolds seconded. The motion was approved unanimously on a roll call vote.

USGS LIAISON - GIS COUNCIL ETHICS MOU

Ms. Braun left the meeting.

The USGS (United States Geological Survey) and other federal agencies are requiring MOU's for employees serving on councils, commissions, etc.

Excerpt from MOU:

1. *This document sets forth an agreement between the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Nebraska Information Technology Commission – Geographic Information Systems Council (NITC-GIS Council) concerning the service of James W. Langtry as a Liaison with the NITC-GIS Council as a part of Mr. Langtry's official Government duties.*

It specifies his voting rights on the council. This requirement will extend for one year after Mr. Langtry has terminated his relationship with the NITC-GIS Council.

Mr. Mullen moved to authorize the Office of the CIO to sign the MOU on behalf of the GIS Council. Mr. Herbert seconded. The motion was approved unanimously on a roll call vote.

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS - JANUARY 2012? (MARCH 2011)

The GIS Steering Committee's (former name of the council prior to the legislation that moved the group under the umbrella of the NITC) [Voting Policies and Procedures](#) stated that officers were elected in July. The GIS Council charter states January. Mr. Schonlau and Mr. McReynolds were elected as Chair and Vice Chair a year ago. A former council Chair had suggested that the Chair and Co-Chair switch officer positions after a year or two year term.

After discussion it was agreed to have Mr. Watermeier revise the GIS Council voting procedures and to hold elections in January. Members were asked to send their nominations for chair and Vice Chair to Mr. Watermeier.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM ATTENDEES

There was no public comment.

UPDATES FROM MEMBERS AGENCIES

Mr. Langtry reported the USGS is updating their topographic maps and it is 80% completed. The last update was done in 2009.

The MAGIC Conference will be held, April 23-26 at the Westin Hotel, Kansas City. Mr. Langtry will find out about scholarships available to states to send a representative. MAGIC is seeking nominations for "Outstanding GIS Contributions". Discussion regarding nominations will be put on the January agenda. Mr. Schonlau will send the nomination information to Mr. Watermeier to get out to members.

With no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 2:47 p.m. The next NITC GIS Council meeting will be held at 1 p.m. on January 11, 2012.

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