

Nebraska State Records Board

440 S. 8th St. Suite 210, Lincoln, NE 68508 402-471-2745

John A. Gale, Chairman

APPLICATION FOR STATE RECORDS BOARD GRANT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION

1. **Name of agency applying for grant :** Scotts Bluff County
2. **Grant amount requested** \$ 25,000
3. **Title of project:** Assessor GIS and County WebGIS
4. **Brief description of project:** The project includes building a County-wide land records GIS database and WebGIS application that will link to the existing Manatron/TerraScan database in use in the Assessor's Office to promote online access to public records by citizens, businesses, other County departments and other local/county/regional/State agencies.

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

The Nebraska State Records Board is sponsoring a grant program for Nebraska government agencies for the development of programs and technology to improve electronic access to Nebraska government information and services by citizens and businesses with emphasis on web-enabled services. The State Records Board has set the maximum amount of any grant awarded at \$25,000.00 for this grant period. The grants may be used for the creation or enhancement of electronic access and delivery of government services and information, but not to fund ongoing operations. Nebraska government agencies wishing to apply for these grants may want to first contact Nebraska.gov to establish feasibility and scope of the project.

NOTE: Loss of Funding. The NE State Records Board may be unable to award grant funds, in whole or in part, in the event funding is no longer available.

Grant Criteria

Grant projects requesting funding must meet criteria #1-3.

1. Enhance the delivery of local government agency services and improve the public and business access to those services with emphasis on web-enabled services.
2. Meet the all applicable Nebraska Information Technology Commission Standards and Guidelines. State's technology access clause for providing equal access to services for persons with disabilities. A copy of the technology access clause is available at: <http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/standards/index.html> under 2. Accessibility Architecture.
3. If the project or service created or improved pursuant to the grant application involves the licensing, permitting or regulation of businesses, then the project or service must allow integration with the State of Nebraska's Business Portal at: <http://www.nebraska.gov/index.phtml?section=business>, and the One-Stop Online Business Registration System at: <http://www.nebraska.gov/osbr/cgi/domestic.cgi?osbraapplication/init/init/None>.

In addition, the following criteria will be considered when reviewing applications:

- Does the project enhance the delivery of state/local government agency services and improve the public, government and business access to those services?
- Does the project enhance or create an online presence?
- Does the project span more than one office or agency?
- What is the size of the customer base for this service and the geographic impact?
- Is there financial and or in kind contribution from other partners?
- Is there documented community support for the project?

Responses are required to all questions in Parts I & II and all associated documents that may be requested must be included in this submission in order to be considered for funding.

Part I. Grant Detail

1. Please describe the project in detail, to include your vision for the project (you may attach additional pages if necessary).

Scotts Bluff County has chosen to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) database and web-enabled mapping interface and database query tool (or WebGIS). The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for citizens, businesses, County departments and other local/county/regional/state agencies to easily find public records data. The attached proposal (Attachment 1) illustrates the specific data layers and the WebGIS application features.

The County selected GIS Workshop, Inc (GISW) as the vendor for this project. GISW has extensive experience in developing Geographic Information Systems and we believe that their skill is unparalleled for this project.

The project will include data development tasks for parcels, land use and legal land base (lot, block and subdivision) layers. The parcels will be developed from the best available source data (survey plats, legal descriptions, cadastral maps, etc) and assigned a parcel identification number to match the Assessor's Manatron/TerraScan database system. The County has invested in a robust GIS system that was developed by the County Surveyor many years ago. This GIS, while extensive, did not include critical layers for the Assessor department such as a parcel identification number-based parcel layer, landuse layer and corresponding soil layer. Scotts Bluff County and the Surveyor will make existing data available to GISW and they are in the process now of evaluating the data for usability in the County-wide GIS, needed Assessor layers and WebGIS projects. As stated in the GISW proposal (see Attachment 1), if GISW is able to reduce initial GIS development costs through the use of this existing Surveyor data, it will be reflected as a discount during the Scope of Work phase.

The land use layer will be developed using a combination of available data sources including the Manatron/TerraScan database parcel records, air photo interpretation, etc. The land use classes will match those defined by the Nebraska Property Assessment Division. Land use classes will include dryland crop, irrigated crop, grass, CRP (optional), tree (optional), homesite, farmsite, road, exempt and waste. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as the Natural Resource Districts.

GISW will also assemble other datasets such as SSURGO soils, FSA aerial photography and any available high-resolution photography.

The WebGIS application will provide an intuitive interface for users to search for public records using either the text search menu or the map tools. Users will be able to toggle layers on/off individually, click on a parcel to see its Record Card, click on a parcel to see all available photos/sketches, measures distances/areas, print to PDF or export to Microsoft Excel. The WebGIS will provide 24/7/365 access to public records for citizens, businesses and government employees.

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The WebGIS application will also include a highly specialized tool for the Assessor's Office to calculate land value for new parcel splits or verify the land use and soil characteristics of an existing parcel. The Land Use Calculator is very valuable for fast, efficient and equitable tax assessment.

Other County departments will also benefit from the WebGIS application. The Clerk, Treasurer and Register of Deeds Offices will all benefit from easy access to land records information. The Weeds department will use it for determining property owners and property location for spraying noxious weeds and issuing notices to landowners. The County Election Office will better determine exact voter precinct maps. The WebGIS application will also serve as a valuable resource for County emergency management and law enforcement staff. The Scotts Bluff County Board of Commissioners is excited about the opportunity for offices such as Planning/Zoning, Roads, Treasurer and Register of Deeds to build upon the land records foundation to create a one-stop web-enabled interface to County data. The Cities of Scottsbluff and Gering have expressed support of the project as they see it as an avenue to increased collaboration and communication through the sharing of data.

Other GISW clients have cited a 50-75% reduction in phone call volume after implementing the WebGIS application. The application will provide better service to County residents while increasing the efficiency of multiple County departments.

2. Please describe who the beneficiary or recipient of this service will be.

Anyone interested in land records information for Scotts Bluff County will benefit from this project. Scotts Bluff County offices of Assessor, Clerk/Election Commissioner, Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Emergency Manager, Roads, Sheriff, Planning/Zoning, Health Director, Surveyor, Central Communications Center and Weeds will benefit from this program. Property owners, banks, insurance companies, appraisers, realtors and attorneys will have access to the property assessment and valuation information at no extra cost to them. Partner agencies such as the applicable Natural Resources Districts, the Cities of Scottsbluff and Gering and surrounding villages, along with various State agencies, will also benefit from easy access to Scotts Bluff County data. Efficiencies realized from 24/7 access will result in increased productivity and cost savings for both public and private entities.

3. Based upon your answer to question 2, what do you project the adoption rate to be in 1 year, 3 years and 5 years?

Based upon extensive input and support we have received from real estate professionals and other government agencies, we believe the adoption rate of the WebGIS technology will be immediate. Numerous County department staff members have attended Board meetings to express their support.

4. Timeline for implementation of the project (a specific completion date (MM/YYYY) must be provided). Grant funds may lapse if not expended prior to completion date.

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GIS Workshop confirms the project to be completed no later than June 30, 2013 (06/30/2013).

5. Does the project require additional statutory authority (explain)?

No.

6. Specify (in detail) what the grant money will be used for. Include a complete cost breakdown of the project. Please attach bids from vendors (if applicable) and describe the relationship, if any, between a vendor and you or your agency. *These documents are mandatory for the application to be considered for funding.*

We will contract with GISW to develop a GIS for Scotts Bluff County. Attachment 1 contains an overview of the project in GISW's Proposal document. The Proposal is for development of a GIS for Scotts Bluff County, updating of the GIS and development of a WebGIS site for the County, which will make information available 24/7. The total amount of grant money awarded to Scotts Bluff County will be used to defray the following initial GIS development expense. The Board believes the maximum grant amount is critical to funding of this project. See attached proposal by GIS Workshop for this project.

7. Collaboration. Please specify in detail any other public or private contributions for your project (financial, labor, equipment etc.) from other sources. Identify contributors and/or partners and specific dollar amounts.

As stated in the GISW proposal (see Attachment 1), if GISW is able to reduce project costs through the use of existing Surveyor data in the development of Assessor layers, it will be reflected as a discount during the Scope of Work phase.

8. Why is the grant money needed for the project and how will the service be sustained once the grant money is expended?

The grant money is necessary to assist with the initial data development and WebGIS setup costs. The County will take advantage of GISW's offer to spread the remaining development costs over several years, interest-free which will allow us to budget for the project. The GIS project and WebGIS will help the County get back on pace with surrounding agencies. Scotts Bluff County will commit to paying the annual maintenance fees to keep the system thriving after this project is completed

9. Should available funding not allow the NSRB to grant the full amount requested, but a reduced amount, would this project still be financially feasible?

The full amount will be necessary to initially defray the substantial upfront cost to Scotts Bluff County of developing the GIS dataset. The County fully anticipates being able to fully meet annual maintenance costs of the GIS after it is implemented.

10. Please describe how this project will enhance the delivery of on-line government agency services and improve the public and/or business access to those services.

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The WebGIS application that is included as part of this project is a proven system for delivering tax assessment and related information. The application allows the user to submit queries to the Manatron/TerraScan database containing tax assessment information. The Property Record Card component of the WebGIS has several customized reports, derived from the Manatron/TerraScan database, containing land record information that are valuable to real estate professionals, citizens and other government agencies. The web-enabled application also shows photos and sketches from the Assessor's database.

In addition to textual database information and photos/sketches the WebGIS application also includes GIS data layers such as land use, soils and aerial photography which are all valuable for visualizing information associated with government records.

- 11. Does the project involve the licensing, permitting or regulation of business? If yes, explain how the project or service will allow integration with the State of Nebraska's Business Portal, located at: <http://www.nebraska.gov/index.phtml?section=business>, and the One-Stop Online Business registration system located at: <https://www.nebraska.gov/osbr/index.cgi>**

No, this is not applicable to this project.

- 12. Community Support. Please include letters of support to document the public expression that has caused you to implement this application.**

Scotts Bluff County has solicited and received excellent community support. Attachment 2 contains letters of support from the Scotts Bluff County community. The letters include Scotts Bluff County citizens, business professionals, County department heads and associated agencies.

- 13. If the grant is to create an on-line application, is the application to have a fee associated with its use for accessing public records, or is the application free for use by the public, businesses and other governmental agencies?**

As a result of the 2011 SRBG application discussions GISW developed a subscription-based WebGIS option which would allow Scotts Bluff County to offer advanced sales information on a subscription basis to end users such as realtors, bankers, insurance and other business professionals. The County has not yet made a determination if they will select the subscription-based option but will do this during the Scope of Work development process with GISW.

If there is to be a fee, provide any statutory authorization for assessing the fee.

The County has not yet made a determination if they will select the subscription-based option but will do this during the Scope of Work development process with GISW. Any fee will be consistent with other Nebraska Counties who are using a subscription-based format.

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14. If the grant application is for a Geographic Information System project, do you and the agency you represent agree to share the data collected in that project, without costs, with other interested government agencies in the State that may have a need for such data?

Yes.

Part II. Technical Information

1. Describe the hardware, software, and communications needed for this project and explain why these choices were made.

GISW will utilize a county WebGIS application template and host it on their redundant servers in Downtown Lincoln, NE. The WebGIS application is built using the industry standard technology, Esri ArcGIS for Server. Scotts Bluff County staff, as well as external users, will access the system using a standard internet browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox.

Scotts Bluff County staff may also choose to use other GIS programs such as Esri ArcGIS for Desktop to view or manipulate GIS data. For persons who do not have Internet access, the Public Library supplies several computers for this service at no charge.

The Esri-based WebGIS application was chosen to maximize the user base, simplify data access and reduce the need for user training. The WebGIS application also reduces the effort involved in maintaining the system in the future.

2. Address any technical issues with the proposed technology including:

- **Conformity with general accepted industry standards. Projects which interface with other state systems (such as distance learning systems) must meet NITC technical standards and guidelines. (The NITC standards and guidelines are located at: <http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/standards/>).**
- **Compatibility with existing institutional and/or statewide infrastructure.**
- **Reliability, security and scalability (future needs for growth or adaptation).**

The GIS will interface with the current Manatron/TerraScan (or any other CAMA provider selected in the future) database systems in use in Scotts Bluff County today.

The systems and data constructed for this project will meet all the applicable NITC and FGDC standards for GIS data and metadata. The proposed software and data format technology is Esri-based. This is the industry standard GIS technology in Nebraska today.

The GISW WebGIS interface is in use in numerous Nebraska counties with proven reliability. Since it is based on Esri technology it is scalable and GISW continues to add features based on input from clients. The WebGIS application

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also has security features for layers that contain sensitive information and for protecting features such as the Land Use Calculator Tool from unauthorized use.

- 3. Describe how the project will comply with the State's Technology Access Clause:** meet all applicable Nebraska Information Technology Commission Standards and Guidelines. Copies of the Standards are available at: <http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/standards/index.html>. **under 2. Accessibility Architecture.**

The WebGIS application for Scotts Bluff County will be configured by GISW with adherence to standards established by the State of Nebraska. The digital map database has been developed using the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83 as per State/NITC guidelines. The system will comply with any other applicable NITC items.

- 4. Agencies submitting grant applications for funding of a Geographic Information System (GIS) project must in addition to the standard grant application complete and submit the *Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Application* found on the Boards website page "Grant Information" at www.staterrecordsboard.ne.gov.**

The supplemental questionnaire has been completed and is attached to this application.

- 5. Describe how technical support will be provided.**

GISW will edit and maintain the GIS data and provide access to the data using the WebGIS application. Scotts Bluff County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GISW. GISW will download a copy of the Manatron/TerraScan data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GISW server.

GISW have dedicated technical support staff available at any time during business hours to service the County's needs. They will provide training, phone support and online support to help County staff quickly adapt to the new technology.

Part III. EXPECTATIONS

It is the expectation of the Nebraska State Records Board that the grantee recognize the project as an ongoing effort to make public documents and or transactions more accessible. As this application relates to public documents the goal encompasses not only the availability of current documents as described in this application but the ongoing addition of new and updated documents in a timely manner. This goal recognizes the public's interest in not only historical information but the expectation that current data is obtainable. The Nebraska State Records Board recognizes that this is a long term commitment on the part of the grantee and anticipates the continued financial support of the grantee to maintain these expectations.

Part IV. STATE LAW COMPLIANCE

Nebraska law, sections 4-108 through 4-114 state that no political subdivision of the State shall provide public benefits, to include grants or contracts, to a person not lawfully present in the United States. If this application is awarded in whole or in part, and during the time the grant is

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in effect, the undersigned, on behalf of the political subdivision grant applicant, by signing this grant application, affirmatively states and acknowledges that the political subdivision will comply with this law.

Part V. CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURE

Contact person, and title, for any questions regarding this application:

Amy Ramos
Printed Name

Assessor for Scotts Bluff County
Title

Phone # 308-436-6627
ext 5724

E-mail aramos@scottsbluffcounty.org

Physical Address: 1825 10th Street Gering Nebraska 69341

I, the Authorized Representative of Amy Ramos, certify to the Nebraska State Records Board that the applicant/agency has the necessary authority to undertake the proposed project, will comply with Affirmative Action requirements and provide a drug free workplace environment.

Signed this 5th day of April, 2012

Amy Ramos
Agency Director

Please return completed application to:

Executive Director
Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street, Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294
(402) 471-2745
(402) 471-2406 (fax)

(Last updated 02/08/2012)

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**Supplemental Questionnaire for State Funded Entities on
Land Record Information and Mapping-Related Grant Applications**

Numbers refer to specific NITC Land Record Information and Mapping Standards

For a complete listing of these standards and guidelines please see:

<http://nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/3-202.html>

- 1.1 Datum.** Local government multipurpose GIS/LIS (Geographic Information System/Land Information System) and their associated geospatial data layers should be based on the North American Datum (NAD) 83 and the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) 88. Any existing systems developed based on other datums should consider conversion to these datum.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: All GIS data that are constructed or converted as part of this project will use the specified datums.

- 1.2 Projection.** The Nebraska Plane Coordinate System, NAD 83, should be used as the primary map projection system for the recording of positions in local land-data systems in Nebraska. Selection of any other projection should be done reluctantly and only after most careful consideration. The plane coordinate values for a point on the earth's surface may be expressed in either meters or feet.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: All GIS data that are constructed or converted as part of this project will use the specified projection.

- 1.3 Geodetic Control.** GIS/LIS systems developed with the goal of providing a multipurpose cadastre for local government use should be referenced to a local geodetic reference framework that is properly connected to the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS).

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The GIS data will reference the available geodetic control in the project area as gathered from the NE State Surveyor and/or County/local Surveyor.

1.4 Public Land Survey System Control.

- 1.4.1 PLSS Geodetic Framework. For all land in Nebraska that is subdivided according to the Public Land Survey System (PLSS), the geodetic reference framework for the cadastre should be the section corners of the PLSS for each section.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: All applicable GIS data (cadastre based data) will reference and fit within the NE PLSS.

- 1.4.2 Locate, Monument, and GPS Primary Corners. At a minimum, local government entities developing a geospatial land information system should initially invest in a precision Global Positioning System (GPS) survey to locate, re-monument as necessary, and obtain the geographic coordinates of the major boundary defining corners that legally define the boundaries of their county jurisdiction(s). These precision GPS survey coordinates for the boundary defining corners should be collected and integrated as framework data into the land information system. This effort should be coordinated with officials from the adjacent county(ies) to ensure agreement on the location of the shared corners.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The project will utilize all available GPS based monumentation from NDOR, NE State Surveyor and the County Surveyor.

- 1.5 **PLSS Base Map**. Local governments considering the development of a multipurpose GIS, should consult with the Nebraska State Surveyor's Office to locate and access the best available data on the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) for their geographic area. To assist the State Surveyors Office in maintaining a repository of the best available PLSS data, local governments participating in the Nebraska Land Information System Program should share any enhanced PLSS data, for their geographic area, with the State Surveyors Office so that it might be integrated into the PLSS repository database.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The project will utilize all available PLSS data from the NE State Surveyor. Any new or reset PLSS monumentation/control will be supplied to the NE State Surveyor via the County/local Surveyor.

1.6 Ortho-base (Aerial Layer) or Base Maps. Both a Public Land Survey System base map and an orthophoto (surface features) base map should be used to provide the geospatial reference framework upon which a local government multipurpose land information system is developed. Both base maps should be tied to the National Spatial Reference System and have a level of spatial accuracy appropriate to the range of applications planned for a given area.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The project will utilize the NAIP/FSA imagery as the base imagery and provide the necessary tie to the National Spatial Reference System. By using these data, the project by default will be provided with the necessary level of spatial accuracy.

1.7 Map Scale and Spatial Accuracy.

1.7.1 Minimum Horizontal Accuracy Standard. Public entities developing a GIS/LIS program should conduct data collection and development in a manner to achieve at least the minimum level of horizontal spatial accuracy consistent with the National Horizontal Map Accuracy Standards corresponding to a 1:12,000 (1"= 1,000') scale map (90% of the "well defined" horizontal locations must be within ± 33.3 ft. of their real world location).

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The project will utilize the NAIP/FSA imagery as the source base map. These data meet or exceed the stated accuracy requirements, thus the GIS data constructed using these based map data will meet or exceed these stated minimums.

1.8 Legal Lot and Parcel Layers. Two graphic data layers are necessary to provide the foundation for a wide variety of local government GIS/LIS applications that involve land subdivision and/or ownership.

a). The legal lot layer consisting of legal land subdivisions. These are aliquot portions of the PLSS, filed subdivision plats and irregular tracts defined by filed deeds.

b). The parcel layer that defines ownership tracts of land. These tracts may group multiple legal lots into one taxable account and that typically represents the boundaries of a landowner's property. These data layers include locational coordinates for points representing property corners, lines between property corners representing property boundaries and closed polygons representing the property area.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: Where the source data exists, both layers will be constructed, if applicable to the project.

1.9 Parcel Identifiers.

a). Each county/region should adopt a system of unique, permanent feature identifiers (PID) that provide the link between each graphic land ownership parcel polygon and the attribute information (ownership, size, situs address, value, etc.) related to that specific land ownership property parcel.

b). A county/region PID system must be designed in a manner such that a unique, statewide PID can be defined and maintained for each property parcel by using the county FIPS code (Federal Information Processing Standards Publications) as a prefix to the county/region's PID system.

c). To maintain this unique one-to-one association between a specific property parcel and its related attribution information, new PIDs should be assigned whenever a property parcel is altered by either splitting it into two or more parcels or by combining two or more parcels to form a new parcel. The previous PIDs should not be used for these new modified parcels, but the historical PID associations should be maintained through a parent/child PID reference table.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The PID system currently in use in the project area meets all three requirements.

1.10 Spatial Data Format. A broad range of state and regional applications require property parcel information. Many of these applications require the combining of data across jurisdictional boundaries. To facilitate these applications, the property parcel spatial (graphic) data should be either maintained in a manner that allows it to be readily integrated in a common geographic data format (i.e., shapefile) or be capable of being exported into a common geographic data format (i.e., shapefile), while including the parcel identifiers.

Please describe how you would comply with this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: The data will be maintained in a common format (Esri geodatabase or shapefile). Both these formats are Open GIS Consortium (OGC) compatible.

Data Sharing-Data Integration. A major focus of the State Records Board grant program is enhancing access to public records. Not only the general public, but also other public agencies benefit from facilitating access to public records. As noted in the NITC standard above there are numerous applications for which substantial benefits can be derived by integrating data across jurisdictional boundaries. Please describe whether your agency would be willing to share periodic updates of GIS-enabled property parcel data, such that other agencies might integrate that data into statewide or regional datasets to provide a resource for public agencies and the general public and any restrictions that you anticipate might apply. *(Note: this is not a current NITC standard, but is an interest of the State Records Board)*

100% compliance: Yes, these data may be shared.

1.11 Metadata. All geospatial land record databases, and their associated attribute databases should be documented with Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) compliant metadata outlining how the data was derived, attribute field definitions and values, map projections, appropriate map scale, contact information, access and use restrictions, etc.

Please describe how you would comply would this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: FGDC compliant metadata will be created as part of the project.

1.12 Attribute Data. To provide the foundation necessary for a wide variety of local government applications, non-graphic, attribute data should be organized within the GIS/LIS, which describes individual property parcels relative to their basic parcel characteristics, tenure, value, history, buildings and units within the parcel, and tax status. In most cases, much of this attribute data will already exist in separate databases within a variety of local agencies and should be tied to the graphic property parcel via the unique PID. To meet a range of state and regional applications that require property parcel information, the following types of property parcel data should be maintained (for every property parcel?) and (be) available in a manner that allows it to be harvested, translated, and integrated into a statewide property parcel attribute dataset.

PID#..... Parcel identifier (county FIPS code plus local government PID)
 Situs Address..... Address of parcel (may be multiple fields)
 Owner Address Address of property owner (may be multiple fields)
 Township Township #
 Section Section #
 Range Range #
 Range Direction East or West
 Legal Description Narrative legal description of parcel
 Assessed Value Total assessed value of property (land and improvements)
 Land Value..... Assessed value of land
 Area (Deeded) Area of parcel according to the deed
 Property Class (Res, Ag, Com, Rec., Ind.)
 Property Sub-class i.e., Ag (Dryland, Irrigated, Grassland/Pasture, Waste)
 Ownership type..... Federal, State, County, Private, Tribal, Exempt, Other and Unknown
 Tax District..... County ID plus Tax Dist. #
 School District State number definition
 Landuse Actual landuse with NPAT defined general categories
 Property Parcel Type... NPAT defined categories
 Status (Vacant, Improved or Improved only) (NPAT defined)
 Location (Urban, Sub-urban, Rural)(NPAT defined)
 City Size..... 1st class, 2nd class, primary, metro, or village
 Source Document..... Sales/transfer reference or document (book & page)
 Recording Date..... Most recent sales/transfer date
 Sales Value..... Most recent sales value

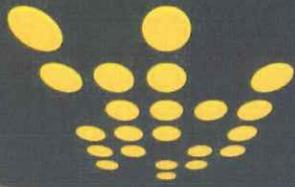
Please describe how you would comply would this standard if you are awarded a Nebraska State Records Board grant.

100% compliance: These data are already maintained and will continue to be maintained and may be readily "harvested" from the CAMA/Administrative database.

Collaboration. In most instances, the development of a local government GIS system and the related geospatial data involves a fairly costly initial upfront investment. These costs are frequently offset by the benefits gained through coordination and collaboration that an integrated GIS can bring to local government and related public entities. For example, with property parcel data and maps the County Register of Deeds, the County Surveyor, and the County Assessor all frequently maintain and make changes to aspects of this data and the data is also commonly used by local public safety agencies, local emergency responders, local transportation agencies and state agencies such as the Dept. of Revenue, Dept. of Roads, and Game and Parks Commission. Please describe the level and nature of any multi-agency/department involvement in the planning and proposed management of your proposed GIS system.

Numerous County departments (Register of Deeds, Health, etc) have expressed interest in collaborating and building upon the County's existing investment in GIS technology to enhance their service provision to the public. The current County Surveyor's GIS data will be utilized to the greatest extent possible and made available through the WebGIS to benefit both our internal and external customers. For example, our letters of support indicate a strong desire by the area realtors to have the Assessor's information available via the Internet to save much time by eliminating the need for a courthouse visit. The Cities of Gering and Scottsbluff see an opportunity through the development of the WebGIS to share information with the County. This will greatly enhance and facilitate collaboration and communication through the sharing of data. With a population of over 36,000, we believe law enforcement will utilize the mapping and property information available in the web-based environment to maintain and enhance public safety. These agencies have expressed a strong desire for the tools and functionality offered by the WebGIS.

This project will promote public access to government records and enhanced collaboration between departments and other agencies.



GIS
Workshop

www.gisworkshop.com

VERSION 1.1
Project: 0429-001

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NE

Attachment 1:
Proposal for
Assessor GIS and County WebGIS

*Prepared for Amy Ramos, Assessor
And Scotts Bluff County Board of Commissioners*

March 31, 2012



esri Partner Network
Gold

402.436.2150
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SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

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PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Scotts Bluff County Assessor recognizes the value of expanding the existing GIS housed in the Surveyor's Department for analysis and record keeping in the Assessor's Office. The Board of Commissioners has participated in a demonstration about GISW's County-wide GIS Implementation and WebGIS solutions. As a result, they have requested GISW to provide a proposal (see Attachment 1) on the development of GIS for the Assessor's office and implementation of a County-wide Web-based GIS to provide property information on-line to property owners, the general public and other departments while utilizing existing GIS data as a foundation.

GIS BENEFITS

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are a powerful combination of digital maps and database information. Traditionally, county assessment has used paper maps to track parcel, soil and land use boundaries; in addition, the assessment database was completely disconnected from the mapping making it hard to crosscheck information. This process was very labor intensive and difficult to implement with high precision.

When properly implemented, Assessment GIS seamlessly links the parcel, soil and land use data directly to the appraisal database. GIS can increase efficiency and increase accuracy in many ways:

- Enter new parcel splits using specialized tools for survey data and aliquot parts
- Parcel-by-parcel comparison of deeded acres to mapped acres
- Calculate current land value for each parcel and report the breakdown of acres in each unique combination of soil and land use
- Visualize individual parcels to see the soils, land uses and aerial photograph
- Share information with land owners, real estate professionals and potential developers to significantly reduce call volume for County staff and facilitate easy access to public information
- Quickly and uniformly change land value calculations for the entire County if any of the parameters change (soils database, land use classes, etc)

THE GIS WORKSHOP DIFFERENCE

EXPERIENCE WITH NEBRASKA ASSESSMENT GIS

GISW has been providing quality Assessment GIS data and analysis solutions for more than 14 years. Our clients include over 85 counties in Nebraska and surrounding states. GISW staff has over 75 years combined experience in GIS implementation and are exceptionally experienced in Nebraska assessment systems. GISW is the only GIS Company in Nebraska that can provide the automatic database linking and other tools necessary to build a complete assessment GIS for Scotts Bluff County to ensure compliance with Property Assessment Division (PAD) mandates. We are the only GIS Company recognized by the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). As you transition from State-assessed to County-assessed, the GIS will ensure you are providing equal, fair, consistent valuation of property in the most efficient manner possible.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

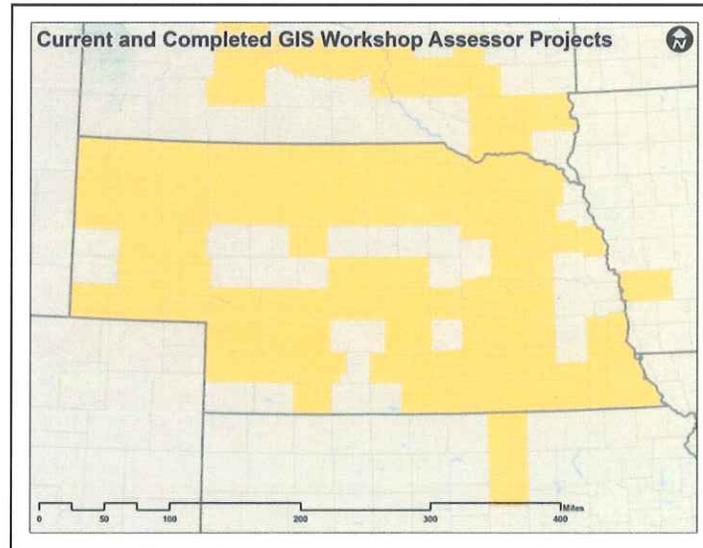


Figure 1: GISW is the most experienced Assessor GIS provider in the State

GISW is a full service GIS provider with a team of technicians ready to build your GIS. We will develop your GIS database, train your staff to use GIS information in their day-to-day workflow, provide unlimited support and develop internet mapping, or WebGIS, sites to make GIS more accessible to all your departments, real estate professionals and your constituents.

GISW specializes in developing GIS datasets and providing easy access to the data. Below is a list of key differentiators:

- **WebGIS – our product gives everyone ‘Google-like’ access to GIS data. No one else offers web access!**
- Costs – our costs are lower because our experience translates into efficiency
- Training – we provide upfront and ongoing training to ensure clients can make use of their investment
- Support staff – we have a long list of satisfied clients who can attest to our excellent support services. We have a dedicated team of technical support staff ready and waiting on the phone.
- Experience – we are the most experienced GIS company in the State and it shows in the quality of our products and services
- Software tools – we have customized tools we use internally to quickly perform routine operations such as land use calculation, survey data entry, aliquot part splits, etc.
- CAMA integration – we are the only company with tools to link directly into assessment databases such as Tyler, TerraScan, MIPS and County Solutions.
- Complete package – we offer a turnkey solution including data conversion, data development data maintenance and the products to make the data accessible to everyone

GIS Workshop, Inc. is the most experienced Assessment GIS provider in the State. We will become an extension of your staff. Our extensive expertise together with our specialized tools helps us provide superior products and services.

CLIENT SATISFACTION

Please ask our clients about our support staff, training services, how they use GIS on a day-to-day basis, do they use desktop or WebGIS, did GIS help with the recent soil conversion mandate, flexible payment options, oblique photos, etc. We are confident that you will hear our level of service is second-to-none. Here are direct quotes from a sampling of our Assessor clients after implementing GIS in their departments; they are a testimony to the fact that implementing GIS increases revenue through accuracy in land use calculations and decreases costs through enhanced efficiency and time savings:

- **Merrick County:** "We found 13,000 additional irrigated acres by matching up NRD data with GIS."
- **Pierce County:** "Our GIS paid for itself the first year" by identifying pivots, new buildings, etc.
- **Phelps County:** "We increased assessed acres through accuracy in land use calculations."
- **Cuming County:** "I have confidence in my valuations when dealing with property owners because we can SEE how the value was determined. I also use my land use calculator to compare deeded acres vs GIS acres to identify inaccuracies in assessment."
- **Colfax County:** "Our GIS has paid for itself many times over" by using GISW's oblique imagery along with GIS to identify new buildings and to correct land use.
- **Platte County:** "We reduced daily inbound phone call volume by 50-70% by having information available online – this has freed up my staff to work more effectively on critical projects."
- **Madison County:** "We are able to do from our desks things that used to require time in the field. This has resulted in both cost and time savings for my County."
- **Keith County:** "GIS Workshop staff always answers the phone right away. They are great with support and customer service. I have never heard a single bad thing about their service from anyone I have talked to."

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

GISW will use the best available data from the Mapping Department to start the project. GISW will work with the County to determine the completeness of the existing parcel data for assessment GIS. GISW will perform any extra steps to prepare the parcel data and build a complete land use layer. We will rely on the Assessment staff for their local knowledge and our staff will do all the additional GIS development. GISW has developed a suite of desktop GIS tools that communicate with your assessment database and help us develop databases more efficiently than our competitors. **As an Esri (the leader in GIS technology) Gold Business Partner we know GIS better than anyone in the State.**

Once the GIS database is ready we will integrate the GIS data into your existing system. **We not only build the databases but we help you learn how to make them useful to you.** With our online meeting technology Scotts Bluff County staff can visit with our technical staff at any point to provide guidance or to view project progress from the comfort of your own office.

TRAINING AND UNLIMITED SUPPORT

We have a team of experienced and skilled technicians dedicated to keeping your GIS up-to-date. Complete training is provided in process flow of updates to the GIS, such as parcel splits or changes to land use and the use of the WebGIS site and accompanying tools.

WEBGIS

GISW technology greatly increases the value of your GIS investment. We provide true GIS mapping, not just a database of derived information. Our WebGIS product makes your data available throughout the County without the need for expensive training and desktop software. County staff, real estate professionals, banks, insurance agents, potential businesses/residents and Scotts Bluff County residents have 24/7 access to assessment information. Easy access to data is great for economic development and reduces phone calls for assessment staff.

PROJECT APPROACH

The power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) lies in the ability to overlay various datasets and perform complex analysis within a simple user interface. GIS Workshop specializes not only in building systems, but more importantly, helping clients leverage their investment to perform standardized, accurate assessment with limited staffing. Our training and support technicians provide proven results and our WebGIS site gives your constituents access to all their assessment information 24 hours a day.

GIS helps provide equitable and accurate assessment across the entire county. When State statute requires assessment changes, such as the recent NRCS soil conversion, GIS can automate the process of making universal changes to all parcels in the County. A county-wide soil conversion can be accomplished in a day with GIS and would take months to accomplish accurately with paper maps.

GISW will build the Scotts Bluff County GIS by:

- Utilizing existing GIS layers supplied by the County Mapping Department to build a County parcel layer
- Utilizing existing land record ID system to parcel ID table to link to the assessment database
- Developing a comprehensive land use layer
- Incorporating SSURGO soil survey data

DATA DEVELOPMENT – BUILDING THE PARCEL GIS

REFINE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM DATASET

GISW will utilize all GPS corner control that the Surveyor provides. The system is constructed to incorporate new corner and quarter control the Surveyor may collect in the future. Incorporation of new survey control into the GIS over time will gradually “tighten” the accuracy of the GIS. The base dataset will utilize the Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System [NESPSC], NAD83 coordinate system (note: the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and Nebraska State Surveyor recommend that counties use the NESPC system for assessment GIS).

PAPER TO DIGITAL PARCEL BOUNDARY CONVERSION

GISW will collect existing GIS layers supplied by the Mapping Department to build a County parcel layer. These layers, together with CAMA database information, will be used to QA/QC the parcel layer and draw any new parcels. An example of this process can be seen in Figure 1 below.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

ASSIGN ANY MISSING PARCEL IDENTICAL NUMBERS

GISW may use scanned cadastral maps to assist with parcel data and parcel identification number assignment QA/QC.

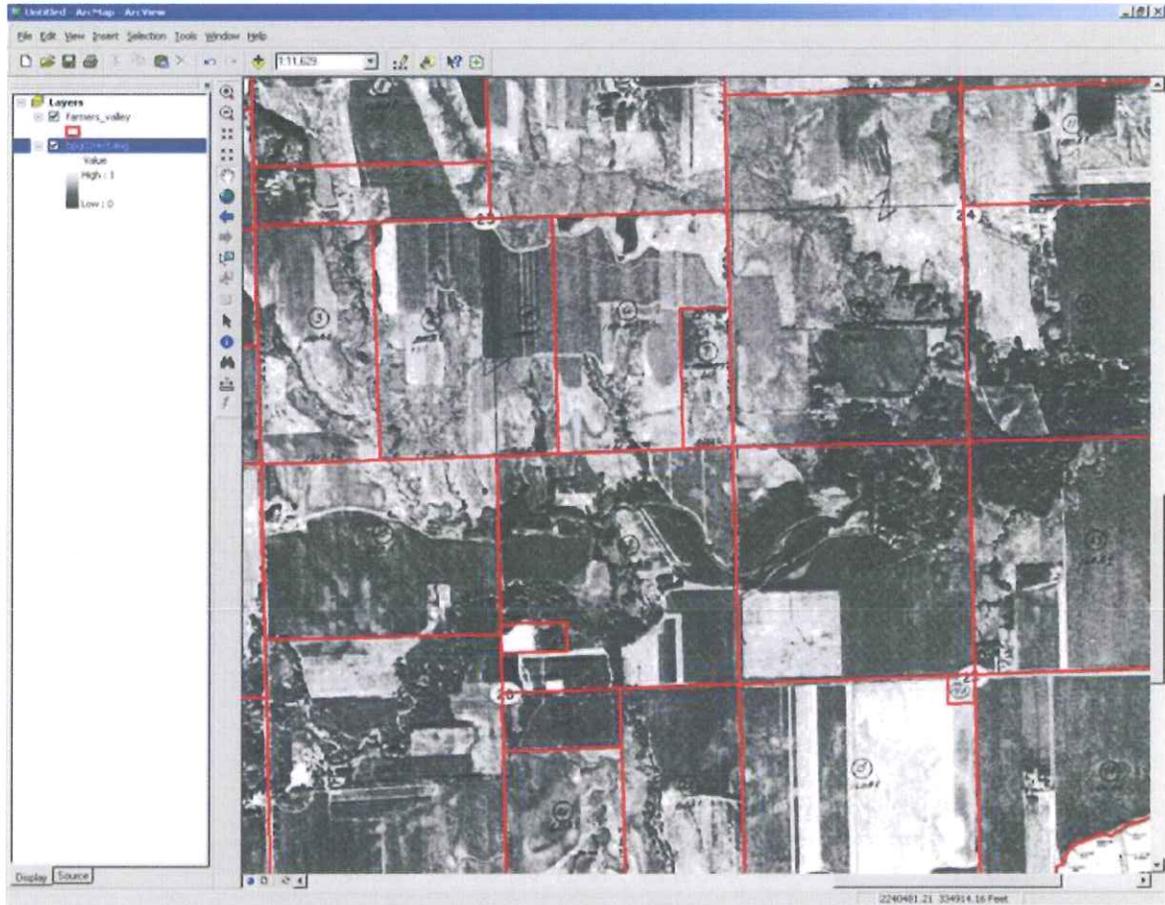


Figure 1: Scanned cadastral map with parcel lines digitized in red

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

DATA DEVELOPMENT - LAND USE LAYER CREATION

Upon completion of the parcel layer, GISW will create the Land Use layer, which identifies the land use codes for particular areas of a parcel. GISW will identify the various areas of a particular land use, digitize the boundaries of that land use, and incorporate those data into the GIS for analysis and reporting. This layer will also be very useful for agencies such as your local Natural Resource Districts.

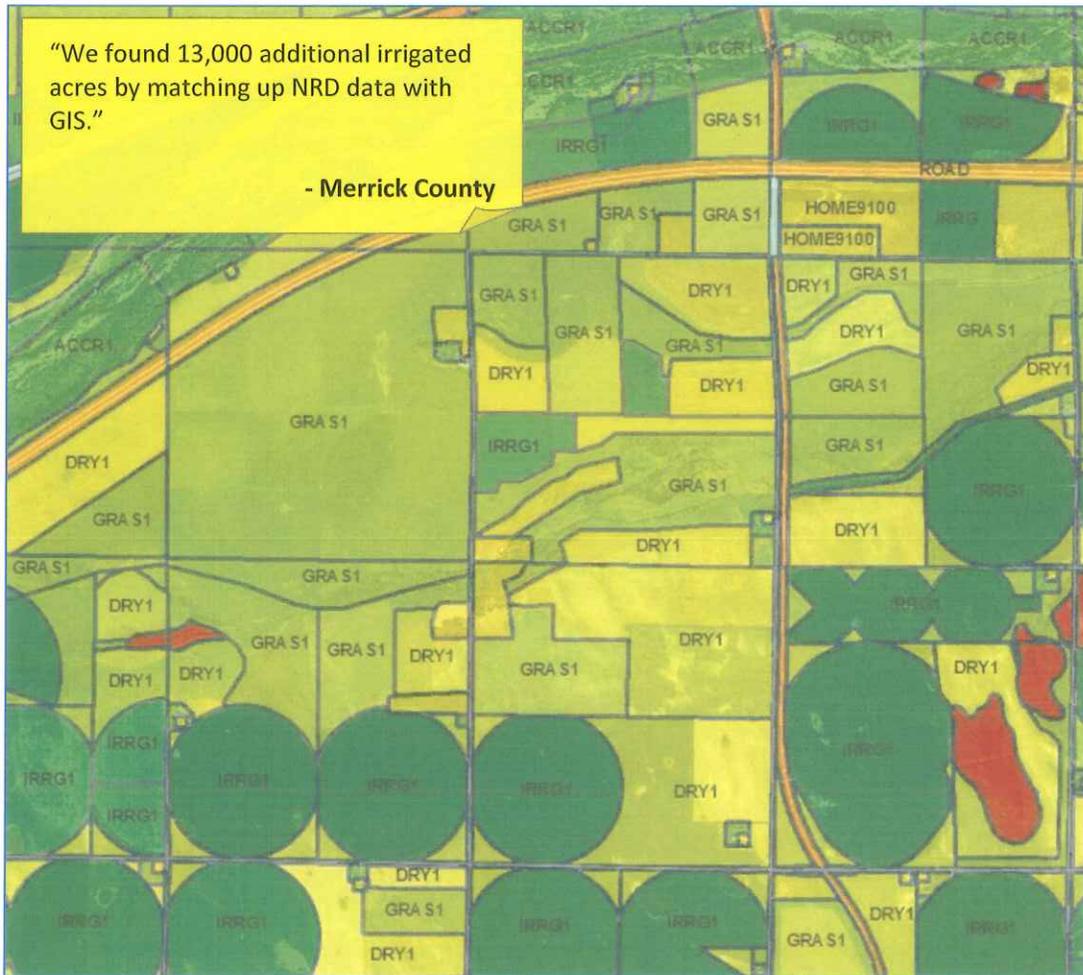


Figure 2: Example Land Use Map

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

DATA DEVELOPMENT - SOILS LAYER

GISW will acquire the NRCS soils layers to display together with the parcel boundaries, land use layer and aerial photography background. The GISW Land Use Calculator Tool (discussed below) will help evaluate every parcel in the County. **This type of analysis is one of the most powerful benefits of assessment GIS, it would take months to recount all the soils manually!**



Figure 3: An example in Platte County showing the parcel lines (red), land use layer (transparent colors), and the soils (thin black lines), overlaid together for purposes of rural assessment acreage calculation

OPTIONAL GIS DATA MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT

GIS Workshop can provide data maintenance and support for all Assessor GIS data on our redundant servers. Since the Scotts Bluff Mapping Department currently supports the Assessor's Office this is an optional item that the County may choose to do in-house. If the County chooses to have the Mapping Department perform the maintenance then GISW will work with the County to determine a suitable method and frequency for sending GIS data updates to power the WebGIS interface.

County will be responsible for sending parcel splits and land use changes to GIS Workshop. County staff will be able to use the GISW WebGIS Land Use Calculator to estimate the value of a parcel split for a walk-in customers. GIS Workshop will download a copy of the Orion (or other CAMA system if a change is made) data file every 24 hours to ensure that these data are up-to-date on the GIS Workshop server. After an initial introductory period, an annual data maintenance fee will be due. See the Pricing Information section for more details.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

GISW dedicated support staff is waiting to field your support call at all times during regular business hours.

TRAINING

GISW will train Scotts Bluff County staff to use the GIS data. We provide a wide variety of training options customized to your needs. We support clients on a daily basis so we know what is important to you and how to make the GIS data useful. We will train staff how to use the WebGIS site via an on-line meeting after the site is operational.

WEBGIS

The WebGIS will make the assessment/appraisal information available to other County departments, city departments, real estate professionals and the general public. **Only GISW offers this type of web access to the GIS database in an easy to use interface that will become the foundation for information access at the County.**

The GISW WebGIS:

- Provides 24/7 access to public information for real estate professionals, general public and other city/county departments.
- The GISW Web GIS **REDUCES** the number of calls into the Assessor's Office, allowing staff to get on with the business of assessment. Our Assessor clients say it best: **Phelps County experienced a 50%-75% reduction in the daily call volume related to property tax issues. Kearney County estimated a 75% reduction in call volume when they went online!**
- Promotes information sharing amongst city/county departments and **reduces duplications of effort.**
- Provides the Enterprise GIS foundation so **other departments (roads, planning/zoning, etc.) may start using GIS technology more cost effectively.**

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY'S WEBGIS

GISW proposes to design and build an enterprise WebGIS for Scotts Bluff County in which other departments within the County will build upon and integrate with the assessment GIS foundation in the Assessor's Office. The system is designed to leverage the investment the County made in the assessment GIS to promote online GIS for multiple departments. If a County department is not "enabled" the icon is simply grayed out and unavailable.

The Assessor tab was the first step in setting up the enterprise WebGIS for the County. The tab will feature the data layers and tools specific to the needs of the Assessment staff and general public interested in assessment information. The Assessor tab shown in Figure 5 below illustrates such features as property search capability, a property identification tool and various map layers of interest to the Assessor and the general public. The WebGIS will allow anyone with Internet access to search for and look at maps concerning property ownership and sales information, assessment and appraisal data*, and any other data associated with future tabs.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

(NOTE: an optional subscription-based version is also available to provide advanced information on a subscription basis and the Board feels this would be a valuable asset to assist with maintenance of the WebGIS on an ongoing basis.)

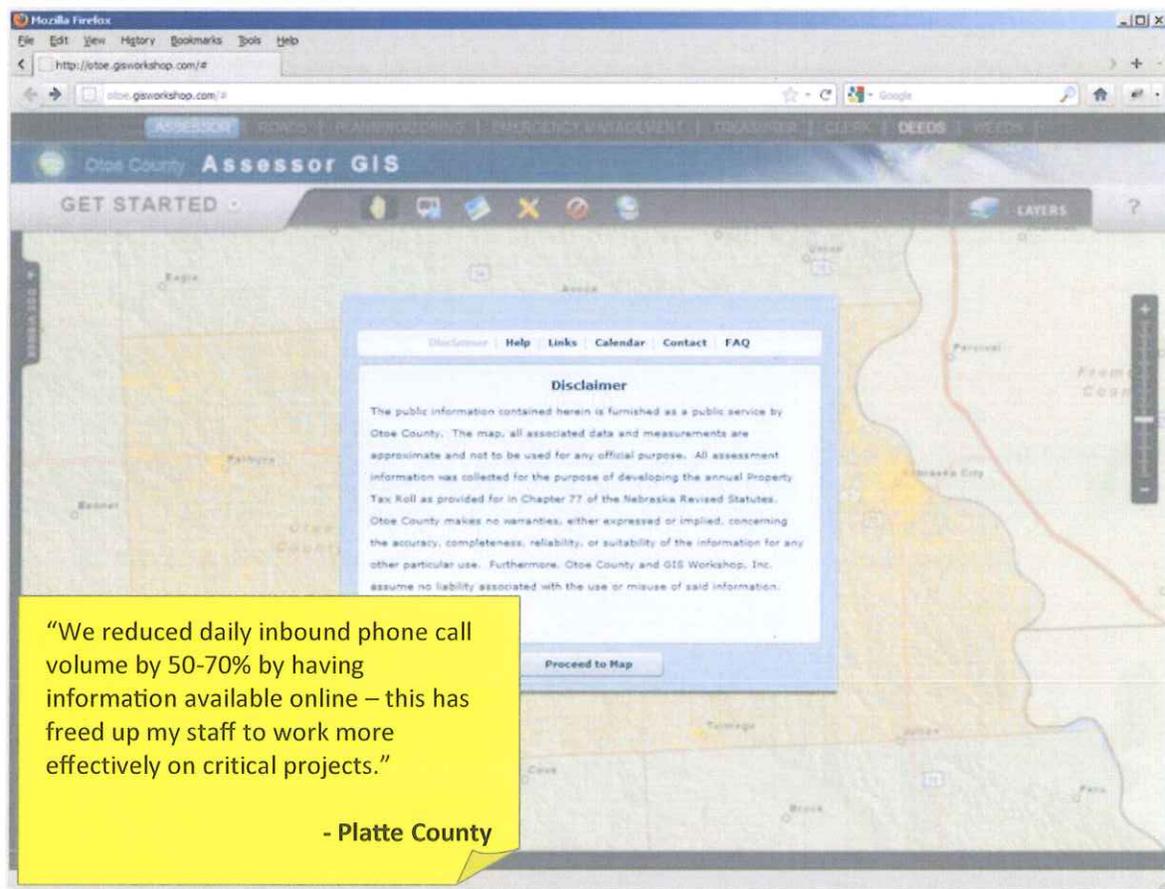


Figure 4: Opening screen (Assessor Tab) of GIS Workshop's Enterprise WebGIS for Ototo County, NE.

Additional tabs for this WebGIS project may include Clerk, Treasurer, Roads and Sheriff/Emergency Management. **These tabs, over time, will be enhanced to meet needs such as asset management and budget forecasting. The beauty of WebGIS is that it grows with each Department and continues to become an even greater asset and tool over time.**

ASSESSOR TAB DATA LAYERS

The default data layers include County parcels and public land survey system (PLSS) sections. The parcels will be labeled with their parcel ID (PID) when the user zooms in far enough for the PID to fit inside the parcel boundary. The PLSS section layer is mainly used to help with zooming to a specific section/township/range but it is available as a visible layer on the map.

The WebGIS opens to the Assessor tab with parcels and base map (includes road centerlines, political boundaries, and a shaded relief topography background) layers visible. The user can switch to a satellite view that includes 2010 FSA aerial photography.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

SEARCHES (GET STARTED)

Complete property and sales information is available within seconds via the search features. Under the 'Get Started' drop-down menu, find a property options include owner name, parcel ID, address, or legal description.

Sales data is available may be filtered by date range, price range, year built, or other pertinent parameters. **For those counties wishing to offer sales data on a subscription basis, GISW offers a subscription-based option (see Optional Items under the Pricing section of this document).** Figure 5 illustrates the 'Get Started' options. Figure 6 shows the results table after searching for "Smith" in the owner name field. Figure 7 shows the results of selecting a property. The map has zoomed into the chosen parcel and the parcel polygon is highlighted. The full property report card is displayed with links to photos, value, sale, building and land information.

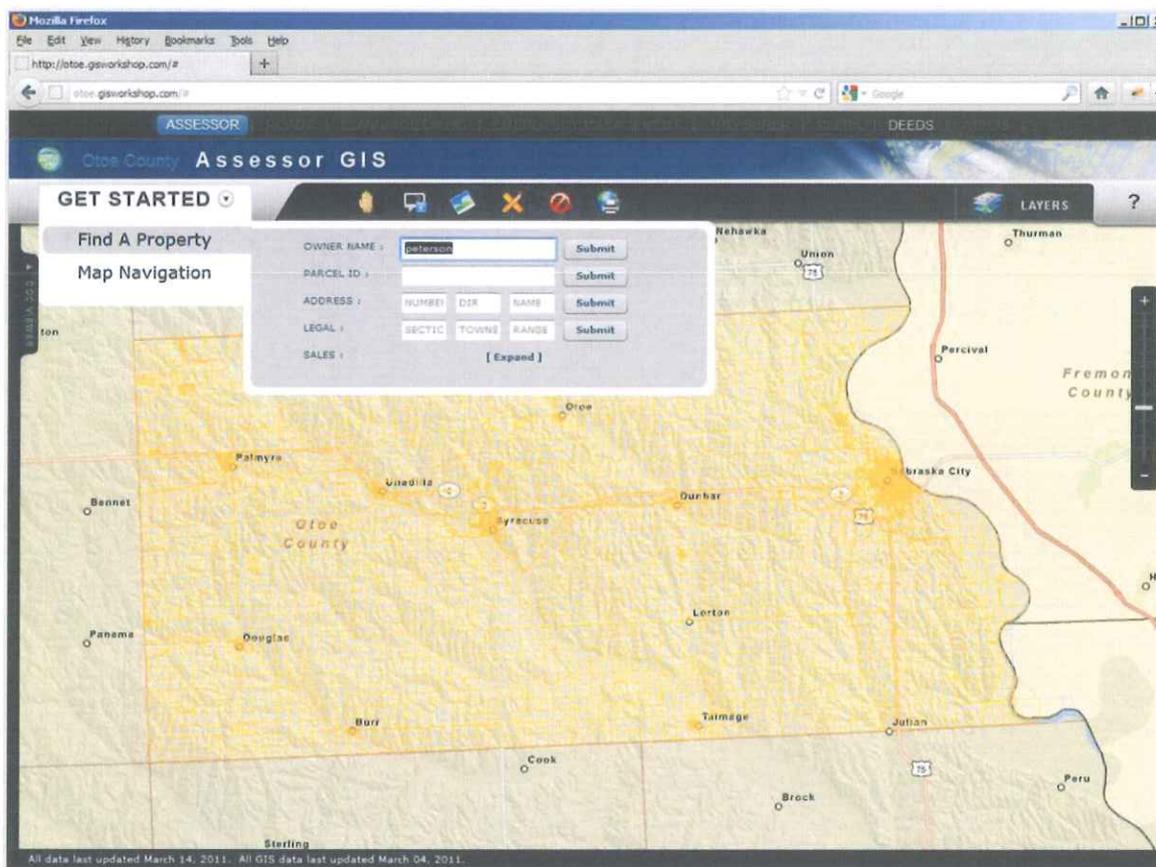


Figure 5: Assessor tab showing property search box

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

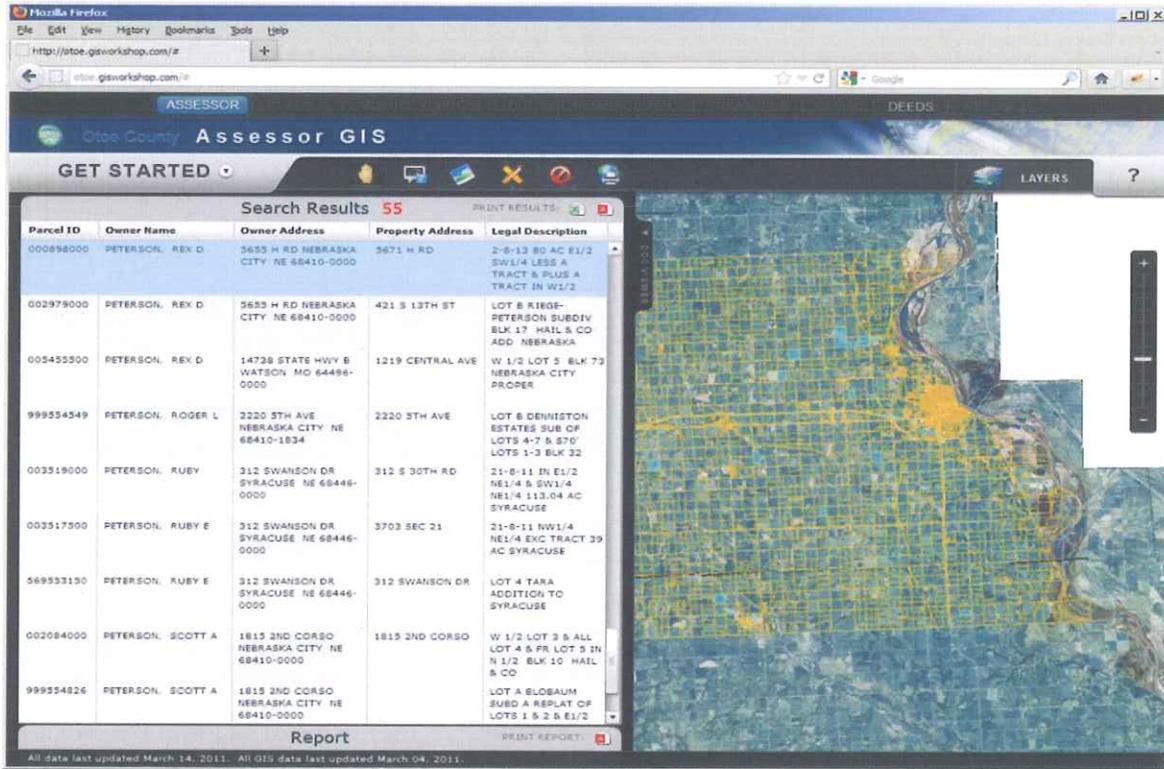


Figure 6: Property search results

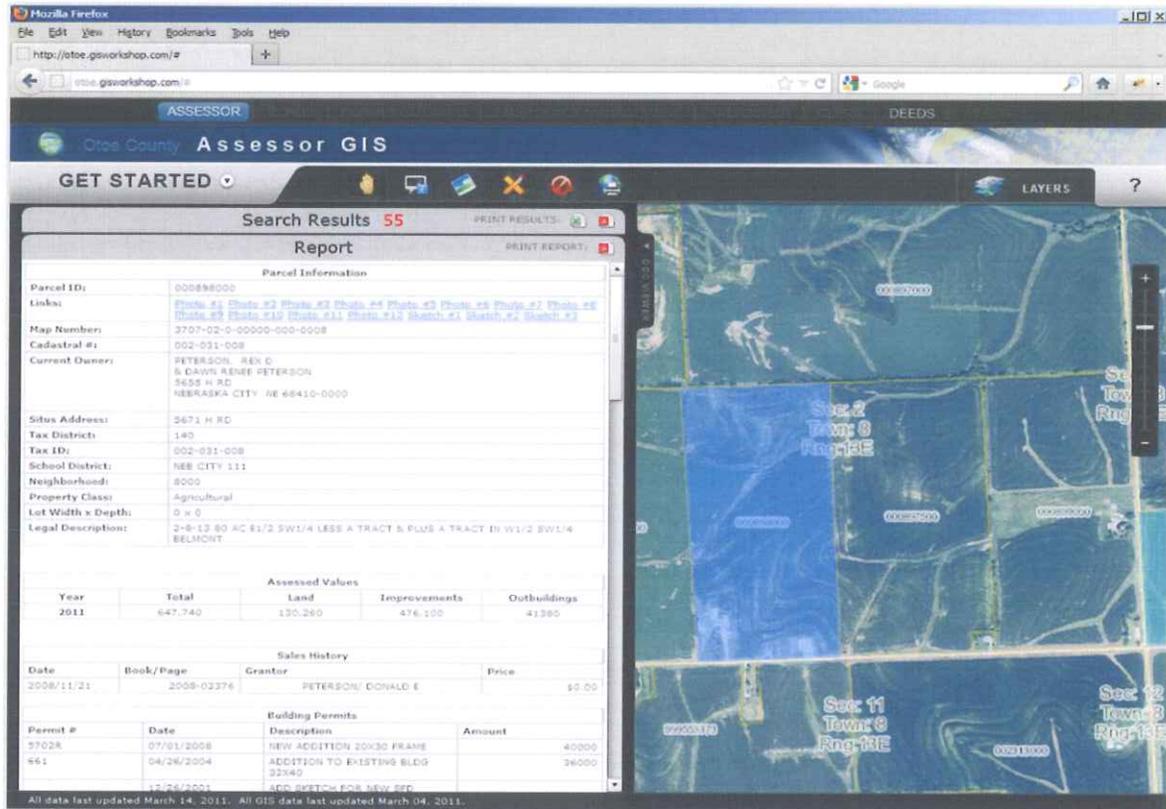


Figure 7: Property Record Card (note the map zoomed in and highlighted the chosen parcel)

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MAP NAVIGATION

A slider bar for general zoom in/out viewing is available at all times. Additionally, under the 'Get Started' drop down menu, the map navigation option allows the user to 'zoom to section/township/range'. Easy panning or the ability to move the map around is possible via the pan tool icon located in the toolbar. Figure 8 illustrates the zoom slider bar and pan tool (hand icon).

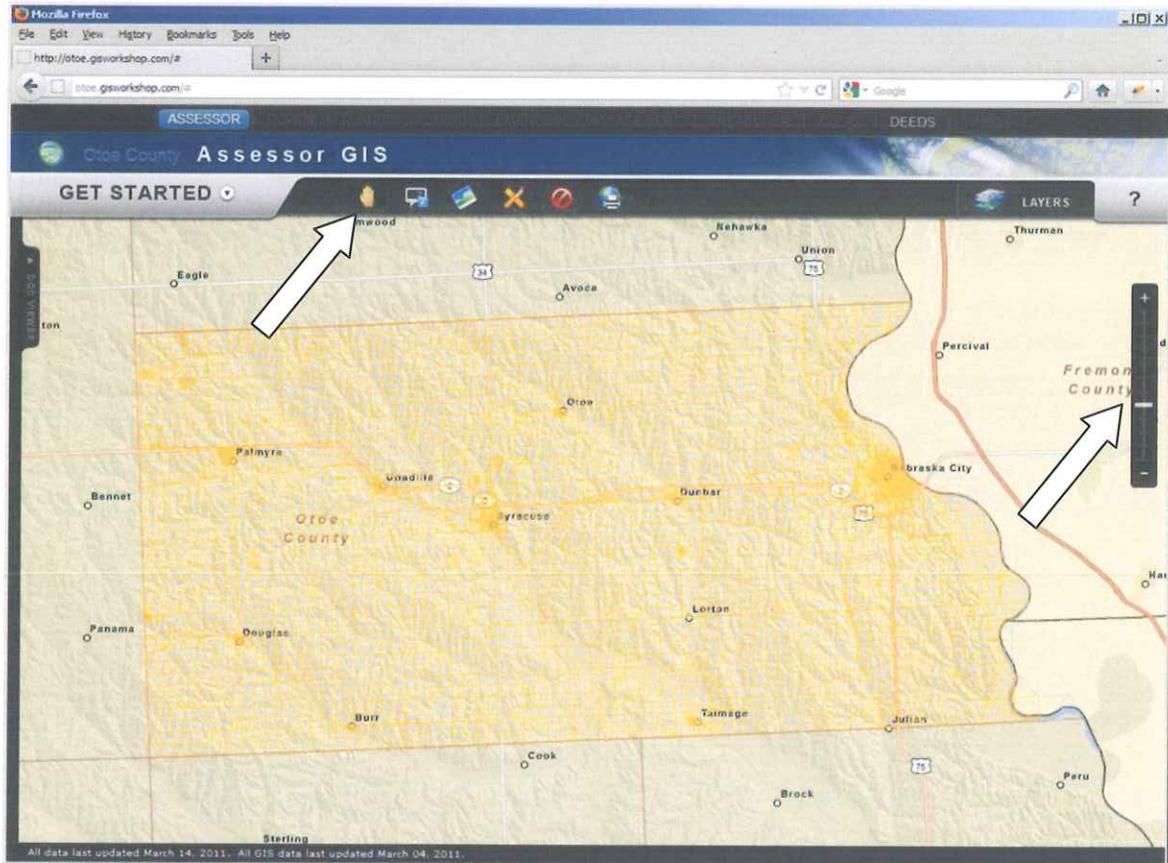


Figure 8: Zoom slider bar (right side) and activated pan tool icon (hand) in horizontal toolbar

Figures 9 and 10 illustrate the Map Navigation feature. The user enters a specific section/township/range and then the map zooms into the specified section.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

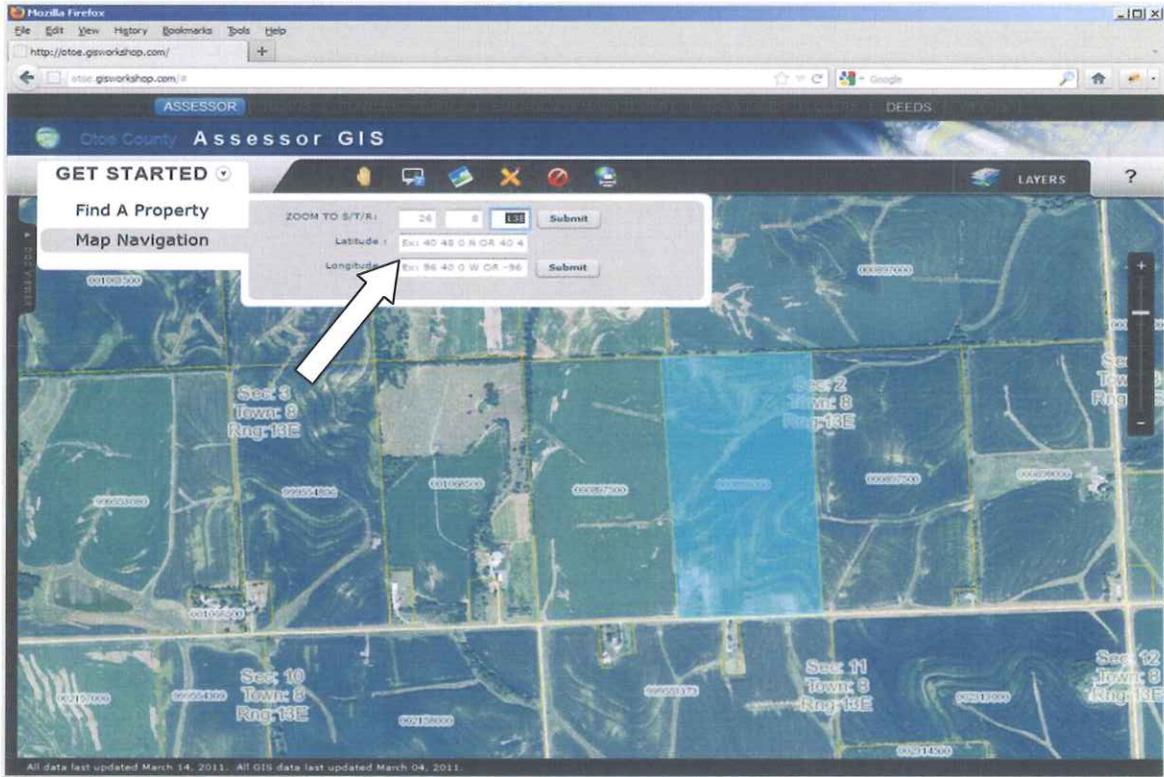


Figure 9: User enters section/township/range

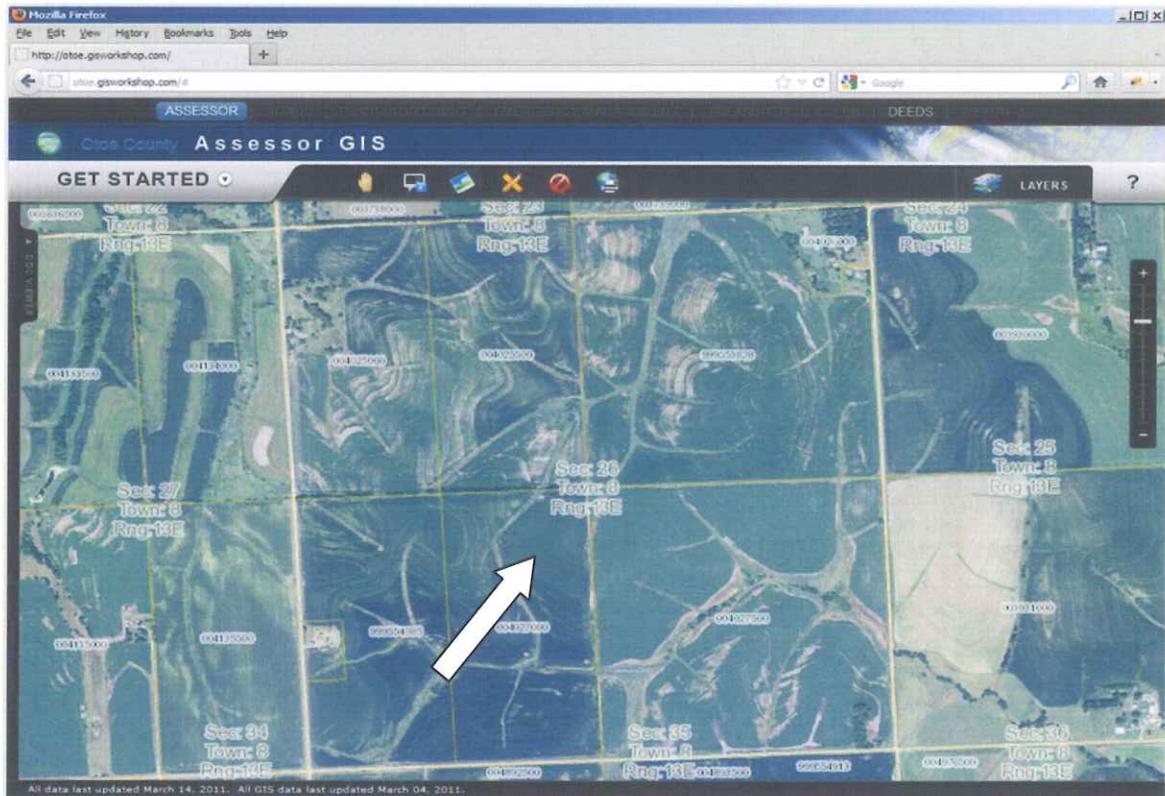


Figure 10: Application zooms into the specified section

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

QUICK IDENTIFY TOOL

The Quick Identify Tool allows a user to click inside a parcel on the map to see a pop-up window appear with basic parcel, owner name, and address information. The Quick Identify Tool is shown in Figure 11 below. Property card information is also available through the tool.

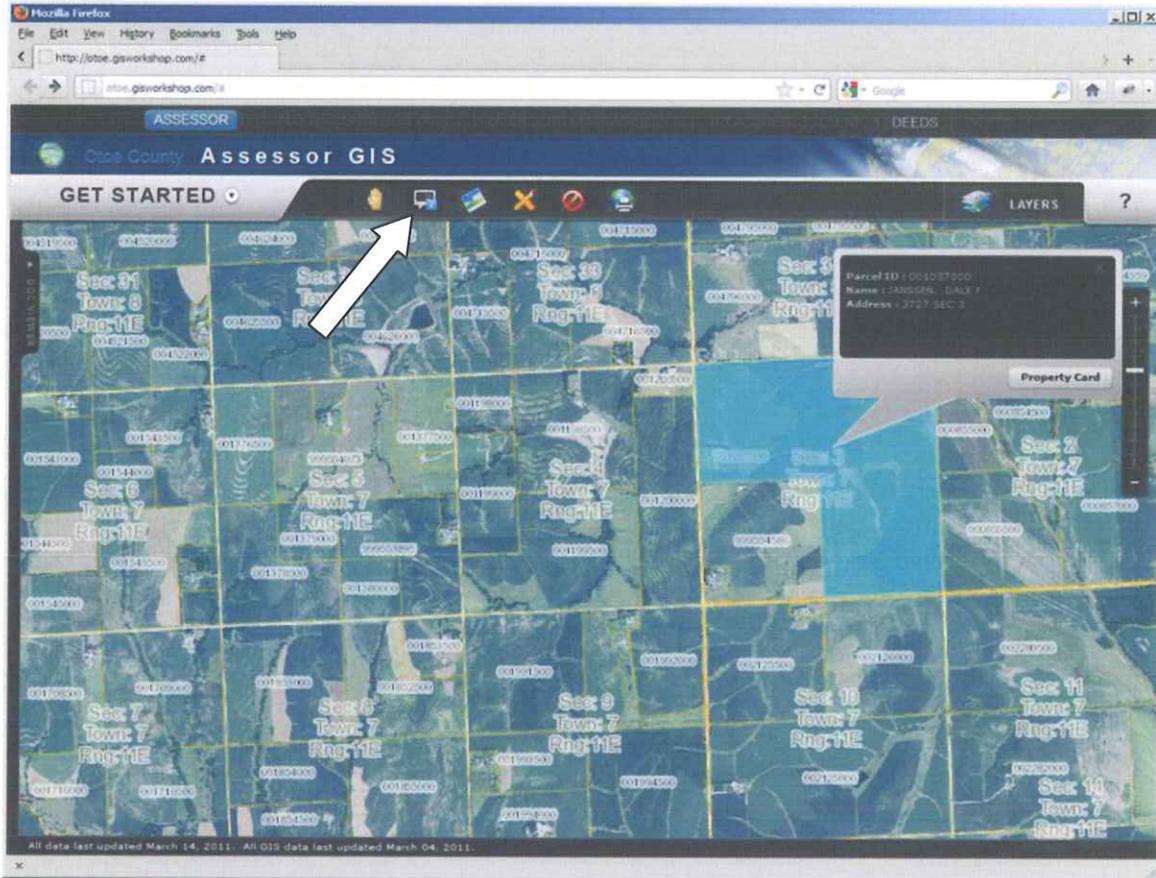


Figure 11: Activated Quick Identifier tool and information box result with link to Property Card

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

PHOTO TOOL

The Photo Tool is a great way to view individual building improvements. The tool reads the assessment database for all available photos and sketches and displays them in a photo window. If GISW has flown oblique aerial photography for the County those will also be available in the photo tool.



Figure 12: Property Photo Viewer Tool shows all available images from the Assessor's database

MEASUREMENT TOOL

Length (feet, meters, miles, and kilometers) and area (acres, square feet, square meters, square miles, and square kilometers) measurements can be easily performed via the Measurement Tool. Using this tool, simply click at the starting point and double click at the ending point to measure a length or draw a polygon by clicking at each vertex location to measure the area. The total measurement appears in a box at the top of the screen as seen in the figure below.

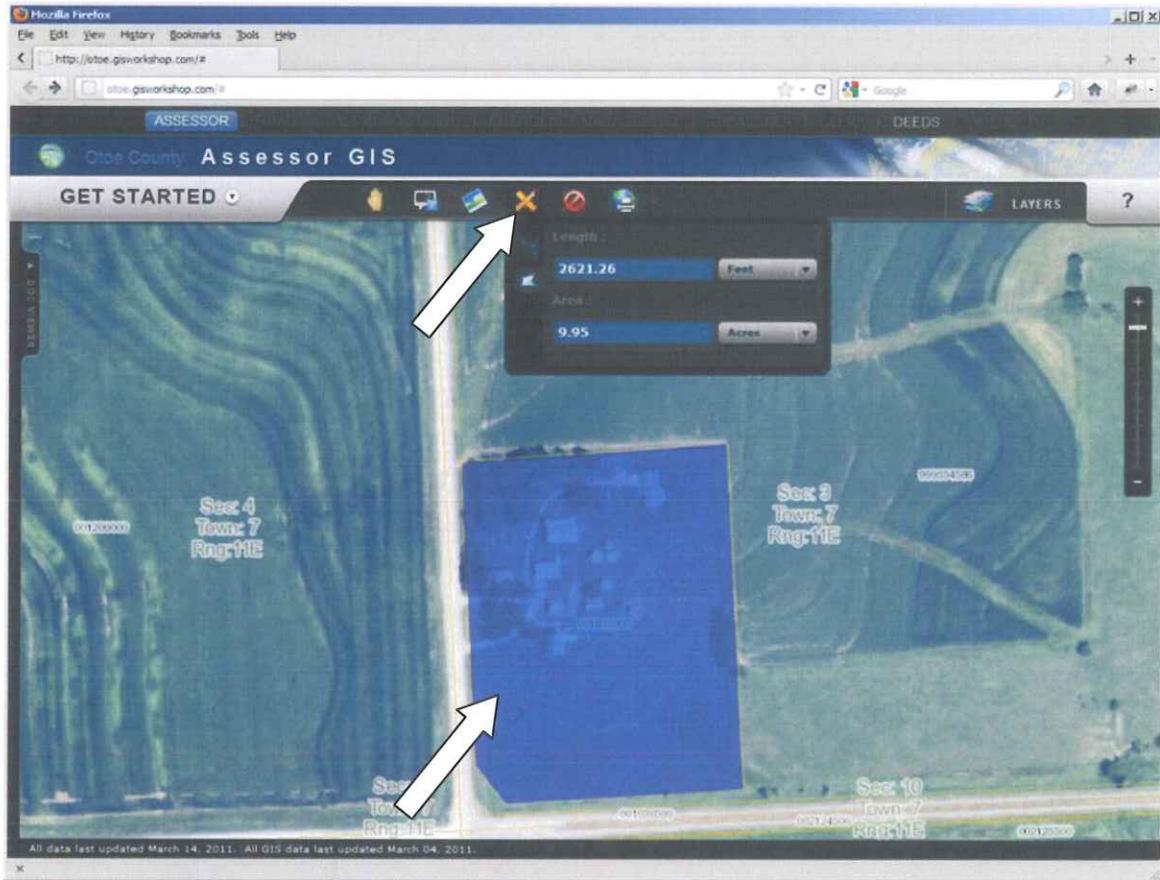


Figure13: Measurement tool showing total length of the user-drawn line segment along the parcel boundary.

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

LAND USE CALCULATOR

The WebGIS Land Use Calculator Tool is a powerful tool for fast and accurate evaluation. The tool is protected by a simple login feature and allows the Assessor's Office to quickly calculate land value and provided a detailed report of the acreage breakdown of each LVG code category.

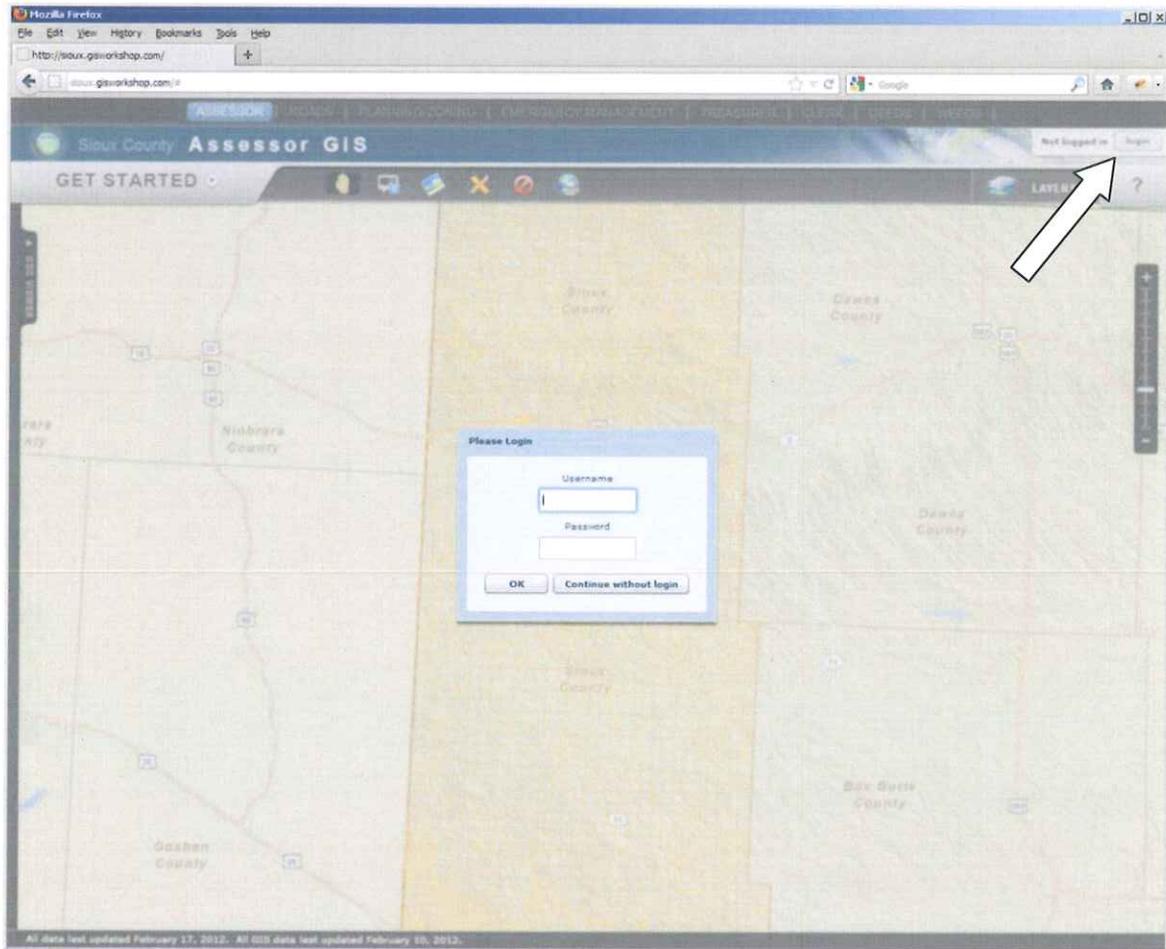


Figure 14: Login Screen protecting the Land Use Calculator Tool

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

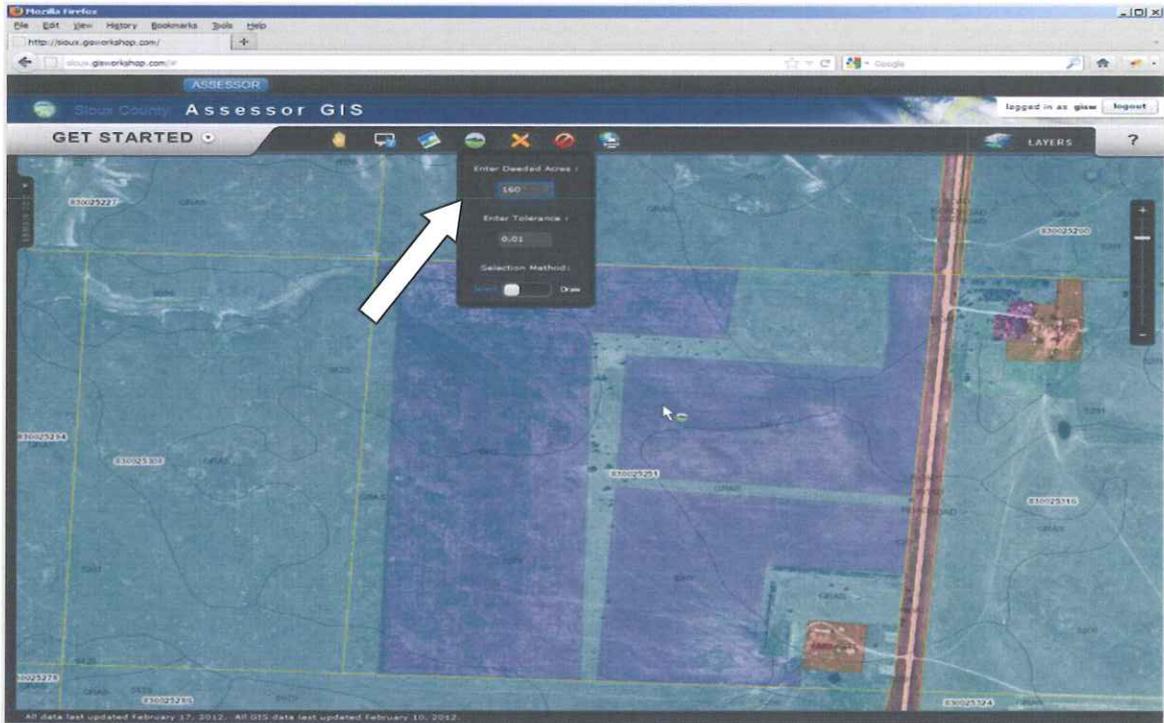


Figure 15: Land Use Calculator Tool options

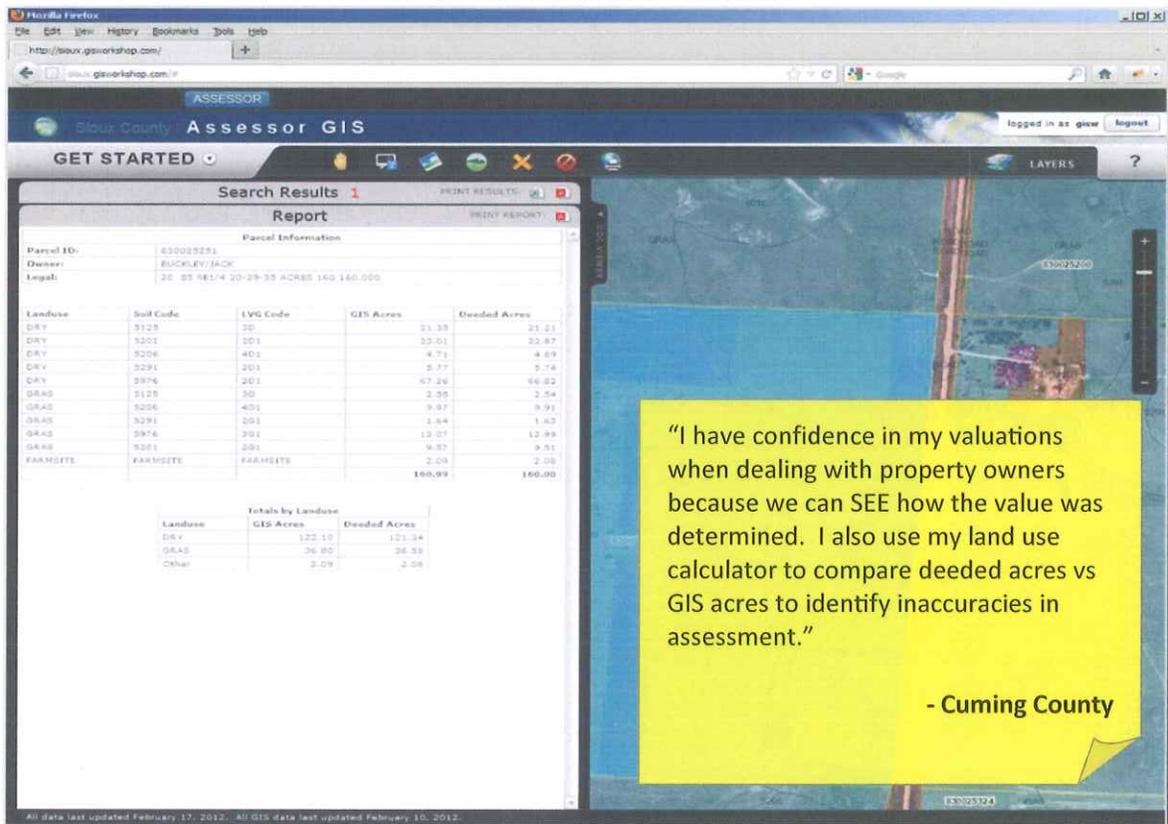


Figure16: Land Use Calculator Report

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

SCHEDULE

The GISW team is ready to start the Scotts Bluff County Assessor GIS project after acceptance and receipt of a signed contract according to the tasks described in this proposal. We anticipate GIS project build-out and WebGIS setup completion before June 30, 2013.

PROJECT COSTS

The following pricing and package is **FULLY INCLUSIVE**, providing the Assessor with everything needed for a fully functional assessment GIS. There are no hidden charges or expenses. The cost is based on the size of the County. Variations and/or additions to those tasks/features/service stated within are subject to additional costs. Any change orders must be documented and added as an addendum to this scope with the additional costs for said change order added to the following costs.

GIS WORKSHOP WILL NOT SEND A SINGLE INVOICE UNTIL THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND YOU ARE 100% SATISFIED WITH YOUR PRODUCT.

<u>Services</u>	<u>Cost (\$)</u>
GIS Build-out Services and Assessor Tab on WebGIS, with Year One Maintenance	\$93,000
Discount for Data Development Accomplished by the County Mapping Department	\$TBD*

Deliverables:

- GIS layers
 - Parcels
 - Sections
 - Town lot/subdivision
 - Land use
 - Ortho-photography (Latest FSA imagery)
 - Soils
- Assessor Tab WebGIS featuring the Land use Calculator tool
- Initial year of GIS data maintenance and support
- Online County staff training on use of WebGIS

Total Costs for above listed Services	\$TBD*
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**GISW has seen a small sample of the Mapping Department data but has not seen a complete dataset. Once we are able to evaluate a complete County-wide parcel dataset, we can assess the amount of the discount for work that has already been completed by the Mapping Department. Any determined discount will be reflected and applied during the Scope of Work phase.*

FINANCING OPTIONS

GISW will deliver and install all systems upon completion. Delivery is unrelated to the payment schedule. Support fees are not financed or included in this potential scheme. **Use of our interest free financing options does not delay product delivery in any way.**

NOTE: Any awarded Grant funds will be applied to the total cost and payment schedule will be based upon the remaining balance. **Remaining project balance may be spread over four years.**

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY NE

ONGOING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

Assessor Tab WebGIS maintenance by GISW (effective July 2014) \$4,800 annually

OPTIONAL ITEMS

GIS Data maintenance by GISW for Assessor (effective July 2014) \$5,800 annually

Additional annual maintenance for subscription-based option \$1,500 annually

Subscription-based management tool included with subscription annual maintenance

Nebraska State Records Board

**APPLICATION FOR STATE RECORDS BOARD GRANT
TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION**

ATTACHMENT 2:

**LETTERS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT
FROM SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

(THIS LETTER WRITTEN BY CAMILLE TAKUSKI CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL APPRAISER)

DATE 03/21/2012

Nebraska State Records Board

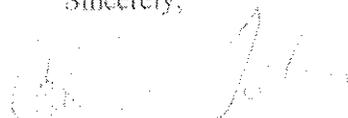
RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

It has come to my attention that Scotts Bluff County is seeking a grant to assist in funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Scotts Bluff County information to have it readily accessible online. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Scotts Bluff County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing those services.

As a PROFESSION and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,



Camille J. Takuski

Platte Valley Bank

1212 Circle Drive
P. O. Box 2308
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-2308
Phone: 308-632-7004
Fax: 308-635-7405

Website: www.pvbankne.com



Platte Valley Companies

MEMBERS FDIC

NEBRASKA: Scottsbluff • Morrill • Minatare • Bridgeport
WYOMING: Torrington • Wheatland • Casper

Email: info@pvbankne.com

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of PV Mortgage Company, a part of Platte Valley Financial Services Inc., I'm writing in support of the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS project. In mortgage lending access to information regarding property ownership and other public information is a key element in our decision-making process. Our ability to gather information on a property is essential to our success in serving our customers. The availability of this information through a mapping website will effectively reduce our response time in processing a mortgage loan from application through to closing.

The WebGIS project will allow us to retrieve public information without the aid of a county employee and outside of normal county business hours. The 24/7 availability of the information will effectively save staff time and costs not only benefiting us but also the county. Having data readily available will also help to expedite resolving any problems or questions without delay for our customers. The visible benefit of immediate access to information will promote a higher level of confidence in the county government's ability to serve our mutual customers and the public. There will be no transition period with the WebGIS and the benefits will be realized immediately by simply accessing the up-to-date public information electronically.

As our environment changes, I view this as a positive step toward streamlining access to public information in the future. I would encourage your support of this program through your approval of the grant for financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jim Zitterkopf', is written over a horizontal line.

Jim Zitterkopf
Senior Vice President



1624 2nd Avenue • Scottsbluff, NE 69361

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant- Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

It has come to my attention that Scotts Bluff County is seeking a grant to assist in funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Scotts Bluff County information to have it readily accessible online. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/ 7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Scotts Bluff County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing those services.

As A PROFESSION and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Estrada". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Rebecca Estrada

Broker/HOME Real Estate



1624 2nd Avenue • Scottsbluff, NE 69361

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant- Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

It has come to my attention that Scotts Bluff County is seeking a grant to assist in funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Scotts Bluff County information to have it readily accessible online. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Scotts Bluff County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing those services.

As A PROFESSION and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cindi Costa". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cindi Costa

Realtor/HOME Real Estate

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508

To Whom Concerned:

I have been brought to the attention of Scotts Bluff County applying for a grant from the Nebraska State Records Board and I want to express my support and my company's support for this grant in order to enable our County to fund a GIS website that could be accessed by the public. My Company is in the abstract and title insurance business and such a site would be so beneficial since we deal in surveys, mapping, legal descriptions and all other information that said site could provide.

Our County is now being passed up by smaller counties that are able to provide such information and in order to keep up with progress, such a GIS website is greatly needed. Being in my business, being able to access records which could prevent inaccurate legal descriptions and surveys could prevent major problems in my business and especially helping the offices of the County Assessor and Register of Deeds.

My Company is in full support of such a website and the information provided by such a website would be a benefit to the public and all entities. I have talked with other companies that have access to such a website and they have informed me that the benefits of it can't be compared to anything else they have ever used.

Sincerely,

City Abstract Company,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee A. Harder".

Lee A. Harder, President

CODE VIOLATION SERVICES, INC.

HOA Department
700 Automation Dr. Unit F
Windsor, CO 80550



Phone: (970) 567-9255
Fax: (866) 484-5104
Email: HOA@cvsinc.net

March 16, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
RE: Scotts Bluff County GIS Workshop Inc. Grant
Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will certainly benefit my profession. We rely on public information on a daily basis. Access to this information in electronic format will increase our efficiency and enable us to serve our clients in a timelier manner.

Our company is a nationwide provider of ancillary services for REO and pre-foreclosure properties. Our mission statement is to be the single point, nationwide solution for assisting municipalities, banks and servicers to alleviate neighborhood blight due to abandoned housing. Access available through the WebGIS is essential to us in conducting accurate and professional services to our customers and clients.

To be able to access this information online would save us time spent retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable us provide our services to our clients after normal government business hours if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability of this information on a website will only enhance our ability to both provide a high level of service to our clients, and help the county better provide necessary information to out of state property owners.

Immediate access to this data will not only benefit our profession, but we also feel that with this enhancement the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public will be promoted to a higher level.

This WebGIS will enable us to reduce our costs by accessing public information remotely and increase our efficiency immediately. We are proficient in WebGIS systems as such a large number of municipalities across the nation already utilize this type of service.

For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.


Krystal Murphy Holten
Code Violation Services, Inc.

Mission Statement: To be the single point, Nationwide solution for assisting Cities, Banks and Servicers to alleviate neighborhood blight due to abandoned housing.

Patent applied for on processes and proprietary system.

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As an Appraiser and Real Estate Broker, and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

John D. Molko
Helberg and Nuss Auctions & Realty
Prairie West Appraisal
1145 M Street
Gering, NE 69341

Pierce Appraisal
March 16, 2012

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Pierce".

Randy Pierce



HOME TEAM REALTY

1208 Avenue I, PO Box 2425
Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69361

Office 308.632.7141

Fax 308.632.5349

Toll Free 800.998.7921

Web Site www.c21hometeam.net

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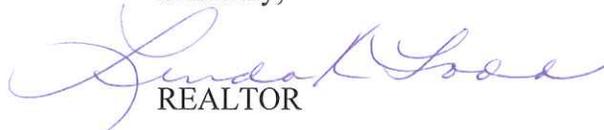
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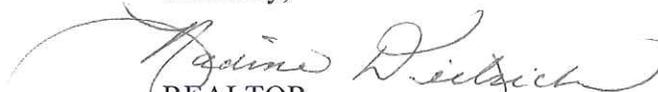
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REGINA R. DIETRICH
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D. Marsha R. Bueide

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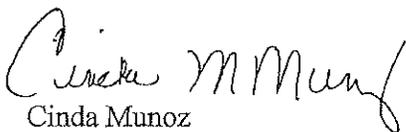
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I have used this program in the surrounding counties and have found it very useful, and timesaving for my business as well.

As a Professional and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system. As a taxpayer in this County, I applaud the efforts of these departments, to seek a system that is able to interface these 2 offices and save money for the County.

Sincerely,



Cinda Munoz
R.E. Broker
Buyer's Realty, Inc.
3321 Avenue I
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
(308) 635-7289 Office
(308) 635-7412 Fax
(308) 631-5440 Cell

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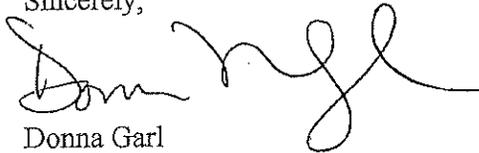
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It has come to our attention that Scotts Bluff County is seeking a grant to assist in funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Scotts Bluff County information to have it readily accessible online. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Scotts Bluff County employees manual labor, in the surrounding counties and have found it very useful, and timesaving for my time and expense of providing those services.

I have used this program with other counties in my business as well, and find it very useful.

I utilize this program and as a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system. As a taxpayer in this County, I applaud the efforts of these departments, to seek a system that is able to interface these 2 offices and save money for the County.

Sincerely,



Bob Hergenreder, Real Estate Agent
Buyer's Realty, Inc.
3321 Avenue I
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
(308) 635-7289 Office
(308) 635-7412 Fax
(308) 631-5440 Cell

March 14, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

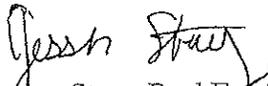
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Sincerely,



Jesslyn Strey, Real Estate Agent
Buyer's Realty, Inc.
3321 Avenue I
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
(308) 635-7289 Office
(308) 635-7412 Fax
(308) 631-5440 Cell

March 14, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

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Sincerely,



JR Osborn, Real Estate Agent
Buyer's Realty, Inc.
3321 Avenue I
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
(308) 635-7289 Office
(308) 635-7412 Fax
(308) 631-5440 Cell

March 14, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant -- Scotts Bluff County

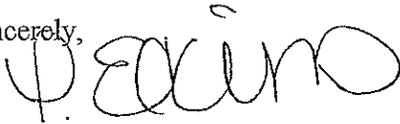
To whom it may concern:

It has come to our attention that Scotts Bluff County is seeking a grant to assist in funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Scotts Bluff County information to have it readily accessible online. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Scotts Bluff County employees manual labor, in the surrounding counties and have found it very useful, and timesaving for my time and expense of providing those services.

I have used this program with other counties in my business as well, and find it very useful.

I utilize this program and as a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system. As a taxpayer in this County, I applaud the efforts of these departments, to seek a system that is able to interface these 2 offices and save money for the County.

Sincerely,



Tiffany Elkins
Buyer's Realty, Inc.
3321 Avenue I
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
(308) 635-7289 Office
(308) 635-7412 Fax
(308) 631-5440 Cell



3/15/12

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will certainly benefit my profession. We rely on public information on a daily basis. Access to this information on a website will increase our efficiency and enable us to serve our clients in a more timely manner.

At this time, we must leave the office to go to the courthouse or make a telephone call to ask specific questions for our decision-making process. This information is essential to us in getting information, maps, data, etc. To market homes.

To be able to access this information on a website would definitely save us time spent retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable us to make decisions after normal government business hours, if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability on a website will only enhance the retrieval process. This time saving element results in a cost saving payoff not only to us but also to the county as there is always an employee retrieving a file(s), copying and re-filing the requested information.

This data in visible form at the end of our finger tips will not only benefit our profession but the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public will be promoted to a higher level.

At this time, every business is conscious of cost and efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to reduce our costs by accessing public information and increase our efficiency immediately. There will be no transition period for development of a new program, system, etc. We will simply electronically access the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Birch".

Kathy Birch
Real Estate Broker
Van Newkirk Real Estate
Gering, NE

(308) 632-8700

3305 North 10th Street • Gering, Nebraska 69341

Village of Henry

1565 Nichols Ave

Henry, NE 69358

March 13, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant-Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Village of Henry is in full support of the grant application being submitted by Scotts Bluff County. The Village of Henry would use the GIS system to primarily identify owners for reasons of utilities and nuisances.

In the future, we would like to utilize the GIS system to overlay all of our water and sewer lines, valves and customer services. This system would save hours each month by not having to search for these types of infrastructure aspects during an emergency or common maintenance. These types of systems allow our village to be run more efficiently which in turn saves our residents money.

I appreciate the opportunity for Scotts Bluff County to apply for this grant, and I look forward to being able to utilize these tools to better serve the citizens of Henry.

Sincerely,



Mary Haagensen

Village of Henry Chairperson



City of Minatare, Nebraska

309 Main Street, Post Office Box 483
MINATARE, NEBRASKA 69356-0483
Telephone: (308) 783-1414
Fax: (308) 783-1414

March 13, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

The City of Minatare is in full support of the grant application being submitted by Scotts Bluff County. The City of Minatare would use the GIS system to primarily identify property owners for reasons of utilities and nuisances.

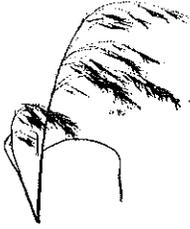
In the future, we would like to utilize the GIS system to overlay all of our water and sewer lines, valves and customer services. This system would save hours each month by not having to search for these types of infrastructure aspects during an emergency or common maintenance. These types of systems allow our city to be run more efficiently which in turn saves our residents money.

I appreciate the opportunity for Scotts Bluff County to apply for this grant, and I look forward to being able to utilize these tools to better serve the citizens of Minatare.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn".

Carolyn Nelson
City Clerk



Western Prairie Title & Escrow, LLC

1925 10th Street, Suite B Gering, NE 69341

308/436-9042 ofc 308/436-9059 fax

March 13, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Re: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Board Members:

The Scotts Bluff County Register of Deeds and Assessor have discussed their desire to implement a GIS system for their offices. I regularly use the GIS system options that are available in Sioux County and find the county site to be very efficient and informative for my needs.

The majority of my business is derived from Scotts Bluff County land transactions. Having a full GIS system available for Scotts Bluff County would be quite beneficial for my office. I could reduce the amount of information requests that I make with the County staff and be able to access and utilize a large amount of information at any time of the day/night. This information access would certainly make my office more productive and efficient in the processing time for my clients.

I do encourage your office to consider providing financial assistance to Scotts Bluff County for the implementation of this GIS system. The current staffing of the Deeds and Assessors office would benefit greatly from this system and the County Information Technology department would be able to provide invaluable technical assistance for the continued use of this system.

Thank you,

Roger Christensen

President



2525 Circle Drive
308-630-4136

Scottsbluff, NE 69361
FAX 308-630-6294

March 7, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Suite 230
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Board Members,

The City of Scottsbluff is in full support of the grant application being submitted by the Scotts Bluff County Assessor. The City of Scottsbluff currently uses the GIS system to tract property owners for notification of public hearings. The GIS allows the City to run more efficiently helping other departments and the public to find information on line rather than having to research at the court house or city offices.

The City of Scottsbluff works with the County now and this grant will help us to be more compatible in helping residents within Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Rick Kuckkahn
City Manger
City of Scottsbluff



Development Services Department
2525 Circle Drive Scottsbluff, NE 69361
308-630-6243 FAX 308-630-6294

March 7, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

On behalf of the City of Scottsbluff Development Services Department I would like to go on record of being in full support of the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. This website would benefit the community and allow individuals access to public information which at times can be difficult to track with the current records.

I work with the GIS on a daily basis working with customers that ask for zoning of properties, infrastructure locations, and easements. Having this information on line will speed the process for residents in making decisions on what they can do in their zoning district, where they can build on their property, etc. This will allow them to be better prepared when applying for the various permits issued by our department.

Again, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

Annie Urdiales
Planning Administrator
City of Scottsbluff



308-632-4136
2525 Circle Drive
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

March 15, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

This letter is being written in support of the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS project. The result of this project will be a great benefit to the citizens of Scotts Bluff County by providing them efficient access to information that they require on a regular basis.

As GIS Analyst for the City of Scottsbluff, I experience firsthand the increased efficiency brought by a GIS system. We field questions on a daily basis from property owners and businesses relating to the information that helps them make an informed decision on how to manage their business or property. Most of the important factors affecting those decisions are contained in the GIS; utilities locations, properties, zoning boundaries, etc. Efficiency is increased greatly by not needing to take the time to look up a paper file as the information is available in a visual form at the click of the mouse. If you add to this increased efficiency the convenience of having the information accessible on the internet, the benefits to the public are almost immeasurable.

In conclusion, I strongly believe the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS project will provide a very real and much needed service to the public. Thus, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Reiter", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jon Reiter
GIS Analyst
City of Scottsbluff



City of Gering, Nebraska

1025 P Street • P.O. Box 687 • Gering, NE 69341 • (308) 436-5096

March 12, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street
Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

RE: Letter in support of Nebraska State Records Board Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

Scotts Bluff County is in the process of preparing a Grant Application to acquire funds to assist in developing a new GIS Website for public use. Said money will be used to generate an entirely new website that is both user friendly and site specific for the department being searched.

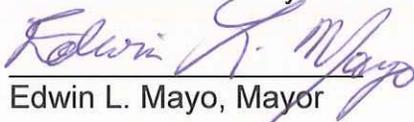
The grant is being offered by Nebraska State Records Board to improve access to public information. A website providing geographic information and data will be a state-of-the-art management tool.

Some of the many benefits will include:

- Having community/county data at your finger tips
- Improved customer service
- Ease of use
- Web based real time access to information - 24/7 availability

As a major user charged with managing and maintaining critical infrastructure and municipal services, the City of Gering, without condition, supports Scotts Bluff County's grant application for a new GIS website offered by the Nebraska State Records Board.

On behalf of the City of Gering,


Edwin L. Mayo, Mayor

Gutwein Appraisal Services, Inc.

Phone: 308-632-4074

90691 Sugar Factory Road, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

e-mail: sgutwein@gmail.com

March 7, 2012

To: Whom It May Concern.

I am writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will positively benefit the area real estate appraisers. I own Gutwein Appraisal Services, Inc. and am located in Scotts Bluff County. My office relies on public information on a routine basis. Access to the information that will be available on this type of website will increase my efficiency in serving clients. This information will allow my work to be more reliable and assist my clients in making competent decisions.

The WebGIS will allow me and those in my office to better assess the market and the properties that we may potentially appraise. Additionally, this website will allow us to better research the market for sales allowing us to provide a better product to our clients. I am routinely called about sales research by fellow appraisers in other counties and states. Having the WebGIS would allow not only the local appraisers but also those that are not located in the county a better tool in researching the area market as compared to the current TerraScan that Scotts Bluff County has in place.

To be able to access this information on a website would definitely decrease our time spent retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable us to make decisions after normal government business hours if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability on a website will only enhance the retrieval process. This time-saving element results in a cost-saving payoff. Not only will this reduce our cost but it will also reduce the expense to the County as there is always an employee retrieving a file(s), copying and re-filing our requested information.

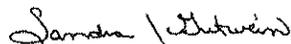
This data - in visible form at the end of our finger tips will not only benefit the real estate professions, but will also increase the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public will be promoted to a higher level.

I have been able to navigate around this type of website in other counties, and find that it is very user friendly and an efficient use of time in researching information.

At this time, every business is conscious of cost and efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to reduce our costs of accessing public information and increase our efficiency immediately. There will be no transition period for development of a new program, system, etc. We will be able to electronically access the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County Assessor's Office in pursuing and obtaining the funding for the WebGIS program.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



Sandra J. Gutwein

General Certified Real Property Appraiser, Nebraska



Scotts Bluff County Board of REALTORS®

PO Box 362 • Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69363-0362 • Phone 308-632-7495 • Fax 308-632-7483

March 15, 2012

To: Whom It May Concern or Nebraska State Records Board

We are writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. We believe this mapping website will positively benefit the Scotts Bluff County Area. Our members rely on public information on a daily basis; and access to this information on a website will increase the efficiency, and effectiveness to serve our clients, and to provide reliable information.

Our members in Scotts Bluff County will benefit greatly with the implementation of this program. This service will only aid to serve the citizens, potential citizens of the area, and the professionals in and around the area with greater ease of information and increased accuracy and efficiency in data retrieval.

To be able to access this information on a website would definitely decrease the time spent retrieving public information. In addition, access to public information 24/7 will enable members to make decisions after normal government business hours if needed. We rely on public information and believe the availability on a website will only enhance the retrieval process. This time-saving element results in a cost-saving payoff. Not only will this reduce our cost but it will also reduce the expense to the County as there is always an employee retrieving a file(s), copying and re-filing our requested information.

This data in visible form at the end of our finger tips will not only benefit our profession but the confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public will be promoted to a higher level.

In these economic times, every business is conscious of cost and their efficiency. This WebGIS will allow us to reduce our costs of accessing public information and increase our efficiency immediately. We will simply electronically access the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve C. Ruhl".

Steve Ruhl, President
Scotts Bluff County Board of REALTORS®

SR:dg

Gateway Realty
of Scottsbluff Inc.

Gateway Realty of Scottsbluff Inc - Real Living
2400 Avenue I • Box 72 • Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0072
Telephone (308) 635-3141 • Fax (308) 632-5200
www.gatewayrealtyscottsbluff.com

RealLiving

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing this letter to support Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. This website will be an integral part of efficiently doing business in my profession. I rely on public information on a daily basis to quote new insurance policies. If this information were available on a website, it would definitely enhance our workflow and would allow us to better serve our clients.

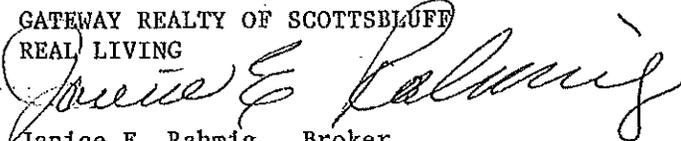
At this time, we either have to drive to the courthouse or make a telephone call to gather that information which is needed for routine business transactions. In order to quote property insurance, it is vital to know all of the details of the property in order to receive an accurate quote. The more accessible this information is, the better we can serve our customers.

If we were able to access this information on a website, our time spent accessing public information would decrease. It would also be very helpful to retrieve this information after hours, as we work past normal business hours often. This time-saving element will not only reduce our costs, but will surely reduce the expense to the county, as their employees are constantly helping us retrieve this information.

During these economic times, all businesses are looking for ways to cut costs and improve efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to do both. For those and the other mentioned reasons, I support his program and encourage your financial assistance to Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

GATEWAY REALTY OF SCOTTSBLUFF
REAL LIVING


Janice E. Rahmig, Broker



March 14, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

Re: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant — Scottsbluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Barbara "Bobi" Beutler. I am a Real Estate Broker and owner of an agency in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. I have been in the real estate business for over 15 years.

I am writing this letter in support of the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will be of great benefit to my profession. We, as REALTORS, rely on public information on a daily basis. To be able to have access to this information through a website such as WebGIS, would increase our efficiency and enable us to serve our clients in a more timely manner. Having access to public information on a 24 hour basis would allow us to make real estate decisions after normal government business hours.

A website of this nature would not only benefit our profession but would promote confidence in the county government's ability to serve the public. Therefore, I support implementing this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bobi Beutler'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Barbara "Bobi" Beutler

Broker/Owner



March 9, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to support the idea of applying for a grant to obtain the GIS system for Scotts Bluff County. It is my understanding that a successful grant application puts the county in a position to apply these funds to the development of an online mapping, deeds, and assessor information.

A web based GIS system would make public information readily available on a self-help basis. This would make it unnecessary to interrupt county staff and allow them to concentrate on maintaining accurate data. This seems to be a better use of their time and save citizens the time and expense of going to the county offices to get what they need.

So, I recommend that you apply for the grant to obtain the GIS system—a cost effective and multi-departmental information system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jim Merrigan
Broker/Owner

RE/MAX Sandstone Real Estate
2822 Avenue I, Suite A • Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Office: (308) 632-1032 • Fax (308) 632-5736
www.sandstonehomes.com • www.sandstoneag.com



Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

Champion

R E A L T Y

615 S. Beltline West • Scottsbluff, NE 69361
Phone: 308-633-4663 • Fax: 308-633-4664
www.championrealtyllc.net

March 8, 2012

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. I believe this mapping website will be a positive step in supplying both the local real estate industry and other government agencies with access to local property information. As Realtors, we rely on this public information on a daily basis for comparable sales information and specific property information on real estate listings. The ability to access this information on the website would be extremely beneficial to the entire real estate profession in terms of time management and would assist us in better serving our clients with more accurate, up to date information.

The real estate profession is not a "9-5" profession. Approximately 50% of our time spent with clients is outside of traditional business hours and having access to this information any time of the day or night would be a huge benefit to our agents and clients. In addition, our farm & ranch department frequently utilizes maps to locate specific parcels of land, search for liens or easements and to track land sales to establish comparable valuations. An effective Scotts Bluff County WebGIS would streamline the process of retrieving this information.

Our office has used the WebGIS service in neighboring counties and have found it to be extremely easy to use and very useful for researching information necessary to conduct business.

In the current economy, all businesses are looking for ways to cut costs and increase efficiency. The WebGIS will enable us to do both. For these and the other mentioned reasons, I support the WebGIS program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,



Jerri Allen
Managing Broker



March 7, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

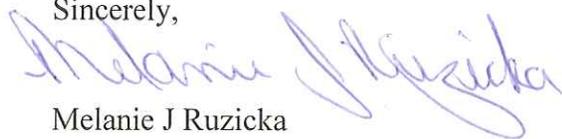
This letter is being written to support the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. We think a mapped website would be a benefit to Valley Bank and Trust Co., our customers and the community. Ease of access to public information on a daily basis would increase efficiency and effectiveness to our customers and provide us with reliable information to assist in making an informed and timely decision regarding customer requests.

Our current procedure to secure reliable public information is to visit the courthouse, take time to reproduce the documents and then return to the bank to assemble information in an organized manner. We frequently utilize maps of farm borrowers to review cropping practices, prepare for farm visits, analyze potential land purchases, track land sales to establish comparable valuation and search for liens or encumbrances on specific parcels.

An effective Scotts Bluff County WebGIS would stream line the process of retrieving public information in a timely manner and allow access for after hour access. The time saved in searching public information in Scotts Bluff County would serve the best interest of the public and private sectors.

As our economic environment changes, all businesses are looking for ways to cut costs and improve on efficiency. This WebGIS will enable us to do both. We will simply electronically access the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely,



Melanie J Ruzicka
Vice President

1425 10th Street
P.O. Box 538
Gering, NE 69341
308-436-2300

1940 10th Street
P.O. Box 538
Gering, NE 69341
308-436-6043

1701 First Avenue
P.O. Box 1996
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1996
308-632-7500

502 South Broadway
P.O. Box 1996
Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1996
308-633-5200

302 Main Street
P.O. Box 627
Bayard, NE 69334
308-586-1711

235 Central Avenue
P.O. Box 884
Grant, NE 69140-0884
308-352-4353

605 East 1st Street
P.O. Box 118
Ogallala, NE 69153-0118
308-284-6260

202 North Tecumseh
P.O. Box 219
Wauneta, NE 69045-0219
308-394-5720

March 12, 2012

Nebraska State Records Board

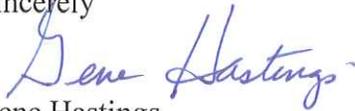
This letter serves as support for the Scotts Bluff County WebGIS. A mapped website would be a benefit to Valley Bank and Trust Co., the banks customers and our community. The public information ease of access would increase efficiency and effectiveness in providing quality customer service, along with providing reliable information in making timely and informative decisions regarding customer requests.

To be able to access the information on a website would definitely save time spent retrieving public information. The maps are utilized with farm borrowers in reviewing cropping practices, proposed land purchase analysis, tracking of land sales for comparable valuations and lien searches or encumbrances on a respective parcel of real estate.

An effective Scotts Bluff County WebGIS would stream line the process of retrieving public information in a timely manner and allow after hours access. The time saved in searching public information in the County would serve in the best interest of the public and private sectors.

In the business and economic world of today everyone is conscious of improvements that can be made in the reduction of costs and improved efficiency. This goal can be achieved with electronic access to the up-to-date public information. For the above reasons, I support this program and encourage your financial assistance for Scotts Bluff County.

Sincerely



Gene Hastings
Credit Analyst

March 14, 2012

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Kevin Wick, and I am a Banker/Loan Officer in Scottsbluff. Having Scotts Bluff County information available to me online will assist me by allowing me to save time by not having to call/go to the courthouse, and will allow me to provide faster service to my customers by having important information available 24/7.

I lend my full support to this project and feel it will increase collaboration within our county or allow us to be more productive and efficient and save money.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Wick', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Wick
Mortgage Officer for Great Western Bank

Robin E. Loose
Mid America Residential Appraisal
03/19/2012

Nebraska State Records Board

RE: GIS Workshop, Inc. Grant – Scotts Bluff County

Dear Sir/Madam:

It has come to my attention that Scotts Bluff County is seeking a grant to assist in funding of a new GIS system. It would be advantageous for all people who rely on Scotts Bluff County information to have it readily accessible online. With this advanced technology, users could access information 24/7 and provide faster service to customers more efficiently at a reduced cost. In addition, it would save Scotts Bluff County employees manual labor, time and expense of providing those services.

As a PROFESSION and a constant user of Scotts Bluff County information, I strongly support the efforts of Scotts Bluff County pursuing this grant to obtain the GIS system.

Sincerely,

Robin E. Loose



April 2, 2012

Cathy Danahy, Executive Director
Nebraska State Records Board
440 South 8th Street, Suite 210
Lincoln, NE 68508-2294

RE: Grant Funding for County GIS Programs

Dear Ms. Danahy:

On behalf of Farm Credit Services of America, an Omaha, Nebraska-based company dedicated to serving the credit, risk management and financial needs of farmers and ranchers in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming, I am writing to register our support for grant funding to establish additional county-based GIS layers and WebGIS applications throughout Nebraska.

Our appraisal department is responsible for providing detailed reports that include:

- Area and neighborhood analysis including recent market trends and recent sales activity;
- Specific location of buildings for flood insurance purposes;
- Location map of subject and sales; and
- Aerial and soil maps.

The availability of county records through the online format in counties that have information built and on-line is very beneficial to our company. Not only does it reduce the amount of time required to travel for inspections, it gives us access to county data (24/7) and the ability to offer quick turnaround times for providing up-to-date, accurate appraisal reports to our customers.

The agriculture industry in Nebraska depends upon innovative data-sharing, like GIS mapping, to compete in the most efficient and productive food system (American agriculture) in the world. It is from this point of view that Farm Credit Services of America advocates for these types of programs to supply our farm and ranch producers with the finest tools and technologies available.

Providing GIS capabilities for all counties throughout the state would be a tremendous way to keep our industry on the cutting edge.

Thank you for your consideration!



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