

## NEBRASKA GIS STEERING COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 5, 2006, 1:00 p.m.

Main Auditorium, Nebraska Department of Roads, 1500 Nebraska Hwy 2, Lincoln

### Meeting Minutes

#### MEETING AGENDA

##### Roll Call Present (authorized to vote \*)

Mark Brugger	*	Nebraska Public Power District
Lash Chaffin	*	League of Municipalities
Chris Chalmers	*	Health & Human Services Systems
Steve Cobb	*	State Surveyor Office
John Erickson	*	Gov. Policy Research
Kim Menke	*	Department of Natural Resources
Les Howard	*	Conservation and Survey Division, UNL
Jim Langtry	*	Lancaster County Engineers Office
Scott McIntyre	*	Omaha Public Works
John Miyoshi	*	Lower Platte North NRD
Jon Ogden	*	Department of Roads
Sonya Sebree	*	US Geological Survey
Duane Stott	*	Scotts Bluff County Surveyor
Paul Yamamoto	*	Environmental Quality

##### Others:

Steve Brown, DOR  
Ray Fox, US Geological Survey  
Larry Zink, GIS Steering Committee Coordinator  
Milda Vaitkus, Conservation and Survey Division, UNL

#### ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair, John Miyoshi, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. There were ten members present at the time of roll call. A quorum was present.

Audience members introduced themselves.

#### INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

#### APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2005 MINUTES

Chair Miyoshi invited comments or corrections to the [November 3, 2005 minutes](#). No corrections were offered and so the Chair declared the minutes approved, as posted, by acclamation.

#### REPORT ON NEBRASKA LAND RECORD MODERNIZATION

Report on [LB 565 - Nebraska Land Information System Program Act](#)  
Larry Zink reported that LB 565 is still in committee. There have been discussions. The bill appears to be just one vote short to get out of committee. Strategy is to attempt to get it named as the committee's priority bill, as it is felt that otherwise in this short session it has little or no chance to be enacted.

[Land Record Information and Mapping Standards](#): Larry Zink noted that a GIS Steering Committee Advisory Group developed these proposed standards to guide land record modernization. The NITC

Technical Panel approved them for the 30-day comment period. A limited number of comments have been received to this point. It is hoped to have them to the NITC for final approval at its next meeting.

## **REPORT ON STREET CENTERLINE ADDRESS WORK (NDOR, NPSC, STATE PATROL)**

Department of Roads, State Patrol and the Public Service Commission have agreed to have a series of meetings to continue discussions to determine what resources are available, what is doable, and identify the technical issues involved. The consultants/vendors that have been hired by the Public Service Commission will also be involved in the meetings. There will be approximately 57-73 counties that will be ready for Phase II of implementation of E911. The Public Service Commission will work with these counties to contract with vendors to develop street centerline/address data for these counties. The State Patrol is needing this same data for a statewide computer-aided dispatch system that they are developing for the Patrol, the State Fire Marshall office and Game and Parks officers. Larry Zink is working on behalf of the Steering Committee to encourage the maximum synergy between these various efforts and to ultimately make this data available to the broader GIS user community.

## **FGDC CAP GRANTS POSSIBILITIES**

There are a couple different Steering Committee initiatives that could make for possible grant applications (e.g. Metadata or the 50 States Coordination Initiatives). Larry Zink noted that the [GIS/Geospatial Data Enterprise Coordination Proposals](#) could fit very well within one of the FGDC grant categories. However, Larry noted the apparent decision of the administration to defer major changes in Nebraska IT coordinating structures until next year. Given this, Larry indicated that it was his inclination to not pursue a grant in this area until next year, because in the interim so many organizational questions will be up in the air. Larry said he was reluctant to make grant commitments to do major organization planning and provide a sizable grant match, when the organizational foundation for this planning was still very much in flux. The discussion that followed noted that the IT restructuring proposed in this year's attempt would deal only with IT reporting structure. Senator Schimek introduced LB 921, which would officially change the reporting structure of the Division of Communications (voice, data and video services for state government) and the Information Management Services (computing approves programming, hardware, software) from the Department of Administrative Services Director to the Chief Information Officer. It does not create another department or agency, nor does it deal with most of the GIS reorganization recommendations that the GIS Steering Committee proposed.

Mr. Zink did however recommend that the GIS Steering Committee pursue in some form a FGDC grant to support metadata training. Larry noted that this would be consistent with and support the NITC's adoption of the GIS Steering Committee's proposed metadata standard, which calls for state agencies and state-funded entities to document their geospatial data with metadata by the end of the year. Larry noted that at this time there was discussion among folks at NDNR, UNL Libraries and himself about the possibilities of such a grant application. Because this grant application would need to be submitted prior to the next Steering Committee meeting, Larry asked for a Steering Committee motion in support of either a NDNR or UNL Libraries metadata training grant application or a GIS Steering Committee application if these other possibilities do not work out. Kim Menke made this motion and Jim Langtry seconded the motion. [The motion carried by majority vote.](#)

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW, MODIFICATION AND ADOPTION**

Mr. Zink provided the Committee with an overview of the draft Annual Report and Strategic Plan. The report addresses activities and accomplishments in the following areas:

- Priority Database Development. Coordinate the development of widely needed digital geospatial databases in a standard reference format and establish systems for the on-going cooperative maintenance and enhancement of these priority geospatial databases.
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Continue to assist, as requested, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and other emergency and public safety agencies in planning for short and long-term GIS and geospatial data requirements to support Homeland Security and other public safety initiatives.

- Land Records Modernization. Promote and facilitate local government land record modernization and GIS development.
- Data Sharing and Distribution. Develop structures, standards, and processes that facilitate easy access to, integration, and usability of publicly available geospatial data.
- Technical Assistance. Provide technical assistance to local governments and state agencies.
- Education/Outreach. Promote an educational outreach program designed to maximize the overall return on public investments in the development of geographically referenced databases and GIS systems by providing educational materials, presentations and coordination services to the public officials and technical staff who will be making these investment decisions.
- Strengthen Coordination Capacity. Strengthen the GIS Steering Committee's capacity to facilitate the implementation of priority geospatial database development decisions, data sharing, interagency/intergovernmental partnerships, and agencies' utilization of GIS technology.

Priority databases on the national and state level have not changed from the previous report. Mr. Zink reviewed the progress made on the databases, as well as his recommendations for future direction for the following areas:

- Framework Layers: Hydrography, Digital Ortho Photography, Elevation, Cadastral, Ground Transportation, Administrative Boundaries, and Geodetic Control.
- Non-Framework Layers: Ground Water Features-Wells, Soil Surveys, Street Addresses Database, and Watershed Boundary Database.

Mr. Zink noted that there are at least two sections in the draft Report and Strategic Plan that he is still awaiting final information (current status of the National Hydrographic Dataset and the status of the NSDI Partnership Agreement between the Steering Committee and USGS). At the end of his overview, Mr. Zink proved the Committee with a compiled list of tasks and initiatives that the draft Annual Report and Strategic Plan outlined to be accomplished. Noting the size of the list, Mr. Zink offered the following list as his suggested priorities for 2006.

- NHD Development - Complete Funding Package
- Metadata Development and Clearinghouse listing
- Imagery Acquisition - Encourage/Support Collaboration
- Street Centerline-Address Database - Facilitate Collaborative Development
- Internet Mapping Services - Facilitate Collaboration
- Land Information System Program Act legislation
- Enhancement of GIS/Geospatial Data Enterprise-level Coordination Capabilities
- Data Stewardship MOUs for Key Datasets

Committee members offered their suggestions and feedback on the draft Annual Report. Scott McIntyre moved and Jon Ogden seconded that the Steering Committee approve the Annual Report and Strategic Plan, subject to additional editorial comments and feedback from Committee members and completion of the two sections (NHD and NSDI Partnership Agreement) that Mr. Zink noted as still need additional information. [The motion passed by majority vote.](#)

### **GIS-RELATED STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY PLAN ACTION ITEMS PROPOSALS FOR NITC STATE COUNCIL**

Each year the NITC updates the Statewide Technology Plan. As part of this process, the NITC through its advisory council's, develops a list of action items supporting each of their strategic initiatives. This year, one of the NITC's strategic initiatives includes the "Shared Services" efforts. The State Government Council approved GIS as a "shared service". Rick Becker of the CIO's office asked Mr. Zink to prepare a list of action items for GIS Steering Committee's shared services projects. Unfortunately this request and the deadline for response did not allow Mr. Zink to bring this item to the Steering Committee prior to submission and Mr. Zink wanted the committee to be informed of what he submitted for inclusion in the NITC Statewide Technology Plan.

## **LR 99 INTERIM STUDY ON ACCESS TO PUBLIC GEOSPATIAL DATABASES**

In the last legislative session, Sen. Pam Brown submitted a bill (LB 490) on behalf of Sarpy County which would exempt GIS/geospatial data from the public records law and allow for public entities to charge for geospatial data information, in excess of the copying costs currently charged under the state's public records statutes. That bill did not advance, but in response LR99 Interim Study on Access to Public Geospatial Databases was passed. During the interim, there was an interim study committee chaired by Sen. Schimek on this issue. Mr. Zink participated in these discussions on behalf of the GIS Steering Committee. Under the Attorney General's interpretation of current statutes, GIS data is considered a public record and if any one wishes a copy of that data, it must be provided at the costs of copying the data.

Under the proposal supported by a number of individuals on this Interim Study Committee, state statutes would be change to allow public entities to require entities and/or individuals wanting GIS data, to sign an agreement that they will not resell it. If they do not want to sign the agreement, then they can be charged for the data beyond copying cost. Members discussed how this might affect agencies, data collection, and the committee's effort to facilitate data sharing. Mr. Zink indicated that while he supported local government's efforts to seek funds to help them maintain this data, he did have some concerns about the potential impact of this proposed legislation on effort to aggregate data from multiple local governments (e.g. street centerline/address data or cadastral data) and serve it to the broader GIS user community. Mr. Zink noted that in his conversations with his counterparts in North Carolina, where they have a similar statute, they had expressed some misgivings about the statute because of its impact in this area. Mr. Zink noted, that because of these concerns, he had offered the following language for consideration as part of any the bill: "To secure the maximum return on public investments, to facilitate rapid and efficient delivery of emergency and other public services, and to encourage consistent public policy development and implementation, political subdivisions and other public entities in Nebraska should make their GIS/geospatial data available to other public entities." Mr. Zink noted that his proposed language was not included in current draft language that he understood was to be introduced in the next few days.

Mr. Zink noted that there will be hearings on this proposed legislation. Mr. Zink asked if the GIS Steering Committee should testify. It was the consensus of the group to not take an official stand as the GIS Steering Committee but members as individuals or agency representative can take appropriate action.

### **USGS UPDATE AND NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

Mr. Zink noted that he had sent the NSDI Partnership Agreement between the Steering Committee and USGS to Ray Fox after it was approved at the last meeting. Ray indicated that he had forwarded it on to the Denver office for review and signing. Ray said he had not yet received it back, and would follow up to see where the agreement was.

Ray also urged the Steering Committee and affiliated agencies to consider applying for the FGDC Cooperative Agreement Program grants. Ray also spoke briefly about the USGS LIDAR program, which he noted was next on the agenda.

### **LIDAR WORKING GROUP**

Mr. Zink has scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m., Executive Building-5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room. Members were asked to let Mr. Zink know if they are interested in being involved. The meeting is being held to determine if there is interest informing a LIDAR group.

### **REGIONAL GEOSPATIAL COORDINATION FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING AND RESPONSE**

Mr. Zink indicated that there had been no recent activity relative to this effort to explore the possibilities of forming a state GIS response team that would be available to assist in regional emergencies. Larry indicated that when the group last meet, it was his understanding that NEMA was going to take the lead on this effort, and he was going to support their effort. Larry indicated that he would attempt to contact NEMA and follow-up.

## **REPORT ON GIS ACTIVITIES FROM MEMBER AGENCIES**

Agency representative provided updates and reports. Members requested that discussions occur regarding the subject of Homeland Security, GIS datasets, schools and security issues, what information should be accessible to the public, preparedness of agencies as a state, and agencies ability to share secure information. It was suggested that Brenda Decker be contacted as a starting point to begin discussions.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Zink asked members to look at the draft Land Record Information and Mapping Standards that are out for public comment. After the public comment period, they will go to the NITC for final approval.

He also requested any editorial feedback from members regarding the GIS Steering Committee Annual Report and Strategic Plan.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Meeting minutes were transcribed by Lori Lopez Urdiales of the Office of the CIO and reviewed by Larry Zink, GIS Coordinator.

[See next page for vote tally.](#)

Vote Tallies for <u>1-5-06</u> GIS Str. Cmte. Meeting									
	Roll Call	Metadata Grant #1	Annl Rpt Strg Plan #2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8
DAS - <b>Steve Henderson</b> (Lori McClurg)	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DEQ - Tom Lamberson, <b>Paul Yamamoto</b> (Mike Linder)	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
CSD - Mark Kuzila, <b>Les Howard</b> , Milda Vaitkus	A/P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
NGPC - Bruce Sackett, <b>Sudhir Ponnapan</b> (Rex Amack)	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
NRC - <b>Kim Menke</b> , Rex Gittins (Ann Bleed)	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
PRO - <b>John Erickson</b> (Lauren Hill)	A/P	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
PTD - <b>Cathy Lang</b> , Bob Martin, Rob Christian	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DOR - <b>Jon Ogden</b> , Steve Brown (John Craig)	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
St.Surv - <b>Steve Cobb</b> , John Beran	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
Clk of Leg. - Patrick O'Donnell	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>Sonia Sebree</b>	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>John Miyoshi</b> , Chris Poole	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>Mark Brugger</b>	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
Cliff Welsh	A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Larry Worrell, <b>Jim Langtry</b>	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>Lash Chaffin</b>	A/P	.	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>Duane Stott</b>	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>Scott McIntyre</b> , Mike Schonlau	A/P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
HHSS: <b>Chris Chalmers</b>	P	+	+	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>TOTALS</b>	10 -P / 14 -P	12 +	13 +	.	.	.	.	.	.

"P"=present, "A"=absent, "+"=voting for, "-"=voting against, "NV"=not voting

