

NEBRASKA GIS STEERING COMMITTEE

1:00 PM, Thursday, July 25, 2007

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

MEETING MINUTES

Roll Call Present (authorized to vote *)

John Beran	*	State Surveyors Office
Lash Chaffin	*	League of Nebr. Municipalities
Steve Henderson	*	Chair, Office of the CIO
Milda Vaitkus	*	UNL School of Natural Resources
Lee Kohrs	*	Dept. of Roads
Jim Langtry	*	USGS
Sudhir Ponnapan	*	Game and Parks Commission
Steve Rathje	*	Natural Resources
Mike Schonlau	*	Omaha/Douglas County
Ruth Sorensen	*	Property Tax Admin. - Dept of Revenue
Paul Yamamoto	*	Environmental Quality

Others

Rose Braun, NDOR
Ryan Christensen, NDOR
Ray Fox, USGS
Ed Kelley, NDOR
Larry Zink GIS Steering Committee Coordinator

MEETING AGENDA

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE ATTENDEES

Steve Henderson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Eleven members were present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business.

PUBLIC MEETINGS REGULATIONS AND POSTING OF THE SAME

It was noted that the public meetings regulations were posted and available for meeting attendees, as required by state statute.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM ATTENDEES

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 5/3/07 MEETING

Mr. Chaffin moved to approve the minutes from the May 3, 2007 meeting as presented. Ms. Vaitkus seconded. No corrections were offered and a roll call of the members present passed the motion, with Ms. Sorensen not voting.

IMAGERY INITIATIVES

Nebraska-Iowa Regional Orthoimagery Consortium (Ni-Roc) 2007

Mr. Zink provided a brief overview of the current status of the project in the absence of Mike Schonlau (Mike joined the meeting later). The raw imagery has been collected for all of the areas. Initial 1-ft data has been delivered for non-continuous areas of the project. Initial

review feedback has been that there is some concern about the color mix. Since the imagery was collected digitally, the vendor has offered to change the color mix before processing the rest of the data. Final product delivery expected late fall/early winter 2007.

[FSA/Surdex Offer of 2006 Statewide 1-meter Imagery](#)

Mr. Zink has been in contact with the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Aerial Field Program Office (APFO) to track the progress of this imagery processing. The reprocessed imagery has been delivered to APFO from the Surdex vendor. The next step is QA/QC by APFO. Since the QA/QC of this reprocessed 2006, 1-meter imagery was not in APFO's original work plan for 2007, it will be the final dataset for which the APFO does the QA/QC. Current availability is estimated to be somewhere between the middle of August to the middle of Sept.

GIS-RELATED SHARED SERVICES ACTION ITEMS IN THE NITC STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY PLAN

[Enterprise Coordination of Internet Map Servers](#). A smaller group was organized to discuss this issue. As was noted at the last GIS Str. Cmte. Meeting, the group determined that additional technical resources were needed to accomplish this goal. It was decided to pursue development of a 2-year collaborative project funding. Funding will be sought to hire a full-time technical staffperson. The Office of the CIO has been working with the UNL School of Natural Resources to pursue the possibility of hiring a technical lead for this project through the UNL-SNR. Mr. Zink noted that the Nebraska Information Technology Commission has approved a 2-year funding grant for \$75,000/yr. for a total of \$150,000.

Mr. Zink reported that he has also worked with Steve Henderson to develop a funding proposal for the State Records Board. This proposal for funding this Geospatial Data Sharing Network is asking for two \$25,000 grants for over the next two years. At this point, the proposal has been reviewed and endorsed by the State Records Board's Technical Advisory Committee and will go before the State Records Board itself on August 1st.

The total funding proposal for this two-year startup project is approximately \$300,000. The proposed division of these startup costs were outlined as below:

PROPOSED OVERALL TWO-YEAR STARTUP FUNDING PACKAGE

US Geological Survey Grant	\$43,000	one-time hardware/software funds <i>already obtained</i>
State Agency Partners - Cash *	\$60,000	\$30,000 for each of the first two years of the project
NITC Collaboration Fund	\$150,000	\$75,000 for each of the first two years of the project
State Records Board	<u>\$50,000</u>	\$25,000 for each of the first two years of the project
Total two-year budget	\$303,000	

* Does not include the extensive in-kind contributions that are expected from state and local agencies in the form of technical support to integrate their data and systems (see below).

Mr. Zink reported that the \$43,000 from USGS was already in-hand, but that there will be a need to a request to extend this previously existing grant and to potential modify it in a manner to allow it to be expended for contractual labor instead of the original hardware and software. Several state agencies have indicated a willingness to help fund this project, but the \$60,000 in state agency funding is not yet nailed down.

[Report on Street Centerline Address Work \(NDOR, NPSC, and State Patrol\)](#). Mr. Zink reported that there has not been much activity on this initiative since the last GIS Str. Cmte. Meeting. As reported at the last meeting, the OCIO worked with the Nebr. State

Patrol to hire a contractor to collect and integrate the "best available" street centerline data and transform it into the data format needed by the Nebr. State Patrol's new computer-aided dispatch system. Much of this data came from the Public Service Commission's E911 efforts. There is still an unresolved question as to whether this PSC data can be shared more widely with the GIS user community. Now that the immediate needs of the NSP have been addressed, there is a need to convene a meeting with the key player to seek to define a more enduring, enterprise-level approach to collecting, integrating and serving the "best available" street centerline-address data.

[Metadata and Geospatial Data Catalogue Campaign](#). Mr. Zink noted that Nebraska is a cooperating partner in a MidAmerica GIS Consortium/Missouri grant proposal to FGDC for a regional metadata initiative. This grant proposal has been funded. Under this initiative, each state will cooperate in organizing a metadata training session designed to train a metadata training and support team. Current efforts are underway to develop the metadata training curriculum that will be used in the regional training sessions. The timeline for the regional metadata training sessions are tentatively set for late fall of 2007.

LIDAR UPDATE

Mr. Zink reported that there continues to be an interest among several agencies in a potential statewide (or at least large-area) LIDAR project. The Rainwater Basin Joint Venture has recently received word that they have received approval for a substantial grant award for the USDA-NRCS to support a LIDAR initiative in the Rainwater Basin. However, this RBJV project will require a 50% funding match. Mr. Zink reported that there was an upcoming meeting at the Dept. of Roads, that he worked with the Dept. of Natural Resources to convene to provide an update on this and other LIDAR efforts and to explore the level of interest among key players.

[NEBRASKA GIS STRATEGIC PLANNING](#)

Mr. Zink reported that Strategic Planning Advisory Committee has been organized to help lead the GIS Str. Cmte. through a strategic planning process. Mr. Zink also expressed some frustration that with all the other efforts underway, this planning process keeps getting pushed back on the agenda of things to do.

Mr. Zink led a discussion of the [Nebraska GIS/Geospatial Data Enterprise Coordination Proposals](#) that were adopted by the GIS Str. Cmte. back in the fall of 2005. The purpose of the discussion was to provide an update on what has happened with those recommendations since then and to determine if they should be incorporated into a new strategic plan or modified.

[Coordination/Authority/Support Recommendations](#). Mr. Zink briefly reviewed the recommended and any resulting action. He noted that while there is still no **formal organization link between either the NITC nor the CIO**, there is now a much closer working relationship since the reorganization of the OCIO, which formally moved his position under the OCIO. As a result of that OCIO reorganization, Mr. Zink's position is now, as was recommended, part of the **OCIO Planning staff**. While **GIS enterprise technical support** has not yet been added, the efforts underway with the Geospatial Data Sharing Network may result in, at least, indirect enterprise technical support being added via the UNL SNR. Mr. Zink reported that there has been no specific action in the area of **requiring coordination of large GIS projects**. It was noted that there has been some **biannual GIS user community meetings** held, but they have fallen off recently. As was recommended, a **USGS Mapping Partnership Office** has been opened in Nebraska and Jim Langtry hired to staff that office. Mr. Zink noted that another of the recommendations

was related to **updating the membership of the GIS Str. Cmte.** He observed that up to now that none of the recommended changes have been made and that now was probably a good time to revisit this issue. Another recommendation was to pursue a **legislative champion** and Mr. Zink noted that this was probably more important and challenging now that we had term limits. A final recommendation in area was to explore the development of a standing MOU between NDNR, UNL-CSD, and the OCIO to facilitate the implementation of future collaborative projects. Mr. Zink noted that nothing formal has develop in this way, but current discussions related to the Geospatial Data Sharing Network have been exploring a formal relationship between OCIO and UNL-CSD.

Data Development and Distribution Recommendations. Mr. Zink noted that one of the recommendations was to **assign clear responsibilities for Framework data.** The initial effort in the regard with NDOR and the street centerline-address database stumbled over the issue of the lack of NDOR responsibility in the area of street addresses. Efforts are now progressing to hopefully clearly define NDNR stewardship responsibility for the National Hydrography Dataset. Another recommendation was related to defining a collaborative **statewide street centerline/address database development program.** It was noted that some efforts have been made in this area (e.g. State Patrol), but further efforts were needed to define and on-going enterprise effort. Mr. Zink also noted that four other recommendations in this section: 1) **geospatial data clearinghouse;** 2) **geospatial data center;** 3) **online mapping services;** and 4) **data sharing agreements** and all need further work, but they are all being addressed to some degree within the context of the geospatial data sharing network initiative.

Budget/Finance. Recommendations in this section included the establishment of a **GIS/Geospatial Enterprise Fund** to provide seed funding and spending and contracting authority for multiple fiscal year collaborative projects. New funding has not been provided, but the closer relationship with the OCIO has provided new avenues for pooling funds and contracting authority. The final recommendation in this area was support for the **land record modernization.** Mr. Zink noted that the proposed legislation in area did not pass after three years of effort. However, it was noted that the standards that were developed by the GIS Str. Cmte. and endorsed by the NITC are beginning to be felt when there is state funding involved.

The Str. Cmte. followed this overview briefing with a discussion of the relative merits of the various recommendations. There was no formal action taken, but the sense of the Str. Cmte. members present was that these recommendations should be updated and provide a starting point for structural/organizational recommendations in a draft strategic planning recommendations for further consideration by the Str. Cmte.

REPORT ON GIS ACTIVITIES FROM MEMBER AGENCIES

Committee members were given an opportunity to share agency activities.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.