

GIS STEERING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 13, 2009, 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Nebraska Dept. of Roads- Main Auditorium

1500 Nebraska Hwy 2, Lincoln, Nebraska

MINUTES

ROLL CALL PRESENT (authorized to vote*):

Steve Henderson	*	Chair, Office of the CIO
Karis Bowen	*	Dept. of Health and Human Services
Rose Braun	*	Department of Roads
Chad Boshart	*	NEMA
Lash Chaffin	*	League of Nebraska Municipalities
Steve Cobb	*	State Surveyor
Eric Herbert	*	Sarpy County
Les Howard	*	Conservation and Survey Division - UNL
Jim Langtry	*	USGS
Jeff McReynolds	*	Lincoln/ Lancaster County
Mike Preston	*	Nebr. GIS/LIS Assoc.
Sudhir Ponnappan	*	Game and Parks Commission
Steve Rathje	*	Dept. of Natural Resources
Mike Schonlau	*	Douglas County-Omaha GIS
Sue Vanicek	*	Public Service Commission
Paul Yamamoto	*	Dept. of Environmental Quality

Others:

Tom Jensen, Dept. of Agriculture; Billie Jo Smith, NRCS-USDA

Larry Zink, GIS Council Coordinator

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF AUDIENCE ATTENDEES, PUBLIC MEETINGS REGULATIONS AND POSTING OF THE SAME

Mr. Henderson called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. There were 13 members present at the time of roll call and therefore a quorum was present to conduct official business.

The public meeting notice was posted on the south wall of the conference room. GIS Council meeting notice was posted to the [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#) and the [NITC GIS Council](#) websites on January 8, 2009. The meeting agenda was posted on GIS Council website May 6, 2009.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM ATTENDEES

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 3/4/09 MEETING

Mr. Langtry moved approval of the minutes of the 3-4-09 meeting as distributed, Mr. Schonlau seconded the motion. The members present voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

AERIAL IMAGERY INITIATIVE

Mr. Zink noted that there are two major initiatives related to aerial imagery that are currently scheduled for 2010 and for which planning needs to occur in 2009. These two initiatives are the USDA National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) and Nebraska-Iowa Regional Orthophotography Consortium (NIROC). The NAIP program collects imagery statewide at a 1-meter resolution, full-color, leaf-on. The NIROC is focused primarily on Nebraska's more urbanized areas and is centered around acquiring 6-inch and 12-inch resolution orthoimagery and

other related products. Mr. Zink referred to a chart that was attached to the agenda, which provided a comparison of these products.

Relationship Between Imagery Pixel Size Appropriate Map Scale and Spatial Accuracy			
Imagery Source	Pixel Size	Approx Map Scale	Spatial Accuracy
FSA-USDA	1 meter	1 in = 100 ft. (1:12,000)	+/- 16.4 ft.
NIROC	1 foot	1 in = 400 ft. (1:4,800)	+/- 4 ft.
NIROC	6 inch	1 in = 100 ft. (1:1,200)	+/- 1 ft.

FSA-USDA NAIP. Mr. Zink introduced Billie Jo Smith from the Farm Services Agency (FSA-USDA) to provide the GIS Council with more information regarding the planning for the 2010 NAIP. Ms. Smith noted that Nebraska NAIP flights are scheduled for the summer of 2010. The imagery collected will be one-meter resolution, full-color, leaf-on, and true orthos. Ms. Smith also noted that the imagery will be collected statewide, with the possible exception of 3-4 quarter quads that do not include agricultural crop areas (some of Omaha area is included in one of these quarter quads). NRCS is looking for partnerships for 2010 NAIP due to budgetary issues. Partnerships guarantees that the project will be done – partners contribute 10% of FSA’s costs, estimated cost is \$1.89 million. Need to know partners by December for 2009. Partner minimum (10% of total cost) is \$109,000 (total not per partner) for agriculture areas only, for full statewide coverage asking \$189,000. July 1st to August 15th is the flight time.

Mr. Schonlau indicated a possible Omaha/Douglas County interest if one could buy-up the resolution. Ms. Smith indicated that might be a possibility, but if 6-inch imagery is requested, states could possibly work that out with the selected vendor.

Mr. Zink indicated that the following agencies had express an interest to him: NEMA, NPPD and DNR. Ms. Braun said that DOR would be interested as well. Other agencies who might be interested in partnering with NRCS to insure that the 2010 NAIP imagery acquisition occurs were encouraged to let Mr. Zink know as he will be working with Ms. Smith to schedule a meeting to plan for 2010 NAIP.

Approximate NIROC Project Timelines	
May 1, 2009 !!!!!	Expression of serious interest
May 30, 2009	Determination of desired products and project areas
June 30, 2009	RFP Released
August – October 2009	Vendor Proposal Review and Selection
November 2009	Vendor Contract Signed.
March - April 2010	Imagery Collection
April – July 2010	Imagery QA/QC
August – October 2010	Final Product Delivery
May 30, 2009	Contracts and Financial Arrangements
Aug.10–Oct. 1st, 2009	Vendor Proposal Review and Selection
October 2009	Signed MOUs between local entities & MAPA based on final product specifications & costs negotiated between MAP and selected vendor
November 2009	MAPA signs contract with vendor
May 2010	Initial partial payments to MAPA per MOU
January 1, 2011	Final payments to MAPA per MOU

NIROC-II. Mike Schonlau provided an overview of planning efforts for the 2010 NIROC effort. Mr. Schonlau indicated that early efforts are underway to prepare an RFP and getting verbal commitments of participation. Hope to RFP ready by end of June with vendor selected in August with contract signed in the Fall, to do a flight in spring April. Currently developing a list of 2010 counties to be covered and a listing of interested entities. Cost issues is generation of DEM for imagery. MAPA will be doing the contracts and MOU's -- they will be the administrative coordinator for the entire project. Next meeting is May 22nd at 1:30 p.m. and then again June 9th. If members are interested in attending, let Mike Schonlau.

Other areas outside of Omaha-Lincoln Core. Urban areas are open to providing this to areas outside. Jim Langtry and Mr. Zink will follow-up with interested entities for current needs. They will be developing a methodology for gathering this information on the long-term basis. The development of a template might be helpful. It would be beneficial to gather this information on a statewide level but time and staffing has been an issue. Mr. Schonlau commented that standards or guidelines and institutional support structure for longer-term should be developed. There is a lot to be worked through operationally and financially in order for this to happen. Chaffin indicated that he would like to serve on the longer-term imagery working group.

LiDAR UPDATE

The handouts for the meeting included a map of the current LiDAR effort in south central Nebraska. Jim Langtry provide a brief overview of the current effort. Areas 1 and 2 on the map are currently being done. Mr. Langtry noted that much of the non-contiguous areas in the NIROC-II project are in the LiDAR area and so the LiDAR data will be available to be used in the NIROC ortho production process. .

Mr. Langtry also noted that there is work being done to develop a business case for a statewide LiDAR effort. It is hoped to have a draft ready in June to be brought to the GIS Council in August. Jeff McReynolds recommended looking at the State of Iowa's project.

NEBRASKAMAP

Mr. Zink provided an update on the NebraskaMAP Project, the effort to develop a Nebraska Geospatial Data Sharing and Web Services Network. Dan Pfeffer, UNL Project Manager, is on staff and has accomplished several preliminary planning and assessment steps.

Project Charter. A revised Project Charter has been developed by the working group and endorsed in concept by most of the participating agencies. The revised Project Charter defines a management/decision making structure and process for the on-going project. The revised Project Charter, as attached to the meeting agenda, is before the Council for endorsement and then the signatures of participating agencies will be solicited. OCIO will be the lead agency and responsible for the overall management of the network. A contract is in place with University of Nebraska CALMIT to do initial design and development of the network. A NebraskaMAP Partners committee is being created to provide on-going advise and technical guidance for the development of the network and will consist of agencies who have signed on to be part of the project. Later MOUs are envisioned to be developed among partners to deal with issues such as data sharing and project financing.

Henderson stated that he has spoken with the CIO regarding the overall management of the NebraskaMAP project. The OCIO does not have GIS expertise but can provide operational support. OCIO would look to the Partners Committee for GIS expertise to make decisions and recommendations.

Mike Schonlau moved that the GIS council support the revised NebraskaMAP Project Charter. Jeff McReynolds seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to endorse the revised NebraskaMAP Project Charter as attached to the meeting agenda.

Paul Yamamoto expressed the interest of DEQ as being a member of the NebraskaMAP Partners Committee. Paul indicated that he didn't see DEQ as being much of a provider of data, but it would certainly like to be a user of the network. Mr. Schonlau moved to officially add DEQ on the NebraskaMAP Partners Committee and Paul Mullen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Data Sharing Agreement. Mr. Zink called the Council's attention to a draft Data Sharing Agreement that was attached to the meeting agenda. The development of a data sharing agreement was part of the initial workplan for the Data Sharing and Web Services Network. Mr. Zink indicated that the current draft is just a starter document. To develop this draft he researched other states agreements and tried to develop a draft document with appendixes that would deal with different nuances and situations. He asked members to review the document and provide feedback. Mr. Zink noted that the idea of a data sharing agreement was not without controversy. Some folks are more comfortable with sharing their data than they are with initiating the bureaucratic hassle of trying to get approval and signatures on a data sharing agreement.

It was asked if entities need to have signed the document since it is public record, does a signature need to be needed. Mr. Schonlau stated that agencies may be most concerned with a statement clearly waiving their liability for other's use of the data. Perhaps rather than a MOU a waiver of liability might be more appropriate and useful? Mr. Zink noted that the flip side of that coin, is giving the users of the data a clear message about what they can and can not do with the data. Mr. Zink emphasized that this is just a beginning of this dialogue, but that he felt it probably had broader applications than just the Data Sharing Network.

It was suggested that a working committee should perhaps be formed around this issue and someone suggested that Mike Hammer, City of Omaha Attorney was someone who might be able to assist with this.

Growing interface with other projects. There are an increasing number of projects for additional services that could possibly be approached in conjunction with the NebraskaMAP. One example is the statewide Street Centerline-Address Database effort. It was noted that Dan Pfeffer, Project Manager, has a fair amount of experience from previous employment working to develop street centerline data. It was also noted that NDOR has a partnership agreement with the State of Washington regarding the development of online tools to update statewide centerline databases. NIROC is another example of prior projects that could be supported in various ways through the NebraskaMAP. LZ posed the question to Council to see if they felt that NebraskaMAP could handle these projects, will it be impeded, should it take on these other projects. A concern about scope-creep was raised where a project's goals take on too many projects. However, in general members felt the project is a framework under which other projects can be accomplished and additional projects could be fit into that framework as long as their long-term impact on the project were considered.

Initial application ideas. SH has asked LZ to identify 2-3 things that can be accomplished. The sooner the project is up and running and projects are identified, then it will be easier to request more funding for the identified things the council would like to do. Dan reported the project is ready to be populated with data. Contract is in place ESRI. Dan stated that the University of Nebraska gets some things free for example the extensions. If it goes to the OCIO, there may be additional costs to the state. Howard stated that in other states due to these types of costs, some states have partnered with their university to continue receiving the free fee.

Funding. Steve Henderson reiterated that if the project is to continue after of the initial two-year start up, the Council and the NebraskaMAP Partners Committee will need to develop a model for continued funding. For example, that funding mix could include charging a fee for services, looking at another state agency that could maintain the system, developing interim commitments from supporting agencies, agencies support for specific applications based on the NebraskaMAP, or other sources of funding. In summary, Mr. Henderson noted the GIS Council's support for the Project Charter, and its unanimous support for moving forward with the project, but with concern about how much were going to do all at once, and then there is a reality of money.

STREET CENTERLINE-ADDRESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Zink provided a brief overview of the situation with the statewide Street Centerline-Address efforts. An agreement to share data has been reached with all of the primary sources of street centerline-address data for Nebraska (Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster Counties, PSC, NDOR) and a rough consensus has been reached on the resultant data model and how the datasets will be combined. Two funding agencies (State Patrol and NEMA) have agreed to underwrite initial efforts. A snag has developed around the effort to include in the RFP an effort to develop updating tools to maintain the dataset. The NDOR is a partner with the State of Washington to develop many of the tools we need. It appears that they have gone a long ways in actually developing these tools, but they are not yet documented in a manner that will allow us to realistically point prospective vendors to them. The current thinking is to split this effort into two RFPs and to pursue the update tools a little later. Another option under discussion is the possibility of involving Dan Pfeffer, NebraskaMAP in the effort to develop an initial statewide dataset.

NEBRASKA GIS SYMPOSIUM

Eric Herbert and Mike Preston provided a brief report on the 2009 Nebraska GIS Symposium that was held in Kearney on April 21-23rd. The Symposium was pretty well attended considering the economy and the fact that it was held in Kearney instead of the Lincoln or Omaha area. The Association felt that it was important to hold this event in greater Nebraska, even though all expected a reduced turnout. There was a good selection of workshop and breakout sessions. Brenda Decker, CIO, was one of the keynote speakers.

NEXT MEETING: JULY 22, 2009