MnGeo State Government Geospatial Advisory Council

January 20, 2010 Meeting Notes

Participating:
<u>Members:</u>   David Arbeit, Administration (MnGeo) Chair; Mary Arvesen, Human Services (DHS); Mike Dolbow, Agriculture; Jessica Fendos, Employment & Economic Development (DEED); Greg Fetter, Commerce; Jennifer Johnson, Corrections; Tim Loesch, Natural Resources (DNR); Sean Mangan, Public Safety; Wendy Nelson, Health; Craig Rhombs, Education; Dan Ross, Transportation (MnDOT); Tad Schindler, Pollution Control Agency (MPCA); and Michelle Weber, Minnesota Management & Budget (MMB). Rebecca Foster, City of Edina, represented the Statewide Geospatial Advisory Council.
<u>Non-members:</u> Fred Logman, MnGeo; Nancy Rader, MnGeo; Chris Cialek, MnGeo; John Hoshal, MnGeo

David Arbeit called the meeting to order. Participants introduced themselves.

Meeting Notes:
There were no changes to the December 8, 2009, meeting notes
http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/councils/stategovt/SGGAC_notes_2009Dec8.pdf and they were accepted.   To speed posting of the meeting notes, MnGeo will generate them shortly after the meeting, distribute them to Council members for review, make any needed changes and post them. No formal action of the Council will be needed before the notes are published on the Council's Website (http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/councils/stategovt/index.html).

Statewide Advisory Council: The MnGeo Statewide Geospatial Advisory Council (http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/councils/statewide/index.html) met on January 7, 2010, and elected Victoria Reinhardt of Ramsey County, Chair; Robert Meeks of the Minnesota School Board Association, Vice Chair; and Rebecca Foster, City of Edina, their representative to this Council. Most of their meeting was devoted to providing background information so that most members were starting at a similar point. This Council has several policy level members and uses video conferencing to allow participation from representatives around the State. The Statewide Council voted to endorse the three CAP Grant proposals described below.

2010 FGDC CAP Grant Proposals:
Three proposals that MnGeo is aware of were briefly discussed:
- From DEED, CURA, and Houston Engineering, a project to coordinate with partners to build upon DEED's M3D project (http://map.deed.state.mn.us/m3d) increasing some data sets to statewide coverage and another to the 19 Minnesota cities with a population over 50,000.
- From MetroGIS, a project to determine the value of GIS data, in particular parcel data, to other entities, including taxpayers. The idea is to investigate whether the benefits of making the data freely available outweigh the benefits of charging a fee for access. The case study would be Hennepin County.   The results of this project may make acquiring data from local government easier and less costly.
- From MnGeo, a project to streamline and provide greater structure to the process of adjusting local government boundaries. The project would also reduce redundant efforts and data sets by creating an authoritative map for Minnesota local government boundaries.

Legislative Coordination:
Arbeit briefly reviewed the mandated report
(http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/councils/stategovt/MnGeo_Legislative_Report_2010Jan15.pdf) to be

delivered to the Legislature on Friday, January 15, 2010, listing the statutory references to MnGeo (formerly LMIC), with analysis and recommendations. The report was vetted by a workgroup comprised of individuals from all of the agencies that were referenced or could be impacted by the recommendations.

Arbeit also informed the Council of HF2557 (http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/bills/billnum.asp?Billnumber=HF2557&ls_year=86&session_year=2009&session_number=0), which would create a State Webmaster under the State CIO, require enhanced public access to state government electronic files as well as specify that "all relevant data have geocodes enabling the data to be mapped." Arbeit and others are working on suggested language to clarify the geocoding requirement.

Project updates:
Arbeit provided a short summary of the five active committees (http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/committee/index.html) from the sunsetted Governor's Council on Geographic Information that will continue to operate and report to MnGeo. The distinction was also made that committees are on-going long term efforts while "workgroups" will be for a shorter duration and project oriented.

Cialek provided an update on the spring 2010 leaf-off imagery flight that is planned to generate high resolution imagery for 13 counties in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. He also indicated that there are close to a million hits per month on the MnGeo imagery service. Cialek also provided an update on the LiDAR project that has $5.6-million in funding going to the DNR received as a result of the 2008 MN Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. See the December 8, 2009 meeting notes http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/councils/stategovt/SGGAC_notes_2009Dec8.pdf for more information.

Agency Geospatial Projects:
MnGeo has a statutory mandate to be aware of geospatial projects being undertaken by State government. This also is a chance to identify opportunities for agencies to collaborate on projects, technology, and operational system endeavors as well as share and reuse applications. MnGeo requested brief descriptions of agency projects from Council members that will be organized and placed on the Council website. A few agency projects were briefly described:

Agriculture: Dolbow described an Emerald Ash Borer tracking project they have started. Dolbow also described a project to map the detection of invasive and noxious weeds coming into the State.

Employment and Economic Development: Fendos described their sizable effort to construct an application to track Minnesota's available workforce using ArcGIS Server which they are just now installing.

Pollution Control Agency: Schindler described their effort to improve groundwater management throughout the State, to be funded by a portion of the Legacy Fund monies. PCA also has a Watershed Project to better manage and communicate the work PCA does to improve watersheds.

Transportation: Ross told the Council about a project that MnDOT is conducting using field devices with GPS capacity to identify physical locations of MnDOT assets and collect attribute data. MnDOT is also working with counties to develop a system for MnDOT to access county parcel and CAMA data. Ross indicated that there are over 20 potential geospatial projects at MnDOT this year. He also noted that they were working on tracking emerald ash borer and invasive weed presence in right-of-ways, and will make sure that these are being coordinated with Ag and DNR's efforts.

<u>Natural Resources</u>: Loesch discussed a major project underway to update their land records system that they use to manage about 4 million acres of land in Minnesota. Loesch also mentioned their support of handheld data recording/collection devices being used by their forestry division. Like MnDOT, DNR has several projects underway including managing the LiDAR acquisition this year, a Private Land Management effort, and a bridge inspection program.

<u>Commerce</u>: Fetter mentioned his department's involvement with the Broad Band Mapping project that is being conducted by Connected Nation for Minnesota with a Federal grant.

<u>Public Safety</u>: Mangan indicated that GIS is in its infancy at DPS and they are just starting to see many opportunities for GIS. Emergency Management is working with ESRI and ESRI's *VIPER* system as a geospatial tool to provide a common operating picture during emergencies.

It was suggested that at subsequent meetings, an agency take 10 to 15 minutes of meeting time to show an application that they feel may be of interest to other agencies to promote sharing and reuse.

Office of Enterprise Technology:
Arbeit reported that OET is in the process of developing an IT architecture for the State. Arbeit indicated that he is a member of OET's Enterprise Architectural Review Board representing the geospatial community. He believes it is important that geospatial staff also be on each of the four domain workgroups: Applications, Business, Data, and Technology.

Workgroups:
Arbeit and Logman listed some of the potential workgroups that could be formed, noting that the community does not have enough resources to work on them all at one time. The ESRI ELA Workgroup has been formed with a representative from each agency that has executed the ESRI ELA Interagency Agreement; it is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, February 3, 2010. Potential additional workgroups identified by the Council included:
- Collaboration opportunities
- Geocoding
- GIS Implementation Models
- Mobile GIS
- Shared Services Directory
- State-Local Government Agreements
- State base map
- Training

MnGeo will generate brief descriptions for each workgroup and send them to the Council for review before to prioritization and identification of agency interest.

Agency Issues and Needs:
This item was not covered due to lack of time.

Future Meetings:
Council members indicated that bimonthly meetings were appropriate with the next meeting occurring in March.   MnGeo will schedule meetings for the rest of the year by identifying potential dates and times and polling the Council.

Meeting adjourned.

Meeting notes by Fred Logman and Nancy Rader.