Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2022

Online via Webex

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Members Present: Heather Albrecht, Hennepin County; David Brandt, Washington County; Len Kne, University of Minnesota; Chris Mavis, Hennepin County; Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County; Cory Richter, City of Blaine; Gerry Sjerven, Minnesota Power; Stacey Stark, University of Minnesota; Shawn Strong, City of Brainerd; Benjamin Timerson, Minnesota Department of Transportation; Patrick Veraguth, Douglas County

Members Absent: Jeff Bloomquist, USDA Risk Management Agency; Ryan Bonney, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community; Kari Geurts, MNIT Department of Natural Resources; Leanne Knott, City of Red Wing; Britta Maddox, Anoka County; Matt McGuire, Metropolitan Council; Kendis Scharenbroich, Pro-West & Associates Inc.; Alex Steele, Minnehaha Watershed District.

Non-Members Present: Brad Anderson, City of Moorhead; Mitch Bergeson, U.S. Geological Survey; Andrea Bergman, MNIT Department of Natural Resources; Tim Bonn, SURDEX Corporation; Curt Carlson, MnGeo; Will Craig, retired; Shana Crosson, University of Minnesota; Randall Cutting, ERM; Preston Dowell, St. Louis County; Terry Gromala, Minnesota Department of Human Services; Randy Knippel, Dakota County; Patrick Landisch, Minnesota Department of Revenue; Karen Majewicz, University of Minnesota; Ryan Mattke, University of Minnesota; Rick Moore, MNIT Department of Natural Resources; Nancy Rader, MnGeo; Alison Slaats, MnGeo; Ryan Stovern, St. Louis County; Brett Thomassie, SURDEX Corporation.

1. Call to Order

Meeting presentation slides

Richter welcomed GAC members and guests.

- **Motion**: Approve today's agenda and meeting minutes from 12/15/2021 (Reinhardt/Brandt) – Motion passed.

2. MN Geospatial Priorities Survey and GAC Priorities for 2022

Richter reviewed the purpose of the GAC's priorities:

- To create a voice for the MN geospatial community
- To direct work plans of the GAC and its committees
- To advise MnGeo on needs of the community

- To allow other organizations to compare priorities and align efforts
- To inform outreach and policy related efforts
- Having clear direction helps motivate people to participate

And then the process:

- Create a list of proposed projects and initiatives, using input from GAC members and committee chairs and outreach to sectors
- Assess the **value** of each, i.e., the degree of business need, informed by the results of the MN Geospatial Priorities Survey. This year's survey was conducted between Dec. 21, 2021 and Jan. 17, 2022.
- Assess **likelihood of success** of each: Do they have an owner, work team, champion, funding?
- Calculate preliminary priorities
- GAC discusses and adjusts – today's meeting is for this purpose

This year's survey received 357 responses, up 58 from last year's 299. About a third of the responses were from state government; a bar chart on slide 6 shows the full distribution of responses by sector. As in previous years, the results were very similar whether the scores were unweighted or weighted by GAC seats representing sectors – see comparison table in slide 8.

After weighting by the factors for likelihood of success, initial priority rankings were shown in the following table:

Project or Initiative Name	Status	Do in '22	GAC Rank	Priority Score	Value Score	Survey Score	Success Score	Owner Exists	Work Team Exists	Active Champ Exists	$$ Exists	Est $$	Easy Score	Effort	Priority Owner	Champ
Updated & Aligned Boundary Data	Active			209	21	2.0935	10	3	2	2	2	$0	1	High	Preston Dowell	GIO
Parcel Data	Active			196	20	1.9595	10	3	2	2	2	$0	1	High	Alison Slaats	Kotz
Lidar Data	Active			189	21	2.095	9	3	2	2	1		1	High	Gerry Sjerven	GIO
Road Centerline Data	Active			187	19	1.8697	10	3	2	2	2	$0	1	High	MnGeo	GIO
MnGeo Image Service Improvements	Active			179	18	1.7903	10	3	2	2	2	$0	1	High	Alison Slaats	GIO
Critical Infrastructure Data Workflow	Active			169	17	1.6898	10	3	2	2	2	?	1	High	Stacey Stark	Swazee
Address Points Data	Active			168	17	1.6812	10	3	2	2	2	$0	1	High	MnGeo	GIO
Underground Utilities Data Sharing Team	Active			161	15	1.4602	11	3	2	2	2	$0	2	Med	Steve Swazee	Cederberg
U.S. National Grid Materials	Active			149	14	1.356	11	3	2	2	2	?	2	Med	Randy Knippel	Knippel
Geodata Archive Implementation	Active			143	16	1.5901	9	3	2	2	1	some	1	High	Ryan Mattke	many
Hydro-DEMs	Active			141	18	1.7641	8	3	2	2		some	1	High	Sean Vaughn	Many
Culvert Data Standard	Active			140	13	1.2725	11	3	2	2	2	$0	2	High	Rick Moore	Lord
Remonumentation of all Section Corners	Active			130	16	1.6239	8	3	2	2		some	1	High	Pat Veraguth	GIO
Success Stories for Geospatial Technology	Active			89	15	1.4813	6		2		2	$0	2	Med		
Geospatial Commons Advisory Group				78	16	1.559	5				2	$0	3	Low		
CJIS Data GIS Best Practices				62	12	1.2354	5	3				?	2	Med	Britta Maddox	
NG9-1-1 Geospatial Forum				60	15	1.5	4				2	$0	2	Med		
Parks Data Standard				55	14	1.369	4				2	$0	2	Med		
Summary Crime Data				52	10	1.0414	5	3				?	2	Med	Britta Maddox	
Basemap Services				51	17	1.7087	3		2			some	1	High		
Strategy Team for All Types of Imagery				37	18	1.8325	2					$0	2	Med		
Climate Projection Data				28	14	1.3875	2					?	2	Med		
State Business License Data				27	13	1.3317	2					?	2	Med		
Snow Emergency Parking Data Practices				19	9	0.9384	2					?	2	Med		
Street Parking Restrictions Data Standard				18	9	0.9058	2					?	2	Med		
Inventory of MN GeoData Assets				17	17	1.6737	1					?	1	High		

Discussion

Richter began the discussion by noting that priorities are worked on concurrently by different groups, and there is some cross-over of effort between some of the priorities. A priority of lower rank can be worked on if an owner and champion can be found. She asked the group whether the owners and champions were correctly identified in the table.

- Sjerven – Confirmed that funding exists for lidar acquisition
- Knippel – How do items get on the list? For example, the NG911 Geospatial Forum is on the list but needs a champion. Who proposed it? What did they do to recruit?
    - Richter – Items are proposed by people active on committees, GAC members, and feedback from a GAC member's sector.
- Reinhardt – She asks Ramsey County staff to review. If provided with supporting information, she can bring initiatives to county organizations such as the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) and the National Association of Counties (NaCO), especially in the areas of climate change and environmental issues.
- Knippel – Volunteered to take the lead to approach groups potentially interested in the NG911 Geospatial Forum, e.g., Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (MESB), Emergency Communication Network (ECN), and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS). He also noted that McGISA, a county GIS organization, is being rejuvenated and that the NG911 topic has come up.
- Stark – The Climate Projection Data item can be removed. It was included last year in order to help raise awareness that funding was needed for this initiative. The University of Minnesota now has direction to pursue this effort so the purpose was accomplished. In future, there may be a priority for inventorying and promoting data for climate change analysis.
- Richter – Noted that the GAC has already approved forming a Geospatial Commons Advisory Group and that it is rated as low effort; since a project is underway to assess the direction of future Commons development, it will be critical to have an advisory group representing the community.
- Richter – Reiterated that the priority score is guidance and that, within reason, the GAC can reorder the priorities.
- Dowell – Legislation to support the Remonumentation of All Section Corners is being introduced this session. State and national organizations support this, and State Senator Ann Johnson is willing to introduce it.
    - Reinhardt – Volunteered to help, but needs talking points for guidance and support.
    - Mavis – Would Reinhardt be willing to testify in front of relevant committees? The experts would provide the talking points.
    - Reinhardt – Yes.
- Richter – The Outreach Committee needs to be revitalized. It's technically active but recruitment is needed.

The final list of priorities at the end of the discussion:

Project or Initiative Name	Status
Lidar Data	Active
Updated & Aligned Boundary Data	Active
Parcel Data	Active
Road Centerline Data	Active
MnGeo Image Service Improvements	Active
Critical Infrastructure Data Workflow	Active
Address Points Data	Active
Underground Utilities Data Sharing Team	Active
U.S. National Grid Materials	Active
Geodata Archive Implementation	Active
Hydro-DEMs	Active
Culvert Data Standard	Active
Remonumentation of All Section Corners	Active
Success Stories for Geospatial Technology	Active/Recruitment underway
Geospatial Commons Advisory Group	Recruitment underway
CJIS Data GIS Best Practices	Recruitment underway
NG9-1-1 Geospatial Forum	Recruitment underway
Parks Data Standard	
Summary Crime Data	
Basemap Services	
Strategy Team for All Types of Imagery	
State Business License Data	
Snow Emergency Parking Data Practices	
Street Parking Restrictions Data Standard	
Inventory of MN GeoData Assets	

- **Motion**: Approve the GAC priorities list for 2022 (Mavis/Reinhardt) – Motion passed.

3. Announcements or Other Business

- Mavis – Anyone may get a call to support legislation as it works its way through the session.
- Reinhardt – Reiterated that she is willing to promote efforts to policy makers if she is given supporting information. If letters of support are needed, especially if the efforts concern looking for funding or getting data shared, send her a draft letter and she can talk with you further.
- Thomassie (in chat) – Surdex has an established relationship with Congressman Pete Stauber's office and we would be willing to help with any legislative items to support the collection of lidar/geospatial data to meet the state's requirements.
- Craig – The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) released its Geospatial Maturity Assessment report card for 2021, including a dashboard for another view of the results. Minnesota received an overall grade of A-
- Slaats – The position announcement for Minnesota's Chief Geospatial Information Officer and MnGeo Director is open through February 8.

4. Next Quarterly Meetings

- March 30, 10:00 – noon
- May 25, 10:00 – 1:00

5. Adjourn

Richter thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

- **Motion**: To adjourn meeting (Brandt/Reinhardt) – Motion passed.