MnGeo Statewide Geospatial Advisory Council

May 29, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Blazing Star Room, Centennial Office Building, 658 Cedar St., St. Paul, MN 55155

Attendees

<u>Members</u>: Brad Anderson, City of Moorhead; David Brandt, Washington County (for Terry Schneider); Will Craig, University of Minnesota (phone); Craig Erickson, Minnesota National Guard; Marcus Grubbs, Headwaters Regional Development Commission; Jon Gustafson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Blaine Hackett, Flat Rock Geographics; Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council; Doug Hansen, Crow Wing County; John Mackiewicz, WSB & Associates; Robert McMaster, University of Minnesota; Stephen Misterek, City of Minneapolis; Mark Olsen, MN Pollution Control Agency; Victoria Reinhardt, Ramsey County; Ben Richason, St. Cloud State University; Dan Ross, MnGeo; Kurt Schneidawind, Minnesota School Boards Association; Gerry Sjerven, Minnesota Power; Michelle Trager, Rice County; Sally Wakefield, SharedGeo.

<u>Non-Members</u>: Heather Bestler, MN Dept. of Revenue; Jason Ewert, MN Pollution Control Agency; Brad Henry, University of Minnesota; Fred Logman, MnGeo; Geoff Maas, Metropolitan Council; Carolyn Parnell, MN.IT; Nancy Rader, MnGeo; Ron Wencl, U.S. Geological Survey

Welcome

Reinhardt called the meeting to order. Mark Kotz is replacing Rick Gelbmann as the metro regional organization representative since Rick recently retired. Participants introduced themselves.

Minutes of November 28, 2012 Meeting

Motion to approve the November 28, 2012 council meeting minutes (Kotz/Gustafson). Motion carried.

2013 Legislative Session (slides 3-6)

The legislative session ended May 22. The following legislation was signed by Gov. Dayton on May 24 and will take effect August 1:

- **Housekeeping**: Changes were needed to reflect MnGeo's move from the Department of Administration to MN.IT Services. Some authorities that MnGeo had needed to operate are covered by MN.IT Services' legislation.
- **State Government Geospatial Advisory Council to sunset**: This council's functions will now be handled by the new Geospatial Technology Committee and by the consolidating geospatial functions of MN.IT. The council will meet once more before it is formally dissolved.
- **Data Sharing**: This legislation defines what is meant by "electronic geospatial data" and mandates that it be shared at no cost between government entities, subject to conditions specified in the legislation, including that this subdivision does not authorize the release of data that are not public data. House File 1390 is the version that passed and was signed by the Governor; Slide 5 shows text in red that was proposed in the Senate version but that did not pass. Despite not passing, the red text describes the intent by which this legislation will operate.

  Wakefield reminded members that data developed by projects funded by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources is supposed to be made publicly available. More proactive effort is needed to make this happen.

  Data Sharing Workgroup: Ross suggested forming a Data Sharing Workgroup to help address issues raised by this legislation. He noted that the Association of Minnesota Counties and the

League of Minnesota Cities are interested in helping. Members were supportive of the idea.

AMC Annual Conference Workshop
This item was added to the agenda at the meeting. Wakefield briefly described a workshop about the U.S. National Grid that SharedGeo would like to give at this year's Association of Minnesota Counties conference. However, only organizations with AMC members can submit workshop proposals. Would this council approve Reinhardt to submit the proposal on behalf of SharedGeo? The deadline is Friday, May 31. Members agreed.

ACTION ITEM: Wakefield will send the USNG workshop proposal to Reinhardt who will submit it on behalf of this council.

Open Appointments (slide 7)
This council's members are appointed using the Minnesota Secretary of State's Open Appointments process. The term for current members ends June 30, 2013. The next term runs for two years through June 30, 2015. All applicants except for At-Large must include a written endorsement from an organization in their sector. The deadline is June 28, 2013 or until positions are filled. For more information on the applications process, see the council's homepage.

Governor's Commendations (slide 8)
These awards honor organizations that have gone the extra mile to deliver products and services, improve government responsiveness, promote public access to information, and demonstrate the benefits of collaboration that encourage, by example, others to do the same. The application deadline this year is July 31, 2013. For more information, see the awards webpage.

Reinhardt asked for volunteers to review nominations and recommend which, if any, met the criteria and should be forwarded for further approval by the CGIO, CIO and Governor's Office. The following five members volunteered: Will Craig, Jon Gustafson, Doug Hansen, John Mackiewicz, and Steve Misterek.

Esri Master Purchase Agreement Update (slides 9-11)
Ross briefly described the features of Minnesota's Master Purchase Agreement with Esri which allows eligible organizations to purchase Esri software and services at essentially GSA pricing. The current contract does not include cloud or managed services since Esri could not currently meet state security requirements; if these are met in the future, the contract can be amended. Professional services are not included since rates are too high and there is not a substantial price break. The contract runs for another 14 months and will then be renegotiated. For more information, see the Cooperative Purchasing Opportunities webpage. Brandt and Trager both commented that the MPA has provided their counties with substantial savings.

Ross then noted that the Western States Contracting Alliance may provide other purchasing options and interested members should contact him. See handout for more information.

MnGeo Priority Projects and Initiatives (slides 12-21)
See slides and handout for descriptions and status of each of MnGeo's main priority projects (all projects are done in partnership with other organizations).

Additional comments:

Addresses
- Kotz announced the availability of a [web editing tool for address point data](#). The tool is intended to be hosted by counties and other organizations that want to facilitate the creation and maintenance of authoritative data for addresses. There will be a presentation about the tool at the October MN GIS/LIS Conference.

Air Photos
- Spring 2013 flights accomplished a great deal and should be available Fall 2013
- The Farm Service Agency will be flying [NAIP imagery](#) for Minnesota in Summer 2013.
- Google will be meeting with state representatives to share information about their new imagery program.
- Pictometry imagery is proprietary and not publicly available.
- MnGeo is beginning to look at establishing an on-going, sustainable acquisition program which partners can plan on and participate in.

Geospatial Commons
- Volunteers will be needed to test a beta version of the Commons in late summer 2013.
  ACTION ITEM: Members let Ross know if they are interested in volunteering to test.
- State geospatial staff will meet with the University of Minnesota's [U-Spatial](#) staff on June 11 to learn more about that effort and see how the Commons might align with their efforts.

LiDAR
- Two additional functions have recently been added to the viewer/custom download application:
  1. Downloaded data tiles will be mosaicked
  2. Open format options will be available for derived products

Street Centerlines
- For more information, see this [Centerline Initiative document](#).

Kotz suggested that more detailed documents be created for each of these projects (and any other collaborative project team) similar to what is being expected now from committees and workgroups. This would ensure that each group has a clear purpose, expectations, roles and outcomes, thus facilitating greater and more productive involvement in the project teams. This would help council members understand the purpose and expectations of committees, workgroups and projects and be more effective advisors and advocates.

Update: Committees and Workgroups ([slide](#) 22)
Logman reported that, in addition to the [Geospatial Committees and Workgroup Guide](#), a [charter template](#) is now available for each of MnGeo's committees and workgroups to use to create a charter. Kotz requested that section 1.a. of the guide have the following highlighted phrase added: "The State Chief Geospatial Information Officer (CGIO) will recommend to the Geospatial Technology Committee the formation of a committee or workgroup with advice from the ==MnGeo Statewide Geospatial Advisory Council and== geospatial community." All agreed.

ACTION ITEM: Update section 1.a. of the committee and workgroup guide as noted above.
ACTION ITEM: Committees and workgroups should draft their charter and then discuss it with Ross.

MnGeo's Parcel Project and Revenue's PRISM Project (Logman and Bestler) ([slides](#) 23-31)
Logman updated members on activities to start implementing the [Business Plan for Statewide Parcel Data Integration](#): the data sharing legislation covered above, ongoing public review of the proposed

[Digital Cadastral Attribute Data Transfer Standard](#); a draft license agreement for all state government, and a pilot test of the attribute transfer standard in the Arrowhead region.

Bestler gave an overview of the Department of Revenue's [PRISM](#) (Property Record Information System of Minnesota) project. The project's goals are to electronically collect data to the sub-parcel level, consolidate county data submissions from 9 current formats to one standard XML format, and improve reporting to Revenue, counties and other stakeholders.

Responses to member questions:
- All data included in PRISM is already public (homestead data, which is non-public, is not included).
- PRISM project staff have been collaborating extensively with tax and CAMA system vendors.

Updates: Member Sector Activities ([slides](#) 33-48)
Members were asked to submit a slide and a short description of their sector's recent activities and issues. See the slides and the [handout](#) of the descriptions.

Hot topic: PCA's Surface Water Environmental Data Application ([slides](#) 49-64)
Ewert provided an overview of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's new Surface Water Dashboard. The website presents PCA's vast amount of surface water data in terms that are understandable to the general public and also provides detailed data for those who need it. The site provides access to both current and historical data and links to related information at other agencies (e.g., a search for water quality in a specific lake will then link to that lake's information in DNR's LakeFinder site). The data is available as REST services so that other developers can incorporate the data into their applications and websites.

Ewert provided the following links for more information:
- [MPCA's Water Quality Dashboard](#)
- [MPCA's Surface Water data portal](#)
- [MPCA's REST API](#)
  - [An example of getting data in a csv format](#)
  - [An example of getting data as JSON](#)

Review of Past Two Years of the Council ([slides](#) 65-67)
There was insufficient time at the meeting to cover this topic, so members were encouraged to send their responses to the questions on the slides after the meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Logman will email questions to council members for their response.

Update: State Geospatial Governance Going Forward ([slides](#) 68-71)
There was no time at the meeting to cover this topic. See slides.

Information Items and Announcements
- **Next Statewide Council Meetings:** August 28 *(may need to be rescheduled)* and December 4, 2013.

- **Next State Government Council meeting:** This council will meet once more before it sunsets on August 1. Date to be determined.
  ACTION ITEM: Logman and Ross will schedule this meeting.

Meeting adjourned. Notes by Nancy Rader.