

**Meeting Notes**  
**County Data Producer Work Group**  
**Tuesday, August 31, 2004**  
**MN Counties Insurance Trust Bldg., St. Paul.**

Members Present: Dave Drealan - Chair (Carver County), Jim Hentges (Scott County), Jane Harper (Washington County), Bill Brown (Hennepin County), and Randy Knippel (Dakota County)

Members Absent: David Claypool (Ramsey County). No one has yet been assigned to take Gary Swenson's place (Anoka County)

Staff Present: Randall Johnson (MetroGIS)

**1. Summaries of March 31<sup>st</sup> June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2004 meetings**

No comments offered relative to either meeting summaries.

**2. Regional Policy for Parcel Data Access by Non-Profits / Community Groups**

Chairperson Drealan summarized the group's discussion at the last meeting. Will Craig, the proposer, concurred with the need for a definition of "nonprofit" that clearly distinguishes acceptable interests from those not acceptable to the counties. It was agreed that that concept proposed by Craig, which relied upon a nonprofit being a member of a validated/endorsed umbrella organization and having a board of directors comprised of local residents, was generally acceptable, though Knippel questioned if distinguishing among non-profits can be accomplished from a legal perspective. The group also acknowledged that Third Party License Agreements might be an option in some cases but also will not work in other cases.

After much discussion, it was decided that since the largest need for data access is among community groups located in Hennepin County, a pilot should be pursued there to refine policies that might serve as a basis for a future regional policies. Craig and Brown agreed to begin talks immediately. The group asked for regular updates to determine if any further action via MetroGIS is appropriate. The group also acknowledged that the cost of administering the licensing likely will never be recouped through cost recovery policies that apply to non-profits, and as such, cautioned that finding a balance is important.

**3. View-Only Access to Parcel Data – Next Phase of Implementation**

The Board's approval on July 28<sup>th</sup> to pursue this proposal, subject to approval from each county, was summarized. Knippel agreed to draft a cover letter and request approval from each county of the proposed policy via the sample letter or resolution shared with the Policy Board, less condition "1" since the application is now proposed to be password-protected. Knippel agreed that the cover letter would reference the 7/28 Board action and summarize the operational components of the proposal, including the proposed password protection, that the workgroup will decide who will have access to the password, and that the password will be changed from time to time.

**4. Next Generation Data Sharing Agreements – Public Sector and Academic Community & Online License**

The Staff Coordinator asked for a status report from each member regarding review of the proposed agreement. Carver County's legal review is in progress. Hentges and Harper reported that they wanted to wait until after this meeting before initiating their county's respective reviews and agreed to do so immediately following the meeting. Staff reported that Commissioner Kordiak had arranged for the Anoka County attorney to review the proposal and that the documents were sent to him last week. Johnson stated that he would contact Claypool immediately following the meeting.

The two unresolved issues were summarized by staff. The majority of the discussion focused on what to expect if the impasse can not be resolved. It was agreed that Chairperson Reinhardt should be involved in the negotiations to decide the next steps. Staff encouraged each county attorney to speak with Trudy Richter or Kathy Scott to ensure they understand the legal issues and basis for the disagreement.

**5. Updating TLG Centerline Data With County Parcel Data; Relationship to Metro 911 Board**

Due to limited time, this topic was deferred to the next meeting. Staff agreed to speak with the new Metro 911 Board GIS Coordinator for his thoughts on this opportunity.

**6. Discussion of the NAZCA Product – What is Happening at the various Counties and Relationship with MetroGIS**

As an information item, Chairperson Drealan briefly explained the purpose of the NAZCA product – one-stop means to retrieve a plethora of parcel-based information managed by counties - and commented that it looks like Carver County will be purchasing this product. Brown commented that the Hennepin County is also interested but has not been able to reach agreement on the fee structure. Brown also commented that Stearns County is in the process of beta testing an ArcIMS interface developed by PlanSight that supports initiating queries by geographic area as opposed to only via tabular data.

It was agreed to continue to monitor interest. Those familiar with the product noted they did not believe its use raise any policy conflicts with the data sharing policies promoted via MetroGIS, as the target audience appears to the real estate industry.

**7. Next Meeting**

It was agreed to meeting briefly before the next Coordinating Committee meeting if a need exists.

**8. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Submitted by,  
Randall Johnson, AICP  
MetroGIS Staff Coordinator