

Meeting Summary
MetroGIS Coordinating Committee
John Rose Skating Facility, Roseville
December 14, 2000

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Craig called the meeting to order at 9:45 p.m.

Members Present: *Academics:* Will Craig (U of M); *Business Geographics:* Steve Lehr (CB-Richard Ellis); *Cities:* Brad Henry (AMM - Minneapolis) and Dennis Welsch (Roseville); *Counties:* Dave Drealan (Carver); Gary Caswell for Patrick O'Connor (Hennepin), David Claypool (Ramsey), and Virginia Erdahl (Washington) and *Federal:* Ron Wencl (USGS); *Metropolitan:* Eli Cooper and Rick Gelbmann (Metropolitan Council); *State:* Joella Givens (MnDOT), and Les Maki (DNR), *Watershed/Water Management Organizations:* Cliff Aichinger (Ramsey-Washington-Metro Watershed District).

Members Absent: *Counties:* Jim Hentges (Scott), Ed Shukle (Anoka), and Gary Stevenson (Dakota); *GIS Consultants:* Larry Charboneau (The Lawrence Group); *Non-Profits:* David Piggott (Metro East Economic Development Partnership); *Schools:* Lee Whitcraft (TIES); *State:* David Arbeit (LMIC); and *Utilities:* Alan Srock (NSP).

Support Staff: Randall Johnson and Theresa Foster

Visitors: John Connelly, co-chair Technical Advisory Team; and Chris Cialek, Mn Land Management Information Center (LMIC).

2. ACCEPT AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as proposed. Chairperson Craig asked Joella Givens, MnDOT's Metro Region GIS Coordinator, to introduce herself. Joella is the new MnDOT representative, replacing Dave Gorg. Each of the other Committee members introduced themselves.

3. ACCEPT MEETING SUMMARY

Erdahl moved and Aichinger seconded to approve the minutes for the Committee's September 28, 2000 meeting, as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

4. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) NSSDA Best Management Practice

Wencl, liaison to the Technical Advisory Team, summarized the Technical Advisory Team's recommendation that MetroGIS promote use of this standard among its stakeholders and introduced Chris Cialek, LMIC and Chair Standards Committee of the Governor's Council on Geographic Information (GCGI), who explained the National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy (NSSDA) and summarized the contents of the explanatory handbook that his GCGI Committee produced.

The State of Minnesota has adopted this federal NSSDA standard and Minnesota state agencies are expected to use it. MnDOT is leading an effort to develop and standardize "higher accuracy data" that could be used throughout the state as the baseline for computation of the NSSDA statistic by anyone who wished to use it to measure the accuracy of any of their particular data holdings.

Mr. Cialek thanked MetroGIS for considering endorsement of the NSSDA. Henry commented that the City of Minneapolis is using the NSSDA to test the accuracy of digital orthoimagery they receive from their vendor. He commented that this technical is proving to be an invaluable quality control technique that has increased confidence in their data.

Wencl moved and Henry seconded that the Coordinating Committee recommend that the MetroGIS Policy Board adopt Minnesota Standard 19, Version 1: *A Methodology for Measuring and Reporting*

Positional Accuracy in Spatial Data as a “Best Management Practice” for use by all MetroGIS stakeholders. Motion carried, ayes all.

b) 2001 Work Plans

(1) Technical Advisory Team

Technical Advisory Team Co-Chair Connelly summarized the Team’s proposed work program for 2001. The group agreed that the Annual Participant Survey (page 12 of packet) should be revised to add the following language “Assist and evaluate, in conjunction with the Policy Advisory Team...” and to ask the Team to modify the proposed forum date for the Census Geography Information Need (page 15) to coincide with the Metropolitan Council’s project schedule (e.g. delivery of the regional 1990 census geography dataset in January 2001 and holding a Peer Review Forum after the delivery of the regional 2000 census geography dataset which is expected to occur by January 2002.)

Henry moved and Caswell seconded to approve the Technical Advisory Team’s proposed 2001 work plan, as presented in the staff report dated December 4, 2000, subject to the changes agreed upon at this meeting. Motion carried, ayes all.

(2) Policy Advisory Team

Policy Advisory Team Chair Erdahl summarized the Team’s proposed work program for 2001 and commented on the progress of the Request for Proposals for a Professional Services Consultant.

Caswell moved and Givens seconded to approve the Policy Advisory Team proposed 2001 work plan, as presented in the staff report dated November 30, 2000. Motion carried, ayes all.

(Note: as part of the discussion of Item 4e, Accomplishments, the Committee concluded that the June 2002 target completion date for the marketing and outreach component of the Business Plan Update should be accelerated.)

To accommodate Member Erdahl’s schedule, Agenda Item’s “f” and “g” were considered before “c”, “d”, and “e”.

f) Regional Parcel Dataset – Academic and Non-Profit Access Policy

Policy Advisory Team Chair Erdahl summarized the Team’s November 29, 2000 recommendation and its reasoning that academic interests should be treated as if government interests and that non-profit interests should be treated as if for-profit interests concerning access to the regional parcel dataset.

Erdahl moved and Aichinger seconded to recommend that the Policy Board:

- 1) Adopt a policy that academic interests should be treated as if government interests and that non-profit interests should be treated as if for-profit interests concerning access to the regional parcel dataset.
- 2) Seek written acceptance of this policy from each of the seven counties, the primary producers of parcel data that will be assembled into the regional dataset.

Caswell suggested that the group consider expanding this recommendation to apply to all regional datasets. The group discussed the merits of this suggestion and agreed that, in general, it supports academic interests being treated the same as government interests but decided the best course for the time being is to direct the Policy Advisory to consider the appropriateness of treating academic interests the same as government interests on a case-by-case basis concerning dataset access policy. Consequently, the Committee decided to support the motion as recommended by the Policy Advisory Team, limiting it to the Regional Parcel Dataset.

Motion to approve the original motion as recommended by the Policy Advisory Team carried ayes all.

g) Regional MCD/County Jurisdictional Boundaries Dataset – Non-Government Sector Access

Policy Advisory Team Chair Erdahl summarized the Team's November 29, 2000, its reasoning and recommendation that non-government interests should be permitted access to the Regional MCD/County Jurisdictional Boundaries Dataset without fee and without licensure.

Gelbmann commented that the MetroGIS' effort to align/synchronize regional datasets is beginning to be recognized as a major benefit by the user community. These interrelationships between the priority regional datasets also are having an impact in terms of the need for database design that is sensitive to multiple intellectual property right claims. He thanked the counties for agreeing to waive their rights and allow this dataset to be distributed to all that may want it. This action will substantially simplify database design and distribution requirements.

Caswell moved and Erdahl seconded to recommend that the Policy Board:

- 1) Adopt a policy that non-government interests should have access to the Regional MCD/County Jurisdictional Boundaries Dataset without fee and without licensure.
- 2) Seek written acceptance of this policy from each of the seven counties, the primary producers of MCD/County Jurisdictional Boundary data that will be assembled into the regional dataset.

c) 2001 Meeting Schedule

Wencl moved and Claypool seconded to set March 15, June 14, September 13, and December 13 as the Committee's meeting dates for 2001 and reaffirm the 9:30 a.m. meeting start time. Motion carried, ayes all.

The group asked staff to schedule meetings at the Mosquito Control district when possible. If the Mosquito Control District is not available, they asked for the meeting to be held in Roseville or LMIC in that order.

d) January 10, 2001 Policy Board GIS Demonstration Topic

The staff explained that at its September meeting the Committee had suggested demonstrating how GIS and census geography are used for redistricting. The group reaffirmed its September decision.

Rick Gelbmann, Metropolitan Council GIS Supervisor, agreed to demonstrate the regional 1990 census geography dataset that the Council has developed in cooperation with MetroGIS. Chairperson Craig agreed to speak with Lee Meilleur, Legislative GIS Office coordinator, to demonstrate how GIS technology will be used for the redistricting.

e) 2000 Accomplishments

Chairperson Craig commented that MetroGIS has accomplished much in the past year. Henry suggested that beginning in 2001, more emphasis should be placed on talking with stakeholder organizations about the data-related activities of MetroGIS and about how stakeholders are using GIS and GIS products to support their business needs. It was agreed that the June 2002 target completion date for the marketing and outreach component proposed as part of the Business Plan Update should be accelerated.

Chairperson Craig also mentioned that we should take advantage of the printed news media to promote MetroGIS' accomplishments, with the goal of improving understanding of MetroGIS among elected officials.

No additions or modifications were made to the list of accomplishments presented in the agenda materials.

f) Planned Future Land Use Access Policy Proposal Update

Rick Gelbmann, Metropolitan Council GIS Supervisor, explained the methodology his staff is using to develop the Regional Planned Future Land Use Dataset as a pilot for MetroGIS. The method involves alignment of the Planned Future Land Use polygons with parcel data, where intended to be coterminous,

and testing of the coding scheme developed by MetroGIS based upon a pilot coding scheme developed by the I-35W Corridor Coalition. Gelbmann also noted that it is the Council's intention to make the dataset comprised of individual community planned land use designation and the aggregated/summarized regional dataset, with a common coding scheme, available to all interests who may want them without fee and without licensure, even though it is very likely that it may qualify for cost recovery of the data development costs. The latter intention is one of the reasons for bring the topic before the Committee at this time. The Council will also be working with the individual communities that supplied digital data to seek their permission to widely distribute the dataset.

Once the individual communities have checked the coding, both datasets are planned to be made available. The error checking should be complete by March 2001. The Peer Review is scheduled for May 2001. Chairman Craig suggested that the when the Council submits its coding for error checking to the communities that the intention to widely distribute this dataset via the Internet should be clearly communicated to the communities.

Staff commented that a topic for discussion at the Peer Review Forum will be the concept pioneered by the I-35W Coalition to utilize the same coding scheme for existing and planned land use. The Coalition has found that substantially enriched analysis is possible when existing and planned land use the same coding scheme. Due to lack of time, Chairperson Craig asked that the Committee not comment on this concept at this time.

Chairperson Craig stated that he believes "planned" and "future" are redundant terms and suggested dropping "future". It was agreed to defer to the Peer Review Forum all suggested additions and modifications related to this dataset. The Staff Coordinator also explained that the Committee's seven county representatives have agreed that the counties do not have an intellectual property claim against this dataset, as a result of aligning the land use polygons to parcel boundaries, because the users can not get back to the complete parcel dataset thorough this dataset.

This item will not go to the Policy Board for action until following the Peer Review Forum. At that time, approval will be sought for the regional coding scheme, primary and regional custodian designations and custodian responsibilities.

5. INFORMATION SHARING

There was no discussion of the other items presented in the staff report.

Virginia Erdahl informed the Committee that she will be retiring effect March 1, 2001 and that this will be her last Committee meeting. She was wished well and thanked for her contributions to move MetroGIS from concept to reality and for her leadership, that has forwarded GIS policy and activities within Washington County.

6. NEXT MEETING

March 15, 2001. Starting at 9:30 a.m.

7. ADJOURN

Henry moved and Givens seconded to adjourn at 11:30 a.m.

Prepared by,

Randall L. Johnson, AICP
MetroGIS Staff Coordinator