

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Minutes

Approved

Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 1:15 pm – 3:15 pm

Microsoft Teams Meeting



Attendees:

Tami Maddio, City of Eagan

Chad Riley, Carver County

Jeff Matson, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, University of Minnesota

Matt Baker, MAC

Andra Mathews, MnDOT

Catherine Hansen, DNR

Randy Knippel, Dakota County

Marcia Broman, Metro Emergency Services Board

Carrie Magnuson, Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District

Jessi Wyatt, Great Plains Institute

Dan Ross, MnGeo

Tony Monsour, Scott County

Erik Dahl, MnEQB, Chair

David Brandt, Washington County, Vice Chair

Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council

Nancy Read, Metro Mosquito Control District

Jesse Reinhardt, Hennepin County

John Slusarczyk, Anoka County

Dan Tinklenberg, SRF Consulting Group

Jessica Fendos, LOGIS

Geoff Maas, Ramsey County

Guests:

Lee Meilleur, Legislative Coordinating Commission

Galen Sjostrom, MnDOT

Joseph Mueller, MnDOT

Tanya Mayer, Metropolitan Council

Jon Hoekenga, Metropolitan Council

Sean Murphy, Metropolitan Council

Matt McGuire, Metropolitan Council

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Erik Dahl at 1:15

Agenda Approval

Matt McGuire requested to swap agenda items 5 and 6, and to add a "new members" sub-section to the new item 5.

Dave Brandt motioned to approve agenda

Randy Knippel seconded the motion.

Motion passes

Approve Minutes

Brandt motion to approve minutes

Knippel Second to approve minutes

Motion passes

Census 2020

Lee Meilleur presented a PowerPoint about the LCC's role and 2020 Census and Redistricting Schedule

Works closely with Brad Neuhauser at Sec of State

Tanya Mayer asks if software is Maptitude.

Meilleur answers: Yes

Brandt asks how data gets to state.

Meilleur answers: It goes to Secretary of State, they work with Cities

Dan asks about Judges creating boundaries and how data is delivered.

Meilleur answers: MnGeo has been setting up comparisons between centerlines and precinct boundaries (with SOS?). Then they work with Counties to correct anything that needs to be corrected.

Brandt asks if they ask extra fields to block data.

Meilleur answers: Yes, they add the election data.

State of MetroGIS

GAC Seat

Brandt is interested in continuing on the GAC. He needs an endorsement.

Knippel motioned to have Brandt continue.

Read seconded.

Motion passes. Brandt will continue to be on the GAC.

Coordinator Position Status

McGuire says that the Council is still committed to the function of MetroGIS. However, the IS department is in flux, staffing wise. The Coordinator status is not filled, and may not be filled with a single dedicated position.

Online Collaboration

McGuire shares that we have a MetroGIS Teams pilot. He asks if we should use Teams or another platform, like Google.

There is some support for Google, but many can't access the Google platform.

Consensus is to try Teams.

Matt proposed bring a few more people into the Teams Pilot. No motion.

Fendos volunteered to be part of the pilot.

Discussion of future meetings and in person.

CC voted in an online poll.

Poll results (see image below):

66% would prefer to meet online sometimes and in person.

33% would prefer to meet only online.

2 people not at the meeting expressed an in-person only preference.

Brief discussion on how best to conduct meetings online with some good points about how we should conduct voting in the future.

- Voting can be done with hands
- Voting can be done with likes
- Verbal voting can be done only by asking for no votes/nays - assumption is that most people are voting yea/aye.

New Members

Jessica Fendos will be the new seat-holder for LOGIS.

Matt McGuire will be the new seat-holder for Metropolitan Council.

Geoff Maas advised that by-laws give Counties, LOGIS and Metropolitan Council automatic seats.

Workplan Review

McGuire walked through the current status of MetroGIS Projects as set in Fall of 2019.

Statewide Road Centerlines & Migration to Standard

We've made progress here. Jon Hoekenga talked about the new Legacy Street Name Fields adopted in the Road Centerline and Address Point standard. He added that we will soon be done with the Cartoclass field.

We also have been publishing the Road Centerlines to ESRI's Community Maps (see external platform publishing).

Metro Stormwater Geodata Project (MSWGP)

Geoff Maas says that they put out a document for public review in spring of 2020 and collected 19 pages of comments.

Project steering committee met online in March via Zoom. They made suggestions to revise the standard, and will be reviewed publicly again. They hope to go before the GAC standards committee by the end of the year.

Metro Park and Trail Standard and Data

Parks and Trails did get pushed up to the Geocommons. Jesse Reinhardt will ask Alex for an update and get it to us.

Parks and Trail Data is scheduled to be updated in July (Hoekenga). A twice a year update cycle

Dave Brandt is updating data, but it is a low priority, high effort data update. Washington County uses it for 911 response, so it is important.

911 Regional Data Viewer

Marcia says MESB uses the viewer data. It shows the most current version of the data in between downloads when they do batch data validations.

Marcia and Matt have had discussions about changes down the road.

Increased Frequency of Regional Parcel Dataset

We've talked about an automated process to submit parcel data, but it hasn't been a high enough priority to move to increase frequency.

Knippel believes this is on his to do list as something to discuss in the MetroGIS County Data Producers Work Group meeting.

External Platform Publishing

Met Council is contributing data to ESRI's community basemap. Met Council staff has figured out how to combine two sources of data for ESRI vector basemaps. ESRI has a commercial data source that appears in most of their basemaps, and the community basemap source which appears in some of their basemaps. With some tweaking you can create a styled basemap composed of some community basemap sourced data - such as our Road Centerlines - with the remainder of the datasets coming from ESRI's commercial data source.

Knippel has on his to do list to add an agenda item about providing data to Google to the next MetroGIS County Data Producers Workgroup.

Best Practices Guides

Nancy Read says that the best practices guides are likely to be the most difficult thing to get done without a Council Staff member.

McGuire editorialized that both previous MetroGIS Coordinators will be hard to follow up even if we did have a full-time staff member.

Read suggested a workflow with a shared document. [ed: Which would fit well in the Teams scenario above]

Maas said that he has a lot of compiled information and has material that can be used in a best practices document.

Maas explained the utility for a document like this and advocated for keeping it on the workplan.

Kotz wrote in the meeting chat,

"The GAC Standards Committee would also like to see best practices guide exist for key standards like parcels and roads, but so far no one has volunteered to work on those things."

McGuire will focus on getting the MetroGIS Team up and running and provide a place where people can provide the material they have. And we can try to move toward a finish product from there.

GIS Data Provisioning for NextGen9-1-1

MESB continues its work with Data producers in the Metro. This project aims to bring some formality in documentation to what that flow would be from address road creation through the regional datasets into the state-wide processes and ultimately to the NextGen9-1-1 core services vendor. A lot of that is dependant on things getting worked out at a state level. We're not to a point where that is entirely clear yet.

Still a proposed need to connect our regional processes to a state-wide process for centerlines and address point datasets as well as feed into state wide NextGen9-1-1 core services. Beyond the work that MESB does naturally in that particular arena.

Would like to keep it as a stated need until things become more clear at a state level.

Ash Tree Detection Pilot for Emerald Ash Borer

Brandt says Washington County is actively working on ash tree inventory/re-doing our tree inventory. County board is still interested, but he doesn't know a champion for that effort.

Knippel asked what the currently established frequency of MetroGIS Parcel Updates is.

Hoekenga answered, "Quarterly".

Project Funding Detection

Brand raised the issue that last year, there were no MetroGIS projects requesting funding. Now there is discussion about Lidar and participating in the Federal and State 3DEP Lidar collect. There will most likely be a request for support in funding.

We also heard at our last meeting from the Metro Conservation Network. We expect them to ask for funding.

Brandt asks, how will we handle the decision on what to do with our funding?

Knippel noted that Counties are both major contributors and beneficiaries of these efforts, and would prefer that we don't compete against ourselves. Knippel also noted that the Lidar effort is much more time sensitive.

Knippel advocates for directing funding towards Lidar now and contribute to MLCCS later.

Brandt put a link to our project proposal form and advocates for following our project.

Read asks if we still have a budget.

McGuire answers, yes, we have a budget of \$50,000. About half of it goes to the counties for the work of creating the regional datasets.

Maas clarifies that there should be \$22,000 available for projects that support regional needs.

Maas says that we expect counties to be expected to provide about 30% of funding for Lidar.

McGuire says that we will need to update the page, "<https://metrogis.org/projects/Project-Templates.aspx>" with a deadline.

Knippel asks if we know if we can commit funds from this year to the Lidar project next year.

Ross says that on the state side, the state can hold the money.

Mark Kotz says that we will have to ask our procurement folks.

Knippel says that the County Data Producer Workgroup will submit a proposal.

McGuire says that to answer the question of how we will make a decision, we will need more than one project proposals submitted from CC members. When we get more than one, we will follow the steps as outlined on the MetroGIS Project Submittal and Approval Process.

E911 Data Portal

Broman gave some background that currently the MetroGIS Road Centerline and Address Point datasets that are used for NextGen9-1-1 data validations are submitted by the Metro County data producers to a CKAN portal hosted by MnGeo. Hoekenga validates and aggregates these datasets nightly prior to posting to the Minnesota Geospatial Commons. That CKAN portal has been labeled the "NG911 Portal" likely due to the use of the funding that supported being stood up originally. That portal has been used for non-NextGen911 data submission and aggregation such as the regional parcel and parks and trails datasets. It is also used by some non-Metro counties for uploading their parcel data for the statewide parcel data as well.

Over the last six months, there have been a couple of indications from MnGeo and ECN of potential changes that could affect the submission of 911 datasets down the road.

1. A state NextGen911 hub site that might incorporate data submission and download
2. ECN and MnGeo have been working with 1Spatial and their one data gateway product and some other products which would also allow data upload functionality.

MESB and Metro folks would want to be involved in any future

McGuire, Hoekenga and Maas connected recently and determined there is nothing to do at the moment, but it might be a good time to start a discussion about how we would like to see this go down the road. A couple of questions:

1. Should we formalize an agreement between MetroGIS and MnGeo regarding existing CKAN portal use?
2. Is there interest in migrating to portal or some other place for data submission for MetroGIS?

Maas - obviously the regional datasets are one of the main reasons that this collaborative exists. We want to ensure that they can be maintained with minimal amount of labor. A portal is a key piece of that. If things are going to change, we need to think about how we are going to keep that going.

Ross - The CKAN portal is getting old in the tooth. It is not a technology that MnGeo likely plans to keep going forward, but it isn't something we are planning on removing right now either. Suggest we document what is needed and look at a more modern technology that MnGeo may be interested in supporting or a federated solution. ArcGIS Portal federation might be an opportunity for the Metro to share more easily going forward.

911 is going a different direction in the future, and we need this data hub/aggregation tool for other reasons. Internally, state agencies are going towards portal.

McGuire - When you say CKAN are you talking about the Geocommons? Is there a timeline for retiring it?

Ross Answered: Commons is already 7 years old as well. We will need to talk about that with the commons workgroup.

McGuire asks who is using Portal.

Reinhardt - Hennepin County has moved to Portal.

Monsour (via chat) - Scott County uses portal.

Fendos (via chat) - Portal to portal is the way to go.

Nancy Read (via chat) - We would need a non-Esri way to contribute.

Magnuson (via chat) Ramsey-Washington Watershed does not have portal. Unsure about other Watershed Districts.

Ross says to keep in mind that you don't have to have Portal to participate. He is not expecting anyone to go out and buy Portal. We could probably have a MnGeo shared space for those that don't have it. For those that do, we could set up a federation.

Ross would be willing to assign a business analyst to document needs.

McGuire will put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Lighting Round Update

Jessica Fendos

Two topics:

1. Logis supports 8 member cities in 4 counties. Most cities follow county redistricting efforts. Would like to know what county plans for redistricting are
2. Broadband - Logis would like to team up with anyone building fiber network data structures

Reinhardt offers (via chat) to talk to Fendos offline about both topics.

Andra Mathews resigns from MetroGIS and introduces Joseph Muller and Galen Sjostrom as possible replacements for her newly vacated State agency seat. The process is to submit a letter which the CC can consider.

Knippel reminds the group of the Metro County Data Producers Workgroup that meets monthly. If you have anything you would like the County GIS Managers to talk about, you can ask Knippel to put it on the agenda.

Knippel is an FA certified drone pilot and is on the County Sheriff's Drone Team. Knippel would like to compare notes with anyone else who is doing that.

Chair Dahl says that he would like to talk about what Maas mentioned in the chat that it might be good to revisit the specific function of MetroGIS at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

Chair Dahl proposes a motion that we do a similar poll to figure out what dates work for people.

Action: Matt will create a Doodle Poll for the next meeting.

Chair Dahl motions to adjourn

Jessie Wyatt seconds
Motion Passes, meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM