



North Carolina Geographic Information Coordinating Council

Minutes

August 23, 2023

PROCEEDINGS

The council held its quarterly meeting in the Albemarle Building, 325 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, and via Webex.

Welcome and Chair Announcements

Hope Morgan called the meeting to order at 1pm.

This meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Meetings law, Chapter 143, Article 33C (Meetings of Public Bodies).

She introduced Jonathan Shaw, DIT General Counsel, to review the state ethics statement below with the committee:

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Council member to avoid both conflicts of interest and the appearances of conflict.

If any Council member has any known conflict of interest or is aware of facts that might create the appearance of such conflict, with respect to any matters coming before the Council today, please identify the conflict or the facts that might create the appearance of a conflict to ensure that any inappropriate participation in that matter may be avoided.

If at any time, any new matter that raises a conflicts issue arises during the meeting, please be sure to identify it at that time.

Council members should exercise appropriate caution in the performance of their public duties should conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest related to issues that come before the Council. This would include recusing themselves to the extent that their interests would influence or could reasonably appear to influence their actions.

Ms. Morgan introduced the newest council member, Marty McCracken, the designee for the Department of Justice. She reminded in-person members to sign in through the QR code link for attendance. She also reminded members about the planned data topic meetings scheduled for immediately after the council meeting and provided logistical information about topics and location.

Remarks from NSGIC Executive Director

John Jordan the executive director of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) was invited to provide insights on potential collaboration at the national level. Mr. Jordan discussed the upcoming NSGIC annual conference scheduled for September 25-29 in New Orleans. The speaker highlighted the intense agenda and valuable knowledge-sharing that takes place at these conferences, with an expectation of over 200 attendees for the upcoming event.

Mr. Jordan mentioned the formation of a 501(c)(3) foundation to apply for more grant opportunities, as well as the appointment of a new executive director for this foundation. Additionally, three board members, including Tim Johnson, were selected to be part of the founding board for the 501(c)(3) foundation.

Approval of May 17 Meeting Minutes

The May 17 meeting minutes were approved as written.

Update from State Geographic Information Officer

Tim Johnson provided an update on recent activities and initiatives related to geospatial data coordination and planning. The key points covered are as follows:

Response to Questionnaires: Mr. Johnson announced that since the last council meeting, CGIA has responded to two major questionnaires. The first questionnaire, called the "Geospatial Maturity Assessment," assesses the condition of states concerning the coordination and implementation of framework data sets. North Carolina scored an A- in the 2021 survey and expects to improve that score this year. The second survey, the NSDI (National Spatial Data Infrastructure) survey, was conducted by various organizations including NSGIC as well as the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), assesses data availability, data status, and awareness in each state. The goal is to gain a comprehensive understanding of how individuals perceive and understand geospatial data.

Investment Recommendations: Mr. Johnson announced that the council will be able to consider recommending investments that the state should make based on the goals discussed. He mentioned three potential investment areas:

- Building Footprints: NCEM needs funds to maintain this important dataset.
- Elevation Data: The council is working on a business plan for investing in elevation data, with the goal of defining the necessary steps and funding.
- Hydrography Data: The council is also defining the requirements for investing in hydrography data to support various stakeholders in the state.

Mr. Johnson encouraged participants to consider these investment needs as they move forward with their geospatial data coordination efforts.

Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform (FLAIR) Act

Gary Thompson introduced John Bird, a legislative liaison and federal lobbyist for the National Society of Professional Surveyors. Mr. Bird presented on the FLAIR Act, a federal law related to property inventory, and its overlap with the [MAPLand Act](#). He emphasized that both bills were signed into law in the same Congress.

Mr. Bird explained that the FLAIR Act, officially known as the Federal Land Asset Inventory Reform Act, aims to create a current and accurate inventory of federal land owned by the Department of Interior and the US Forest Service. He mentioned that the bill was initially an authorization bill but was added to an appropriations bill and signed into law in late December. Mr. Bird discussed the need for the bill, citing past reports by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) highlighting the lack of an accurate federal property inventory.

The presentation outlined key provisions of the FLAIR Act, including the development of a multipurpose federal database, conducting an inventory of inventories, and coordination with state and local agencies. Mr. Bird also mentioned the relevance of the FLAIR Act to various federal initiatives, such as infrastructure investments, broadband mapping, and wildfire mitigation.

He provided specific references to where the FLAIR Act can be found in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2023.

Council Priorities for the 2023-2025 Biennium

Council goals and priorities previously discussed at prior meetings and at the M&O were adopted as final by the Council by vote.

ASPRS Positional Accuracy Standards

In this presentation, the speaker discusses the need to update positional accuracy standards. They mention that the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) has been working on these standards, which are important for various goals at both the state and federal levels in North Carolina. The presentation highlights the release of a new version of these standards, and the audience is encouraged to review them.

The main points covered are:

Gary Thompson, GICC Vice Chair told the council that the current standards for positional accuracy, specifically related to Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) positions, are under revision by ASPRS. The new standards are more up to date with technology and may have significant differences from the previous ones.

The GIS community is urged to examine existing policies and projects that reference the FGDC positions and consider whether they should be updated to align with the new standards. Training is available to understand the changes in positional accuracy standards, and Mr. Thompson encouraged council members to inform their community members about this opportunity.

Committee Reports

Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee: Paul Badr provided an update on SMAC's July 12 meeting. The 2023 orthoimagery project is in full swing in the southern mountain areas which includes 21 counties. Four-band imagery will be developed and will result in the entire State of North Carolina having the fourth band. County training on the QC tool occurred July 18. The 2024 project was recently approved by the 911 Board. This will start the fourth cycle of imagery for the State beginning in late January. Drafting of the North Carolina business plan for elevation data is well underway and case studies have been documented in the introduction and economic impact sections. Things are on track to produce the final plan for SMAC review in December 2023 with discussion at the January 2024 meeting. If approved, it will be forwarded to the GICC for its February 2024 quarterly meeting consideration.

Parcels update: A total of 77 counties have uploaded their current data to the parcel transformer for Q2 and Q3 of 2023. Committee discussion centers around those attributes that should be required, recommended, or optional. A meeting was held on June 29 for the committee to discuss all 65 attribute fields in the parcel data. Another meeting will follow. The group continues to provide outreach and recent workshop where Chair, Katie Doherty, expressed the importance of county participation and keeping this data.

Municipal boundaries update: 28 municipal boundaries have been approved and 27 annexations have been submitted. Thus far there have been a total of 41 updates to existing boundaries in the system. Outreach efforts continue through the Secretary of State's Office.

Building footprints update: CGIA has continued to supply the AI or machine learning generated footprints for emergency management for QC. All of phase 1 has been completed, including counties from Hertford, Greene, Duplin, Columbus and eastward. It is the hope that phase 2 will be completed by the end of August. The goal is to perform yearly updates to coincide with new orthoimagery releases from the statewide orthoimagery program.

Technical Advisory Committee: Matt Helms reported that the committee last met on July 24 to review the infrastructure report and to discuss big data topics such as definition, scope of work, and ETL software. The committee will also identify datasets that fall into the big data category.

Local Government Committee: Natalie Walton-Corbett shared that the committee met on May 31. The committee voted in a new representative from the American Public Works Association. The committee covered the 2022 data updates and how it will affect local governments. The census data schedule and census data challenges were shared to know what local governments were experiencing. The committee will meet again to receive an update on the NC Flood Blueprint Project.

Federal Interagency Committee: Jeremy Baynes provided an update that the committee met on June 5. This meeting aimed to raise interest in federal datasets and provided a forum for people to listen in on upcoming advancements and new data information. Doug Newcombe presented his work on Lidar as well. The committee is looking to grow membership and interest.

State Government GIS Users Committee: Melanie Williams reported that the SGUC executive committee met in June where they discussed setting up a work group to look at authoritative badging for ArcGIS Online and how to best handle those authoritative tags. The committee is looking to have a “map day” in the legislative building within the year.

The SGUC general meeting occurred in July. The agency spotlight presentations were provided by CGIA to talk about the building footprints and updates to AddressNC. Also, an Esri representative discussed how to get public and internal users to use the electronic tools available. The committee is starting conversations on the Esri Enterprise Licensing Agreement.

Management & Operations Meeting: Hope Morgan shared that the meeting conversations revolved around the planning and topics to be shared at today’s council meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. Morgan gave a summary of the breakout groups that were occurring after the council meeting. She thanked the council members and adjourned the meeting at 2:30 PM. The final quarterly meeting of the GICC will be on November 1.

Council Member Attendance

LastName	FirstName	Present	Agency/Organization	Proxy
Averett	Steve	Yes	City of Greensboro	
Badr	Paul	Yes	GPI, Geospatial Division	
Baker	David		NC Association of County Commissioners	
Barron	Amy	Yes	Duke Energy	
Baynes	Jeremy	Yes	US EPA	
Clifton	Kathryn	Yes	Davidson County	
Coats	Bob	Yes	Office of State Budget & Management	
Dowdy	Jason	Yes	CACI, Inc	
Duncan	Stan	Yes	Retired, State and Local Government	
Enright	Dianne		Department of Health & Human Services	
Forslin	Kristian	Yes	NC Railroad Company	
Grantham	Dean	Yes	Department of Environmental Quality	
Halls	Joanne	Yes	UNC Wilmington	
Harris	Pokey		NC 911 Board	
Hedley	Jason	Yes	Stewart Engineering	
Helms	Matthew	Yes	Charlotte Water	
Kempton	Dan		Department of Information Technology	
Koonts	Sarah	Yes	Department of Natural and Cultural Resources	
Marshall	Elaine F.	Yes	Office of Secretary of State	Rich Elkins
McCracken	Marty	Yes	Department of Justice	
Morgan	Hope	Yes	AECOM	
Nida	Chris	Yes	NC League of Municipalities	
Pfeiffer-Haynes	Haley		Department of Administration	
Sandoval	Allan	Yes	Department of Commerce	
Shankle	Bill		Tri South Commercial Realty	
Serkin	Allen	Yes	Cape Fear Council of Governments	
Simpson	Tony		Department of Revenue	Michael Connolly
Tate	Brooks		NC Utilities Commission	
Thompson	Gary	Yes	Department of Public Safety	
Thurman	Linda	Yes	UNC Charlotte	
Vose	Christian		Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	
Walton-Corbett	Natalie	Yes	Greenville - LGC representative	
Williams	Melanie	Yes	NCDEQ - SGUC Chair	
Wilson	Eric	Yes	Department of Transportation	
Wrenn	Vanessa		Department of Public Instruction	