

Geographic Information Coordinating Council
MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

April 10, 2017

1:00 to 3:00 PM

Center for Geographic Information and Analysis
301 North Wilmington Street, 7th Floor
Room 770A

MINUTES

1. Chair Stan Duncan welcomed Bob Brinson, John Cox (for John Farley), Bob Coats, Doug Newcomb, Tim Johnson, Joe Sewash, Luis Carrasco, Jeff Brown and on the phone Kathryn Clifton.
2. Minutes of the March 13, 2017 meeting of the Management and Operations Committee were approved for adoption as submitted.
3. Quick Updates

a. AddressNC

Joe Sewash reported the *AddressNC* project is in the planning stage for the DIT Touchdown system. The project is coordinating with the NC 911 Board staff on Next Generation 911, and coordinating with NCDOT on roads and centerlines. At the national level, the Federal Geographic Data Committee's addressing subcommittee meets April 13. North Carolina and Minnesota are represented on a sub working group to identify value propositions and user stories for state local data contributions. Requirements will be integrated into the requirements of the National Address Database.

Mr. Sewash explained that nationwide, the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) is working on legislation for Next Generation 911. NSGIC's Next Generation 911 committee, co-chaired by Mr. Sewash, is providing feedback on draft language. Introduction of companion bills in Congress is anticipated this spring. 2020 has been considered a national target for implementation of Next Generation 911. North Carolina may be in the middle among states in terms of readiness for implementation. Mr. Sewash observed that technical resource requirements nationwide may be daunting. Mr. Johnson added the Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC) has an opportunity to be supportive of efforts at the state level.

b. Census Geospatial Data

Mr. Coats reported on Census programs. Despite budget uncertainty and a hiring freeze, the Census Bureau is proceeding with its priorities including Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) and local complete-count committees. The final report on field testing is expected in May. A report on counting military population is expected late this year. Another issue has been methods for counting prison population and related districting issues. In North Carolina, operations will be covered by the Atlanta regional office. Meetings took place last week in locations across the state and will continue this week, covering needs for updating addresses and

promotion of Census 2020. Another set of meetings are intended for state partners. Mr. Coats suggested that members of the Management and Operations Committee would be valuable state participants in state partnership efforts. His observation is that North Carolina will need to play a greater role in a successful Census 2020 compared to previous decennial census programs.

Also, LUCA informational workshops begin tomorrow in Asheville and Boone. Councils of Government are sponsoring the sessions and reaching out to local governments. He recommended attending for the information.

The address verification effort in North Carolina will be coordinated by David Cline of the Census Bureau. Letters designating LUCA contacts will go to the Atlanta regional office.

AddressNC will play a key role. Starting in July, monthly updates about LUCA participation will inform the specific needs from *AddressNC* and related costs. There are response options to meet Census requirements. The Geographic Update Partnership Software (GUPS) is available for formatting data for Census purposes.

Mr. Sewash suggested a database oriented solution rather than an address-by-address GUPS software solution to resolve address issues. He added that Minnesota is using its address database as a safety net. In North Carolina, a safety net may be practical, but only to a certain level given the 120-day response period and available technical resources. The *AddressNC* team has analyzed the level of effort if 10 percent of the database were to require verification.

Luis Carrasco explained that *AddressNC* data originates with local government sources. The difference from *AddressNC* 2014 is the new design of the database to capture updates for regular maintenance. Reliance on local sources continues. Mr. Sewash observed that jurisdictions that did not participate in LUCA for Census 2010 tended to have the least reliable source data for *AddressNC*. The safety net is important but the quality of data for filling in gaps may be limited.

Mr. Coats' understanding based on Census 2010 is a local government would retain the right to challenge a Census population count no matter the method of address verification for LUCA. Listing *AddressNC* as the technical point of contact would not affect that right, but a jurisdiction doing so would miss out on communications from the Census Bureau.

Mr. Coats concluded the message should be: the best solution is for local governments to participate in LUCA and verify their addresses. *AddressNC* will be a resource but not a comparable substitute for local address verification. Mr. Coats expressed concern for areas at risk for undercounts. Mapping participation of jurisdictions with at-risk populations will be important.

Regarding councils of government, in 2008 they were more involved in the Participants Statistical Areas Program than in LUCA, but there is an opportunity for COGs to be more involved in supporting local governments in need this time.

Mr. Coats continues to be in communication with the NC Association of County Commissioners and NC League of Municipalities. Mr. Duncan intends to follow up as well. Regarding

communication from the Census Bureau, North Carolina needs to be proactive in getting word out. As one example, Kathryn Clifton sent information about workshops from Bob Coats to her county's LUCA representative and found that he had not received notice of workshop dates. She observed that communication about events in past years needed to be better. Mr. Coats added that LUCA advance letters went to local contacts from the previous LUCA. The Atlanta office is issuing emails to distribute information and documents and Bob is forwarding information to State Data Center contacts. Further distribution on GIS lists can reach others. Mr. Coats observed that jurisdictions that promote Census 2020 will get the best results.

c. Statewide Orthoimagery

Tim Johnson reported on progress of the 2017 Eastern Piedmont phase. This week, the contractors and the project team will review preliminary imagery projects to confirm study area extents and prepare for visual quality control this summer. The goal is to deliver orthoimagery to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) in December 2017 rather than January 2018. The proposal for the Northern Piedmont and Mountains 2018 phase was unanimously approved by the NC 911 Board on March 31 and received good comments about good government and saving lives from board members including the Vice Chair, David Bone, County Manager of Martin County. The next steps include a contract between the NC 911 Board and CGIA to manage the project and subcontracts with NCDOT Photogrammetry and NC Geodetic Survey to support their work. Mr. Johnson will seek specific comments from board members to help tell the story of the program. Also, he asked Ms. Clifton to inform the Local Government Committee that there will again be an opportunity to piggy-back on state contracts with orthoimagery vendors for additional imagery-related products. In the Northern Piedmont and Mountains in the last cycle (2014) the City of High Point acquired higher resolution imagery from the vendor covering that part of the region. High Point may be interested again and there may be other jurisdictions as well. Mr. Johnson will consult Darrin Smith to develop a message to send out. Ms. Clifton pointed out that Davidson County is in a budgeting process, so it would be timely to alert other counties this spring. The vendor selection process occurs between July and the first of November typically. Once the vendors are known and study areas assigned, details will be shared with local governments. Knowing of local interest this spring is valuable for project planning.

d. NC Parcels

Mr. Brown reported the spring update is underway with 19 counties updated so far. Reminders and refreshers will go out this week to update parcels that reflect the January 1, 2017 tax information. Renewal of the contract for the Carbon Project, Inc. is in progress. Cost-share agreements with NCDOT and NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. There were some server issues recently that interrupted the web feature service for NC Parcels. The web map service is accessible. Mr. Duncan urged Mr. Brown to follow up with NC Department of Revenue about the potential value of NC Parcels in their business processes.

4. Working Group for Professional Land Surveying and GIS

Bob Brinson, chair of the working group, reported the full group is meeting two weeks from today. The group includes GIS professionals and surveyors. The group will review use cases,

summary points, and understanding of what cases are clearly GIS, what cases require a PLS, and what cases are in a gray area. The group is defining dependencies related to purpose of products. The outcome of the meeting will be a set of documents for discussion with the NC Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors. Mr. Brinson will prepare a report to the Council on May 10. Mr. Johnson will share the agenda for the upcoming working group meeting on April 24 with the Board.

5. Committee Reports

Local Government Committee

Kathryn Clifton reported LGC members met on March 29. The committee provided good feedback to Mr. Johnson about the 2017 NC GIS Conference including appreciation for the quantity and quality of online presentations (audio included). The committee also advised Mr. Johnson regarding plans for the 2019 conference.

The LGC identified and nominated a second local government representative to serve on the Working Group for Roads and Transportation and upcoming work on updating the state's street centerline standard. Greta Bumgarner of Catawba County has experience with centerline data and 911 systems.

Looking forward to metadata training across the state, LGC members offered and suggested venues for training sessions. Also, LGC members are interested in learning more about technical topics, for example, Python scripting in GIS. Mr. Newcomb observed that local government agencies, for example MapForsyth, may have knowledge to share.

State Government GIS User Committee

John Cox reported re-engagement in the community base map program offered by Esri, led by NCDOT. John Farley and Dianne Enright are reaching out to Esri to initiate discussions about the state's next Enterprise License Agreement with Esri beginning in July 2018. Mr. Farley and Mr. Brown are working on scheduling upcoming SGUC Executive Committee and general meeting dates.

Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee

In Joseph Sloop's absence, Mr. Brown reported completion of an orientation meeting for Mr. Sloop with Mr. Johnson and David Giordano. Topics included geospatial framework datasets, working groups and subcommittees, the SMAC Work Plan, and the agenda for the April 19 SMAC meeting. Mr. Sloop plans to ask for the status of tasks on the Work Plan as well as priority tasks for Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Mr. Duncan spoke with Mr. Sloop recently and requested a back-up plan for SMAC representation at Management and Operations and Council meetings considering busy schedules for the SMAC Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Johnson pointed out a vacancy for a federal representative on SMAC in addition to the US Geological Survey representative.

Federal Interagency Committee

Doug Newcomb explained he will not seek renewal of his appointment to the Council as the federal representative and FIC Chair. His term ends May 31, 2017. In the short term, Silvia

Terziotti is willing to serve as Acting FIC Chair. The next FIC meeting is scheduled for April 27 to include presentations on updates to online soils and higher resolution soils classification by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Regarding information about soil data updates for a county of interest, Mr. Newcomb recommends contacting a county NRCS agent about plans and progress. He noted most recent updates have been to tables for consistency from county to county.

Also, Mr. Newcomb requested a copy of imagery tiles for 2016 imagery covering North Carolina (as well as 2013 and 2015 for Virginia) from the National Agriculture Imagery Program to process for web services.

Technical Advisory Committee

No report.

6. Council Items

May Meeting Agenda

Mr. Duncan expects the Working Group for PLS and GIS to have a substantial segment on the agenda. He plans to revive the “Value of GIS” and will reach out to Council members for one or two presentations. He also plans to include a report by Bob Coats and Joe Sewash to keep Census 2020 and *AddressNC* in the forefront. As always, M&O members are welcome to bring mapping stories and ideas for knowledge sharing to the Council.

Future Topic of Interest

Mr. Duncan had a discussion with Council Advisory Member Kristian Forslin about railroad property. The North Carolina Railroad Company has good records of land acquisitions and rights-of-way. Not all railroads have comparable records. Mr. Forslin identified an opportunity to better represent railroad property in county cadastral systems. Complicating factors include railroad references to mileposts, and simplified polygons that generalize properties or voids on county maps. Mr. Duncan intends to consult the NC Department of Revenue and railroads to improve county mapping of an inventory of railroad properties and rights-of-way.

State Demographer

Mr. Coats reported the hiring of a new State Demographer, Mike Cline. He started last week, and will join Mr. Coats in traveling to LUCA workshops. He comes from the University of San Antonio and has much experience with demography including work for the Census Bureau.

Council Appointments

Mr. Johnson updated the committee on the status of appointments. Considering the new administration, after department secretaries are confirmed by the General Assembly, he plans to send a letter to each secretary informing them about the Council, the current department designee, and the opportunity to designate someone else if they wish. The Governor’s appointments are pending; recommendations for renewals were submitted by the Council. House appointments are pending.

NC OneMap

Mr. Brown reported that Mr. Cox shared two updated datasets from the State Property Office: state owned land and nonpublic schools.

7. Future Meeting Dates

May 22 and June 19 are preferred dates for Management and Operations Committee meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 PM.