

Geographic Information Coordinating Council
MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

August 28, 2017

1:00 to 3:00 PM

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

MINUTES

Chair Stan Duncan welcomed Bob Brinson, Bob Coats, Dan Madding, John Farley, Gary Thompson (for Joseph Sloop), Tim Johnson, Joe Sewash, Jeff Brown and on the phone Kathryn Clifton and Silvia Terziotti.

1. Minutes of the July 24, 2017 meeting of the Management and Operations Committee were approved for adoption as submitted.
2. Quick Updates

AddressNC

Joe Sewash reported the *AddressNC* project is in planning review in the Touchdown project management system. Mr. Sewash announced two staff departures. He has accepted a position in Virginia and will depart on September 6. Luis Carrasco, *AddressNC* Project Manager, has accepted a position in Maryland and will end his employment with CGIA on September 8. Mr. Carrasco is wrapping up his documentation, and he and Mr. Sewash will make recommendations to Tim Johnson and John Correllus regarding what was planned for in-house work and options for outside work in the context of collaborating with NCDOT and NC 911 Board.

There were congratulations from around the table. Mr. Duncan expressed his appreciation for Mr. Sewash's expertise and knowledge sharing about technical matters, and his contributions to state and national address data efforts. He wished Mr. Sewash and Mr. Carrasco the best.

Census Geospatial Data

Bob Coats reported on Census programs. The Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) is proceeding with 15 counties and 74 municipalities committed to participate to date. He noted some municipalities have declined the invitation to participate; it is not known how many of those are cooperating with their respective counties for LUCA address verification. Mr. Coats has more meetings coming up across the state to talk with local officials about participation. The Census Bureau encourages responses by September 1, but the deadline is December.

Mr. Coats has the packet for LUCA registration for the Governor's signature, and he would like to identify a LUCA liaison to replace Mr. Carrasco. Mr. Coats' concept is to wait to see what holes in LUCA coverage may occur and target *AddressNC* efforts on those jurisdictions. LUCA workshops are expected to begin sometime after October 10 and continue into November.

In response to a question from Gary Thompson, Mr. Coats shared his understanding that the Census Bureau has the data it needs related to the re-establishment of the NC-SC border. For details about the re-establishment, Mr. Thompson referred the committee to Senate Bill 575.

Working Group for Professional Land Surveying and GIS

Bob Brinson, chair of the working group, got a response from the NC Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors and a meeting has been set for September 12 between the Board's Surveying Committee and selected members of the working group. Mr. Brinson will prepare an agenda with reference to the documents reviewed by the Board.

Statewide Orthoimagery

Mr. Johnson reported all 26 counties are now in the quality review cycle for the Eastern Piedmont and Mountains. The first 8 counties are completing review by Public Safety Answering Points today. For the Northern Piedmont and Mountains 2018 project, qualification statements from vendors are due August 30. An evaluation will follow to select qualified contractors and publicize the list by the end of September, followed by definitions of study areas and contractor assignments. The goal is to get contracts in place by Thanksgiving. Vendor assignments depend in part on the suitability of specific sensors with respect to terrain of the study areas. The City of High Point has again reached out to CGIA after satisfaction with piggybacking on the state program in 2014 for additional imagery-related products. Other jurisdictions are interested, including Davidson County as reported by Kat Clifton who will follow up with Darrin Smith.

NC Parcels

Jeff Brown reported 99 counties updated parcels in the first half of 2017 and the 100th is in progress. The fall update will begin in September. The Working Group for Seamless Parcels will meet in September for an annual assessment of the program. The group will cover priority fields to promote for fuller population from county source parcels, and identify fields not in the standard that would add significant value to parcel data consumers. The Hurricane Matthew Recovery team offered to share information on what standard fields have been most useful and what in county tax databases would add value if published in the statewide dataset. The NC Department of Revenue has shared information about properties and jurisdictions as well.

Also, NCDOT has been assessing the NC Parcels Transformer as a potential tool, with vendor modifications, to enable upload and translation of local roads data. Mr. Farley commented the eventual contractor for GIS portions of NextGen911 may be an option for collecting local road centerline data. He expects coordination between a contractor and state and local governments and programs to avoid duplication of effort. A Request for Proposals for NextGen9-1-1 is expected to be issued soon.

A challenge for the NC Parcels Program this year will be to find a procurement solution that does not require annual exception requests for one-year renewals of the contract dating from 2013.

3. Geospatial Data Act of 2017

Mr. Sewash reported the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) is meeting every other week to facilitate discussion among professional organizations and seek potential solutions. The most recent meeting was August 15. The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) representatives indicated that congressional staff is holding firm to the October 1 date for a proposed solution from COGO. Differing positions held by the Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS) and the Association of American Geographers appear to be entrenched. Mr. Sewash pointed out new language in companion bill H.R. 3522, including five instances of a new phrase “when used to represent authoritative locations” relating to geospatial data development. The term “authoritative locations” is not defined in the current version of the act. NSGIC is researching the source of the changes and assessing the impact.

Mr. Farley commented on his description of the Geospatial Data Act to SGUC; he heard concern from some members after the meeting about the language affecting GIS practice. Ms. Clifton led a discussion in the LGC meeting. She highlighted the statement from the GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) and suggested a GICC opinion be specific to language in the bill. She also noted a webinar to be offered tomorrow by the Geospatial Information and Technology Association (GITA).

Mr. Thompson has heard positive comments from the National Society of Professional Surveyors and NSGIC president Bert Granberg. He noted COGO will not move forward without consensus. Mr. Johnson observed, in the context of potential for a solution, an opinion from the GICC takes on more importance. This is an opportunity for the Council to voice its own opinion and be on the record. Council members have not responded to Mr. Duncan’s request for comments. A reminder to members with highlights on the key language could be helpful. The Council opinion need not wait for a potential amendment to go through a congressional process; it may be based on the current bill language.

The documents provided by Mr. Sewash have links to statements from a range of organizations. Mr. Johnson will keep it updated.

4. GICC Priorities FY2017-2018

Mr. Duncan shared his Council priorities in a meeting with State Chief Information Officer Eric Boyette this morning. Mr. Correllus and Mr. Johnson also attended. Mr. Duncan emphasized the value of geospatial data in Next Generation 9-1-1 and in Census 2020 beyond this fiscal year. Mr. Farley suggested a third emphasis on enterprise data management which is listed as one the Council’s technical priorities for participation and support.

On the topic of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), Mr. Thompson commented on the role of NC DOT Aviation Division in outreach, with workshops in progress about rules and regulations. Mr. Johnson suggested a focus on information about how local governments are using UAS or proposing to use UAS, less about licensing. The committee concluded that Basil Yap, NCDOT’s project manager for UAS, is the best person to do a presentation to the Council on uses of UAS, preferably in combination with someone from a local government who has experience with UAS.

As an example of a potential application, NCDOT is looking at streaming video in emergency situations. Mr. Thompson shared that Montgomery Community College in Troy has a program and will train local governments. LGC members do not have direct experience. Ms. Clifton noted the use of commercial UAS data acquisition by Salisbury-Rowan Utilities to generate information for design purposes related to a waste water treatment plant. Mr. Thompson noted a fire department in the Duck area was approved to operate UAS. This may be a topic for the February Council meeting.

Regarding priorities, Mr. Thompson reported for Joseph Sloop on the opinion piece on geospatial data for NextGen911 circulated to SMAC members, LGC, and an interest group of CURISA for review. Mr. Sloop received comments from LGC and CURISA and will send a reminder to SMAC members for more comments. He plans to integrate comments to produce a version suitable for review by the M&O Committee.

5. 2017 GICC Annual Report

Mr. Duncan and Mr. Brown continue to work on a draft of the annual report. The emphasis will be on looking ahead and building on a foundation of data and standards through a mature organization. Benefits of the Council's work can be silent, behind the scenes, but significant to ultimate data consumers. NextGen911 and Census 2020 may grab the reader's attention at the beginning of the report. Mr. Duncan is ready and willing to report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology if invited.

6. Committee Status Reports

Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee

Mr. Thompson reported on behalf of Mr. Sloop. The NextGen911 opinion piece is in progress. SMAC priorities for development and maintenance are hydrography, street centerlines, parcels and address points. Also, SMAC members expressed interest in research on land cover data and new technology and imagery sources. Dan Madding commented that he acquired a tree canopy dataset, in quality control, classified from National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery. The data will inform NC Forest Service and urban forestry planning and inform NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in conservation land planning, especially near military bases, where percent of land that is forested is a valuable piece of information in determining the best conservation program. Mr. Duncan commented the canopy data may be useful in estimating area of present use value forested versus non-forested.

Technical Advisory Committee

Mr. Madding reported a kick-off meeting is scheduled for August 31 to set a course for TAC's group of subject matter experts to draft an assessment. Initial work will identify software packages to cover, business needs, functionality needed, and an outline of the document. Staffing will be by David Giordano (TAC) and Mr. Brown (SGUC and LGC). Resources include the GIS Study completed in 2015 for applications of geospatial data. Mr. Madding added that some SGUC members presented examples of GIS to the Department of Insurance (DOI) that is just getting started with GIS. The department's CIO asked for an opinion about starting with software

covered in the state's Enterprise License Agreement versus starting with open source GIS software. The TAC intends to provide information to help answer that question. Mr. Farley observed a small implementation like DOI could take a hard look at options and consider hybrid solutions.

Local Government Committee

Ms. Clifton reported the LGC met on August 16th and approved its work plan for 2017-2018. In addition to comments on the Geospatial Data Act, the group noted that the new 2022 Reference Frame and especially its implementation will be important to local governments. Mr. Thompson commented on the National Geodetic Survey's work on developing the reference frame and the concept of "local velocity" for which the 2022 Reference Frame Working Group needs more information before meeting again to assess the situation. On the topic of the limited GIS services contract, local governments are eligible to use it. Local government representatives to the Working Group for Roads and Transportation, Harry Lee and Greta Bumgarner, look forward to contributing to the group. The story map for the value of GIS, "Are You on the Map?" gained more participants. Also, LGC regularly reviews upcoming professional development opportunities.

Federal Interagency Committee

Silvia Terziotti reported FIC's Executive Committee updated the FIC Work Plan for 2017-2018. The next general meeting will feature GIS and fire response in western North Carolina. US Forest Service, US Park Service, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and NC Forest Service are tentative presenters. FIC seeks at least one additional member to serve on the Executive Committee.

Regarding land cover data, Ms. Terziotti provided a federal reference. Drew Pilant of US Environmental Protection agency has produced land cover classified from NAIP 1-meter imagery in selected locations. He summarized his work in a FIC meeting earlier this year. Mr. Madding added he shared tree canopy data with Nate Herold of NOAA who is also working on a 1-meter coastal land cover product.

State Government GIS Users Committee

Mr. Farley reported on the SGUC general meeting held last week. The group talked about Council priorities and the Geospatial Data Act. The meeting featured presentations by Rebecca Tippet of UNC's Carolina Demography in the Carolina Population Center and by State Demographer Mike Cline. The NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services gave an informative presentation on an Esri health check on its GIS servers.

Mr. Farley noted the SGUC Work Plan needs more specific wording on tasks related to supporting enterprise data management and monitoring the limited services contract and making annual improvements. For example, NC DOT is about to launch an environmental program that will engage many engineering firms and the limited services contract can play a role. Regarding the Enterprise License Agreement for Esri software, SGUC will probably do an ELA-specific survey of state agencies in January to better understand the needs. Open source software is of interest to SGUC members. The committee continues to be interested in geospatial data for NextGen 911.

7. Other Items

Mr. Farley informed the committee that Chris Werner is the technical director for the Interagency Leadership Team (ILT) for NCDOT. Mr. Werner was involved in the ILT pilot Kinston Bypass study and the geospatial database compiled for that effort. A full ILT effort would involve multiple agencies, and NCDOT is likely to provide funding. The department is under a mandate to spend as much as a billion dollars this fiscal year, and NCDOT is focused on highway project delivery, with the help of GIS. Most of the money is allocated to the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). He added NCDOT is interested in deriving representations of above-ground utilities from LiDAR acquired over project areas.

8. Future Meeting Dates

Mr. Duncan recommended not meeting in September. The next meeting is planned for Monday, October 9.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.