

Information Technology Resource Management Council (ITRMC)
Idaho Geospatial Committee
April 19, 2007, Meeting Minutes
(Approved June 14, 2007)

The April 19, 2007, meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Committee (IGC) was held in the East Conference Room of the Joe R. Williams Building, 700 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Designate(s) Present:

Nathan Bentley, ITRMC Staff
Chris Clay, Idaho Dept. of Lands
Gail Eckwright, INSIDE Idaho/University of Idaho Library
Nancy Glenn, Idaho State University (*via phone*)
Mike McDowell, Kootenai County (*via phone*)
Nick Nydegger, *Chair*, Idaho Military Division
Craig Rindlisbacher, Madison County/
City of Rexburg (*via phone*)
Frank Roberts, Coeur d'Alene Tribe (*via phone*)

Kevin Smith, United Water Idaho, Inc.
Jim Szpara, Idaho Dept. of Environmental Quality
*Scott Van Hoff, U.S. Geological Survey
Designate(s) –
Janet Cheney, Bonneville County (*via phone*),
for Dennis Hill, City of Pocatello
Donna Pitzer, USDI Bureau of Reclamation,
for Cindy Lou McDonald, USDI Bureau of
Land Management

*membership subject to ITRMC approval

Others Present:

Heather Fuller, Coeur d'Alene Tribe (*via phone*)
Bruce Godfrey, University of Idaho Library/
INSIDE Idaho
Dawn Leatham, Bonneville County (*via phone*)

Harley Parson, Rohm Institute
Ken Pidjeon, Idaho Military Division
Sandra Thiel, Idaho Dept. of Water Resources
Debbie Thorson, Bonneville County (*via phone*)

APPROVALS / ACTIONS:

- February 8, 2007, IGC meeting minutes
(<http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2007/m070208.pdf>)
- The creation of a formal IGC E911 technical working group
- Motion of support for an Idaho Height Modernization program, a cooperative project between Idaho and the National Geodetic Survey.

REPORTS, UPDATES, MAJOR DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Status of ITRMC / GIS Coordinator / State GIS Service Center** –Nick Nydegger, Idaho Military Division and IGC Chair, said all three entities were “alive and well” and changing slightly. Nathan Bentley, State GIS Coordinator and ITRMC Staff, continued to explain that in the last legislative session, IT issues had not been moved forward; the GIS Service Center was not addressed.
 - Department of Administration (DoA) Director and ITRMC Chair Keith Johnson had been working with the Governor’s Office on changes that could be made without legislative direction. Reorganization was at that time taking place within DoA, with its Division of IT and Communications Services merging with the ITRMC Staff.
 - The goal is to bring a more cognizant approach to enterprise IT to the State of Idaho.

- It was anticipated the geographic information officer (GIO) position would answer directly to the chief technology officer (CTO), who in turn would answer to the state chief information officer (CIO). (As of May 7, Kevin Iwersen's new title would be CTO, and Johnson would become the state CIO.)

➤ **E911 Discussions**

- Activity Reports – Bentley updated the group about various requests from other entities for enhanced 911 (E911) information.
 - The GIS community was extended a standing invitation to meetings of the Idaho E911 Emergency Communications Commission. Also, the group had requested two GIS experts to work on its technical working group to facilitate the integration of geospatial technologies into E911 public safety answering points (PSAP) and to assist in planning and implementing GIS components in the proper way from the beginning.
 - It's an important responsibility of the geospatial community and the IGC to help other groups/entities to integrate geospatial technologies into their work practices.
- E911 PSAP Committee GIS Representatives – Chairman Nydegger noted the importance of integrating GIS into E911, and encouraged IGC participation with the new PSAP Standards Committee.
 - E911 IGC TWG – Nathan Bentley moved and Donna Pitzer seconded the motion to formally create an E911 technical working group; the motion passed. Janet Cheney, Bonneville County, accepted the chair position and Debbie Thorson and Dawn Leatham, two of her colleagues, agreed to participate on the technical working group.

➤ **Idaho GIS Center (State GIS Service Center)**

- Roles and Responsibilities – Chairman Nydegger explained that the goal is to create a formalized written strategy and clear description of what the Service Center and INSIDE Idaho (Interactive Numeric and Spatial Information Data Engine for Idaho; University of Idaho) are responsible for, and where the funding is for both. It was also stated that there has been very little or no overlap in their current activities and responsibilities, although there has been confusion over this issue.
 - Gail Eckwright, INSIDE Idaho and University of Idaho (U of I) Library, reiterated with an overview:
 - Service Center – to task people to collect data and put it into a format that can be used.
 - INSIDE Idaho – the legacy distribution point
 - Both have been and will continue to be for distribution.
 - As we stand now, there are no formalized funding streams. If funding could be cemented, this would streamline the entire process immensely.
 - Collaborative partnerships with Idaho State University and U of I GIS programs were discussed.
 - A cooperative agreements program (CAP) grant might be a good way to get things on paper and formalized.
 - It was agreed by all that once the CIO is in place, that a business plan for the GIS Service Center would be TOP priority for the IGC.
 - The next step is to get roles and responsibilities on paper
 - An email will go out to IGC members to write their ideas.
 - Get input and progress before the next meeting.
- Idaho State Map – This is an underlying concept to providing an Idaho GIS center. A functional multi-use map would enable the center to provide consumable services for use in the following ways:
 - Tourism and economic planning to individual citizens
 - Economic development and commerce
 - Interactive map services for education in primary and secondary schools

- State government will provide services to those agencies and projects that do not have GIS capabilities and services.
- Local governments will provide GIS services to small counties and cities that do not have GIS capabilities and services
- Public safety
- Across-the-board services to a multitude of peoples and groups
- Data Calls Cadastral Property/Parcels – Fire Support – Information is currently being provided to several different agencies. Having a centralized location will help streamline this process and provide necessary information in disaster and emergency situations. This data needs to be pre-positioned and ready for emergencies.
- Data Calls for Center – Bentley reminded everyone that a letter to local entities was sent out about the Federal Geographic Data Committee data call. He really needs this data sent in and reminded people that it may not have gone to the GIS contact, but to the Homeland Security contact, etc.
- Data Calls: HSIP – Chairman Nydegger very briefly mentioned that the federal Homeland Security Infrastructure Program is asking for pieces of information that the GIS community probably should have had put together, but doesn't. This has happened with other data calls, as well. The central point of contact the GIS Service Center would provide would assist in making these data efforts successful.

➤ **Height Modernization (HTMOD) - Formal Action (24, 26 April Meetings).**

- Activity Reports – Donna Pitzer, USDI Bureau of Reclamation, and Bentley briefed the committee about the IGC Cadastral Technical Working Group (TWG) HTMOD meetings.
 - The Cadastral TWG had asked Idaho Transportation Department Director Pamela Lowe to take the lead agency role.
 - The suggestion was made to utilize CORS (Continuously Operating Reference Stations) instead of trying to use the traditional handsets for heights. Arizona and Montana have similar plans in the works. Internet protocol (IP)-based data collection was also discussed by the committee.
 - HTMOD has to be funded through a congressional earmark for the state. It's not a grant program. A plan and strategy must be developed and then presented through the Congressional process to receive this federal funding.
 - HTMOD is very productive and important to the state. It needs to be addressed.
 - There is a meeting for the principals in the HTMOD programs to coordinate efforts, define roles, and to see who can do what to get this moving forward.
 - Pitzer provided some hard copy information (refer to <http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2007/m070419/HTMOD.pdf>).
- Tasking / Motions – Chairman Nydegger stressed that HTMOD is critical to the future of Idaho. The National Geodetic Survey HTMOD program is part of the new way of doing things. He also said that the letter of support for HTMOD from IGC was imperative and shows support for the funding that will greatly help HTMOD efforts, as well as other GIS issues.
 - Chris Clay, Idaho Department of Lands, made a motion that IGC drafts a letter of support for HTMOD, Gail Eckwright seconded; the motion passed.
 - The letter will be emailed to all for review.

➤ **Idaho Geospatial Implementation Plan (I-Plan) - An update of progress** – Harley Parsons of the Rohm Institute updated the group and made some clarifications on some I-Plan principals.

- Clarification – When referring to a Base Map, he is talking about topology; and then there are data sets as additional components completed in selected priority phases. Bentley mentioned the first I-Plan identified the base layer specifics, plus what are the priorities are for completing data

sets: the first was imagery, the second geodetic control, and so on.

- Activity Reports –Harley continued. The 2003 work that was completed on the I-Plan was very solid in the architectural aspects of the data layers. His hopes for the Strategic Plan are to address the administrative and collaborative effort portions. Three sub-groups were formed during scoping meetings to address:
 - **Cooperation** and formal strategic partnerships as key goals
 - **Communication** (how to improve communication and solicit feedback to get input on the Strategic Plan)
 - **Marketing** (identifying political champions, finding forums, and creating a marketing strategy beyond the primary objectives, including identifying a list of political champions)
- Discussions - Chairman Nydegger asked committee members to be ready to receive pieces of the new I-Plan and to return them with comments as soon as possible.
 - A survey questionnaire will blanket the state and go out to Geotech, Idaho's geospatial technology list server. It will be used to build a spatially-referenced list of Idaho geospatial technicians, professionals, and organizations across the state. It will also be used to communicate geospatial issues throughout the state, to ask for comments, and to provide contacts in different areas of the state.
 - Task List for I-Plan – The master project summary is extensive and Draft #2 is to be completed by May 19. People who signed up to complete tasks for subcommittees will be reminded to fulfill their tasks. Check www.rohminstitute.com for drafts.

➤ **Technical Working Group Reports:**

- Cadastral and Geodetic Control
 - The group is currently focused on HTMOD.
 - Another TWG meeting will be called soon after the April 24 and 26 HTMOD meetings.
- Hydrography / Watershed
 - A significant amount of effort has been made across the state.
 - The group is working with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to publish data to its server.
 - The group is also in the process of preparing a grant application and will find out the results in August or September; money would come through in January.
 - The group is working with USGS here and in Utah to refine the watershed boundaries. Contact Sandra Thiel, Idaho Department of Water Resources, for copies of that; they are not as of yet available for download.
 - There is a May 2 TWG meeting scheduled.
- Imagery – Per Bentley, new National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery for Idaho is not planned, as funding was pulled. The group will be watching the status of funding issues.

➤ **Project News:**

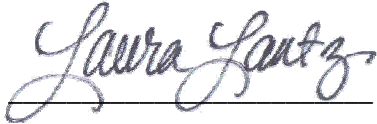
- Boise Valley Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) Cooperative – Still looking for partners. Some funding is in place from National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency; its interest is giving the Boise urban area approximately 150 square miles. Note: continuous areas always give a bigger benefit.
- Ada County Imagery Cooperative – The data set is currently in process and due to be delivered in probably early September.
- Census 2010 – Activity level will start to increase starting now until it's completed. Be aware.
 - Census Block Group definition talks have already started, with scoping meetings being held with local governments. Census case coordinator is in commerce. Wendy Holly of the U.S. Census Bureau's regional office in Washington, is Idaho's representative and will keep us apprised.
- Meeting Communication – Chairman Nydegger mentioned to members at the meeting via phone, that because so many are right by a computer, computer video conferencing may be an option.

- North Idaho Transportation Project – Five to six new partners will join the project, so the name will be amended.

➤ **Next Meeting:**

The next IGC meeting will be moved to June 14 so it does not conflict with the 2007 ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute) International User Conference.

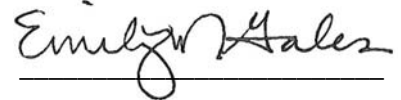
Respectfully submitted,



Laura Lantz, Freelance Writer



Nick Nydegger, IGC Chairman



Emily Gales, ITRMC Assistant