

Idaho Geospatial Committee (IGC)

June 18, 2009, Meeting Minutes

(Approved August 20, 2009)

The June 18, 2009 meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Committee was held in Room 302 of the Len B. Jordan Building, 650 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Designate(s) Present:

Nick Nydegger, Chair, Idaho Military Division
Gail Ewart, Idaho Geospatial Office
Diane Holloran, HDR Engineering
Janeena Wing, Idaho State Police
Cindy Lou McDonald, Bureau of Land Management
Nancy Glenn, Idaho State University (*via phone*)
Dennis Hill, City of Pocatello (*via phone*)
Frank Roberts, Coeur d'Alene Tribe (*via phone*)
Donna Phillips, City of Hayden (*via phone*)
Bruce Godfrey, INSIDE Idaho / University of Idaho Library (*via phone*)

Others Present:

Bryant Ralston, ESRI	Chandler Coleman, Idaho Transportation Dept.
Nathalie Smith, ESRI	Robert Sosnowski, Idaho Transportation Dept.
Sally Brevick, Office of the CIO	Paul Gessler, University of Idaho (<i>via phone</i>)
Chelsea Goicoechea, Office of the CIO	Keith Weber, ISU (<i>via phone</i>)
Walter Bulawa, Idaho State Tax Commission	Angela Vander Pas, Clearwater County (<i>via phone</i>)
Bob Smith, Idaho Geospatial Office	Bill Reynolds, Nez Perce County, (<i>via phone</i>)
Ross Dodge, COMPASS	
Linda Davis, Idaho Dept. of Water Resources	

APPROVALS

MOTION: Donna Phillips moved and Cindy Lou McDonald seconded a motion to approve the April 16, 2009 IGC meeting minutes, the motion was passed unanimously.

(http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/20090416_IGC_minutes.pdf)

ESRI ENTERPRISE LICENSE AGREEMENTS (ELA)

Bryant Ralston provided the committee with a good overview of ESRI Enterprise License Agreements. He discussed the business challenges and GIS challenges associated with geospatial technologies and how an ELA can be customized to meet the State of Idaho's individual needs. He noted successful GIS implementations in several Idaho agencies and shared his thoughts on an ELA for the State of Idaho.

(http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/20090618_ELA_Presentation.pdf)

Questions and Discussion

Enterprise License Agreements are fully customizable through negotiation with ESRI. Each ELA is a unique contract for software, support, maintenance, and GIS implementation resources. ELA's are normally on a three-year term with payments occurring annually. It was noted that the city of Twin Falls has an ELA. Diane Holloran said HDR Engineering has a corporate wide ELA.

Bryant clarified that the "possible downstream inter-agency agreements" to which he had referred were service level agreements, such as handled by the Office of the CIO. These were yet to be determined but were raised as a possibility at this time. Gail provided an example in that enterprise cooperation exists with the State Tax Commission for sharing a server.

A question was raised about whether a state ELA would cover all agencies, or a select group of agencies. Bryant advised that this would be something for the state to determine and then provide ESRI with a list of agencies covered. Additional agencies can join at a later stage without the ELA necessarily being renegotiated.

Nathalie explained that the cost is determined by combining the historic spending or use trends with projected growth to get the cost picture for the period of an ELA. In theory, and what happens in most cases, is that the cost is diluted if more agencies are participating. ELA benefits are realized where GIS potential occurs across all agencies. There is no way presently to determine how much it will cost per agency. It will require that all agencies participating will have to funnel their maintenance budgets for products to one place.

Bryant noted that Montana has a quarterly GIS Managers' Forum at the state agency level; Gail commented that Idaho was currently forming just such a group.

Keith Weber queried whether the statewide educational licenses for Idaho universities would be affected. If an ELA is pursued, would the educational site license be rolled into the ELA or would it be separate. Natalie responded that there was no requirement one way or the other, it was a possibility to be discussed and negotiated. In most cases, the university site licenses pre-dated the ELA and so stayed in place – in Montana and Oregon the site licenses are separate from the ELA. Gail confirmed that in her discussions with ESRI on the specific arrangements for Idaho, both the Master Purchase Agreement and the Higher Education License Agreement would persist.

It was confirmed for Janeena Wing that extensions for each individual agency could be added to the ELA. There was complete flexibility of deployment when and where software or extensions are needed. Bryant shared a list of core ESRI software components that are normally unlimited use under an ELA, extensions fall into this group. Bryant also noted there are some products for which ESRI has to pay royalties or has other restrictions and these fall outside of the unlimited use list or would need to be negotiated into the ELA.

Gail felt that it was a fair assumption that the State would be moving forward on this but it would take a year or more to finalize an ELA with much discussion with agencies to be had first.

FRAMEWORK – CURRENT DEFINITION

Gail presented the graphic representing Idaho's current framework.

(http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/20090618_IdahoFramework.pdf). The major themes have been captured, each with more than one data set (element). Gail asked the committee to consider whether a late suggestion, Recreation, should be added to the graphic as a separate theme. This is already incorporated to a certain extent in Reference and the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) content. It was decided to add Recreation to the framework definition. We discussed what elements should be added to the Energy and Utilities theme to round it out on the Energy side. In the discussion, suggestions were made about adding geothermal, solar, biomass, wind, energy enterprise zones, stipulations and land management to the Energy and Utilities theme. Nick noted that the framework would be a dynamic picture, changing and developing over time.

MOTION: Diane Holloran moved and Donna Phillips seconded a motion to move forward with the basic framework, understanding that adjustments will be made; the motion was passed unanimously.

FRAMEWORK – STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Nick referred to the Idaho Framework Standards Development Policy document that was shared with the committee

(http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/20090618_FrameworkStdsPolicy.pdf). Gail commented that she had received a lot of positive feedback regarding the document. It is intended to be an overall guide on how to put together a standard for a particular theme in the Framework. It provides a checklist, template and a process diagram.

Walt noted a statement on page 2: "...it will be mandated for state agencies..." and felt that this was worded perhaps a little too strongly. Nick noted that the document overall was fairly broad and intended as a tool to assist people in coming up with a standardized development plan for creating data and life cycles. Gail stressed that this did not include the *use* of the data but was a policy to create standards. Nick added that the purpose of this standard was to facilitate the development and uses of information. The standard would allow for the greatest integration, sharing and use of geospatial technology.

MOTION: Cindy Lou McDonald moved and Diane Holloran seconded a motion to approve the Framework Standards Development Policy; the motion was passed unanimously.

NAIP IMAGERY COOPERATIVE STATUS

Gail explained that the National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) cooperative project was ready to go and there was a possibility of buying up to a half-meter resolution. News is expected shortly as to whether the Farm Service Agency (FSA) will go forward with this upgrade, whether a price has been negotiated with the vendor, whether there is enough money and how the back office support will function. Currently one-meter resolution is the target but.

Cindy Lou added that flying had been due to begin on June 10 but had been held up by rain. The flights would now begin within the next three days. A decision had to be made about whether to fly at half or one meter resolution immediately because this meant flying lower and running twice as many flight

lines. Federal agencies, in particular the Forest Service, had come up with almost \$1.1 million to do the half-meter resolution buy up. Negotiations are ongoing with the vendor who had quoted \$1.2 million. The FSA is going to run the half meter through their contract under the terms that we will get a half-meter product and a one-meter product. However, the half-meter product will not be, at this point, QAQC by the FSA – they will not archive or disseminate that data. The federal agencies are still working on how we could provide that service outside of the FSA but, as of yesterday, the FSA said we will still have a one year warranty on the half meter product and as they QAQC the one meter data and get those images corrected they will also make sure that the half meter imagery on that quarter quad is corrected at the same time. We are anticipating the half meter will run about 5 terabytes of data. Cindy Lou reported that the base product was now on a three-year schedule.

STEWARDSHIP GROUP

Gail reported that a small group is meeting on a fairly regular basis to develop guidance for an overall stewardship approach using the limited models available and the work Gail undertook in Oregon. This will provide a governance system with built in accountability, rules and responsibilities. It is important that when an authoritative data set is issued, it can be trusted to be reliable, stable and current. The Stewardship Group is not far from producing an initial guidance document.

GOVERNANCE TRANSITION

Nick referred to a draft governance transition plan (http://idaho.gov/itrmc/committees/igc/minutes/2009/20090618_GovTransPlan.pdf) and sought ideas and thoughts from the committee. Gail explained that the impetus for this document came from the Business Plan. The details still need to be fleshed out, but it does show the first three phases and highlights some decisions that need to be made. Gail felt that if Phase 1 was finished in June 2010 that would be more than adequate. The idea had been to broaden the participation, and that was happening all the time. The end result was to have an Idaho Geospatial Council that has an expanded number of members and an Executive Committee elected from the council membership.

A question was raised about the suggested membership fee. Gail explained that many councils have membership fees as a means for acquiring funds to carry out the business of the council itself. It was noted that some agencies might not pay for membership fees. A suggestion was made that it could be a partnership fee rather than a membership fee, but this will be a future matter for consideration and discussion. Any feedback in terms of the draft document is encouraged from everyone.

PROGRESS ON PUBLIC SAFETY FRAMEWORK / GRANT

Gail informed everyone that the E911 funds had fallen through. A decision has been made not to fund any mapping until all the Public Safety Access Points (PSAPs) have been upgraded to the enhanced 911 level. On a positive note, the first steps have been made towards obtaining funds from the USGS for structure stewardship.

Bill Reynolds advised that Eric Smith is the lead on the structures with about six or seven people working on the draft standard. Jimae Haynes with the City of Boise is working on the Emergency Service Zones (ESZ), which is moving forward. A draft will be shared with the IGC and then sent to the greater GIS community to review.

REPORTS

- Nick expressed a feeling of crisis about having the clearinghouse maintained. The loss of funding from the E911 serves as an example of the uncertainty of relying on soft funding. There was intent to get monies to support the legacy clearing house function and INSIDE Idaho from that E911 funding source for work that fell within the scope of the planned project activity. There has been no official agreement with INSIDE Idaho for over a year and funding is needed to ensure the continuance of that function. It was Nick's opinion that at least \$300K would be needed every year - \$150K for equipment, data acquisition and development, and code development, and another \$150K for personnel. Gail commented that she was working on a budget item for core ISDI funding that will come through the Dept. of Administration. This will include all the elements of the distributed enterprise, INSIDE Idaho being prominent among those. Gail has until July 10 to develop this and would appreciate any assistance offered, especially examples of money savings, redeployment of personnel based on efficiencies, the smart use of software, automating business processes etc.
- Bob Smith reported that he was working on a trails website for Parks and Recreation.
- Cindy Lou McDonald reported that a half million new acres of wilderness has been established in and around Idaho. Boundary data for these areas has been provided to and is available at INSIDE Idaho. INSIDE Idaho also has available the centerline for wild and scenic rivers in the state as compiled by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Cindy Lou noted the wilderness study areas data set has not yet been updated. The BLM is using stimulus monies to create a new national historic trails feature class as well as a variety of other features. The BLM has crews all over the state using GPS on trails, areas of critical environmental concern, national monuments, outstanding natural areas, specific research sites and working on an update to the Morley Nelson Birds of Prey National Conservation Area. The BLM has just adopted IDTM as the projection for their SDE implementation in Idaho. They are also about to replicate base data out to the field offices where future updates will occur through replication. They are moving on the transition from ArcIMS to ArcGis Server but it will be at least a two-year transition. The BLM is also using stimulus money to make sure our master land coverage locates features in every town.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Committee is scheduled to take place on August 20, 2009. The meeting will be held in the East Conference Room of the JRW Building, 700 West State Street.

Respectfully submitted,



Sally Brevick, Office of the CIO