

Idaho Technology Authority (ITA)

Idaho Geospatial Council – Executive Committee

Draft Meeting Minutes: November 7, 2014

(Approved January 15, 2015)

The November 7, 2014 meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Council – Executive Committee was held at 9:00 a.m. in Room WW55 (West Wing), Idaho State Capitol Building, 700 W. Jefferson St., Boise, Idaho.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Alternate(s) Present:

Brynn Lacabanne, ITD District 3 (Chair Pro Tem)
Bill Farnsworth, Office of the CIO
Laurie Ames, Nez Perce Tribe (phone)
Wendy Hawley, U.S. Census Bureau (phone)
Jerry Korol, NRCS
Bruce Godfrey, University of Idaho (VTC)
Frank Roberts, Innovate! (VTC)
Donna Phillips, City of Hayden (VTC)
Wilma Robertson, Tax Commission
Dennis Hill, City of Pocatello / EIRRC
Brian Liberty, Idaho Power
Pam Bond, Dept. of Fish & Game

Others Present:

Erin Seaman, Office of the CIO
Eric Verner, Dept. of Transportation
Lee Otis, Esri
Scott Moore, Esri
Angie Hopf, City of Caldwell
Michael Phillips, City of Rathdrum (VTC)

WELCOME

Ms. Kawalec was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Lacabanne, acting as the Chair Pro Tem, welcomed everyone, and introductions were made.

MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Farnsworth moved and Mr. Liberty seconded a motion to approve the August 21, 2014 minutes; the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF GUIDELINE G350

Ms. Robertson briefly reviewed Guideline G350 – Methodology for Recognizing a TIM Framework Dataset, which has been approved. Since approval, there have been several nominations, and as datasets have come through, there have been a couple of issues. She proposed that the Guideline subcommittee reconvene to look at exclusions and determine whether there was a need to make any modifications.

Ms. Lacabanne asked if this would delay the nomination of the NHD.

Ms. Robertson responded that Ms. Favreau would be discussing this at the IGC meeting later that day. She noted that the NHD would not be up for a vote today.

MOTION: Ms. Robertson moved and Mr. Farnsworth seconded a motion to reconvene the subcommittee to review Guideline G350; the motion passed unanimously.

ITA REPORT

Mr. Farnsworth reported on the September 3, 2014 ITA meeting. Highlights included:

- Approval of Enterprise Policy P1020 (Idaho.gov Portal Privacy Notice)
- Cyber Security Discussion
- Statewide Strategic Planning, which Mr. Farnsworth participated in
- ArcGIS Online (AGOL) Project Update
- ITA discussion about “official” layers

Mr. Hill asked if the savings was looked at with regard to training for the ArcGIS Online Project.

Mr. Farnsworth responded that training was initially done by Esri, at no charge, with most subsequent training led by Bob Smith (OCIO), which saves agencies money. He reviewed recent agency trainings.

INVENTORY OF MAP SERVICES AND LOCATIONS

Mr. Farnsworth discussed that he would like the TWGs to review their datasets and which ones should be brought forward. He noted that this was critical due to the increase in non-GIS users. He explained that Mr. Smith was supporting approximately 112 users, many of whom are not traditional GIS people. He noted that there was a need to go back to the data stewards and find a way to mark layers that are recommended for use.

Ms. Bond asked Mr. Farnsworth if he hoped to accomplish this through the state ArcGIS Online (AGOL).

Mr. Farnsworth responded that these services could be put out through AGOL since they can be advertised there, but noted that users were not likely to search the system to find these. He stated that information to guide users on the best way to search for layers would be helpful. Mr. Farnsworth explained that OCIO has created a "State of Idaho" account, and once a layer is "official," the ownership is moved to this account. Users see the owner as "State of Idaho," but ownership can also be moved to a specific agency. He added that there probably needed to be a better method for this moving forward.

Ms. Bond asked if people were aware that when they put information up to work with, they are sharing it with everyone, and whether that would be addressed at some point.

Mr. Farnsworth responded that he makes phone calls every week, asking users to clean things up. He noted that with regard to the thumbnails, one of OCIO's programmers rolled out a beta version to demo, and there will be more flexibility to create thumbnails. He agreed that people should be creating and using thumbnails. If a thumbnail is available, it will lend some level of credibility to it, or standardization.

Ms. Bond commented that if people were going to make their data public, there needed to be enforcement, since people are not required to make their data public.

Mr. Farnsworth explained that many larger agencies have administrators assigned, and he is starting to work with them rather than the individual users. While an agency administrator cannot administer data for other agencies, hopefully, at some point, more control can be given to the administrators. Currently, all users are set up as publishers, but there is probably a need to set more people up as users, and then set up an administrator as the publisher at users' individual agencies who would then publish. Mr. Farnsworth added that there are limits to who can post on the www.maps.idaho.gov accounts.

In response to a comment from Mr. Hill, Mr. Farnsworth explained that there are standardized thumbnails and images by category. Elements would be standardized, but users could still use their own graphic.

TRANSPORTATION PILOT PROJECT

Mr. Verner shared that he has re-initiated the Transportation TWG. He gave an overview of the Transportation Pilot Project, noting that he would be covering this in more detail during the TWG discussion at the IGC meeting that afternoon. He noted that one of the challenges with the transportation layer has been coming to an official geometry, and determining whose geometry to use. Mr. Verner discussed the centerline dataset. He explained that Eric Smith, at Jefferson County and Craig Rindlisbacher at Madison County, using the existing tool sets in Esri, were able to create one single geometry that was both linear reference and had address ranges. He briefly described their work, noting that they were able to do that fairly quickly over an entire region, rather than road by road. While there were a few things that needed to be done by hand, for a regional effort they did fairly well.

Mr. Verner noted that the data standard was still very good, and the technology has caught up a little bit. Additionally, ITD is more engaged in GIS now. He commended Wendy Bates at ITD for her work, and shared that the federal government has helped with the creation of a common layer.

At the request of Mr. Hill, Mr. Verner gave a brief overview of All Roads Network Of Linear referenced Data (ARNOLD), a federal highway initiative. The emphasis was safety and required tracking all accidents on public roads, which is done by a GIS layer with points and a linear reference. It was mandated to the states DOTs to act as the federal government's agent and present them with a single new reference layer of all public roads from their state. The goal of being able to map all accidents was to look at different geometries that can be attributed to accidents.

OTHER BUSINESS

2014 STATEWIDE STRATEGIC PLANNING – Mr. Farnsworth reported on the recent Statewide Strategic Planning Session, held on October 16th and 17th in Boise. He noted that with the exception of the “network” item, all of these have fairly significant GIS components.

- Network
- Mobile – The goal is to make sure that apps are mobile-enabled for all devices. The maps being done through AGOL are already mobile-enabled
- Mapping – Recommended that all relevant data be geo-located and not limited to the GIS community.
- Cloud – GIS is very involved given that the new systems being used are cloud-based. However, there is quite a bit of state data that will not be in the cloud until all of the security concerns are addressed.

Mr. Hill asked what would need to be geo-located.

Mr. Farnsworth responded that all relevant data would need to be geo-located, which would affect many agencies, and the term “all relevant data” would need to be worked out. No matter how this moves forward, IGC-EC will likely need to look at drafting an ITA enterprise policy related to this, as well as any associated standards to move forward. Mr. Farnsworth explained that this would be incremental, but there is a lot of data in databases that is not GIS-related.

Mr. Hill asked whether anyone in government still had anything not spatially located.

Mr. Farnsworth responded that most database fields in the state do not have X/Y coordinates, and agreed that this was huge as a strategic direction for the state. He explained that the strategic planning participants felt this would be important moving forward, noting that once a policy is in place, agencies typically will have two years to implement. He added that IGC-EC would need to be involved in this.


GEOSPATIAL DATA ACT OF 2014 (FEDERAL ACT) – Mr. Farnsworth reported that he has been working with the office of Sen. Risch and the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) toward putting together and promoting the Geospatial Data Act of 2014, the focus of which was to encourage more cooperation, especially among federal agencies.

Mr. Farnsworth reported that he has been working with surveyors, and ideally only surveyed points would be used, but that is not realistic currently. Idaho would have to bring in the best data available for a point, which may not be a surveyed point. He briefly mentioned the surveyor legislation likely to go through during the 2015 legislative session.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m. The date of the next meeting has yet to be announced.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin Seaman, Office of the CIO