Idaho Technology Authority (ITA)

Idaho Geospatial Council – Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes: March 19, 2015

(Approved May 14, 2015)

The March 19, 2015 meeting of the Idaho Geospatial Council – Executive Committee was held at 9:30 a.m. in Room B09 (Basement), Len B. Jordan Building, 650 W. State St., Boise, Idaho.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Alternate(s) Present:
Anne Kawalec, Ada County Assessor (Chair)
Jerry Korol, NRCS
Bruce Godfrey, University of Idaho (VTC)
Frank Roberts, Innovate! (phone)
Dennis Hill, City of Pocatello
Tom Carlson, USGS (phone)
Kindra Serr, ISU (phone)
          Alt. for Keith Weber
Pam Bond, Dept. of Fish & Game
Bill Farnsworth, Office of the CIO
Wilma Robertson, Tax Commission
Brian Liberty, Idaho Power
Laurie Ames, Nez Perce Tribe (phone)

Others Present:
Erin Seaman, Office of the CIO
Danielle Favreau, Dept. of Water Resources (phone)
Coy Chapman, Ada County Assessor
Bob Smith, Office of the CIO
Stewart Ward, Dioptra Geomatics (phone)

WELCOME

Ms. Kawalec called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Welcome and introductions were made.

MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Farnsworth moved and Ms. Ames seconded a motion to approve the January 15, 2015 minutes; the motion passed unanimously.

NHD HYDRO FRAMEWORK DATASET NOMINATIONS

Ms. Favreau presented the National Hydrography Framework nominations and briefly reviewed the Hydrography Data Exchange Standard, noting that the version of the standard in the meeting packets referred to Version 1.5, but the cover page was incorrect and it was actually Version 1.4. She asked if there was anything the committee wished to discuss regarding these items. She noted that the Hydrography TWG had decided that feature class exclusions within the NHD and WBD Datasets would be addressed in the standard.

Mr. Hill asked if the Hydrography TWG was aware of the FEMA LiDAR data acquisitions.
Ms. Favreau responded that she was aware that FEMA collects LiDAR for various projects, and asked what specifically he was looking for.

Mr. Hill clarified that in terms of real data, a lot of work was being done in eastern Idaho, and he believed that data was all going to be available on the LiDAR website. He confirmed that they will be deriving hydrography from the LiDAR.
Ms. Favreau commented that the USGS was actively working on protocols for how to integrate LiDAR derived hydrography into the NHD. The data will be able to be integrated in either manually or with some type of automated procedure.

Mr. Farnsworth asked if there would be an update cycle or review cycle included in the standard.

Ms. Favreau responded that there was no specific timeframe listed in the standard, but that it would be revised as needed per Section 1.6 (p. 5).

MOTION: Mr. Farnsworth moved and Ms. Robertson seconded a motion to approve the National Hydrography Dataset as the Framework Dataset for the Water Features Element of the Hydrography Framework Data Theme, and to approve the Watershed Boundary Dataset as the Framework Dataset of the Watershed Element of the Hydrography Framework Data Theme; the motion passed unanimously.

GUIDELINE G350 REVISIONS
Ms. Kawalec reported that the TWG which worked on Guideline G350 (Methodology for Recognizing a TIM Framework Dataset) had discussed exclusions and agreed that they should be addressed in the standard, so they did not make any revisions to the guideline. She believed the guideline was a dynamic document, and moving forward there might be things they would like to incorporate in the guideline.

Mr. Godfrey suggested open data sharing, noting that it would be helpful to link the metadata for proposed framework datasets settings.
Ms. Kawalec agreed to incorporate Mr. Godfrey's suggestion into the next revision of the guideline.

ArcGIS ONLINE (AGOL) PORTAL DISCUSSION
Mr. Farnsworth discussed the AGOL portal, commenting that, while a lot of the effort and focus has been on non-GIS staff, he and Mr. Smith had begun working with more of the GIS community to discuss how it's integrated with the desktop. He explained that there are multiple websites, which has caused some confusion. He briefly reviewed and discussed the websites:
- www.gis.idaho.gov (GIS community)
- www.idaho.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html (the state website for the AGOL Project)
- www.maps.idaho.gov (includes sites for the general public)
- www.idaho.gov/parcels (parcels home page)

Mr. Farnsworth explained that currently state agencies and the health districts are on the portal. He added that if a non-state entity, such as a county or city, wanted to use the enterprise account, that it might be possible to bill them for the account and they could be part of the project. The portal can be found through a search but was not being linked, promoted or advertised.

Ms. Bond asked if the maps.idaho.gov website just included state agency maps.
Mr. Farnsworth responded that with the web projects that he runs, he was open to maps from cities, counties, and others, but there is no advertising.

Ms. Robertson asked whether agencies that maintain the authoritative data layers should be the ones putting out the maps.
Mr. Farnsworth responded that he believed the authoritative layers should come from the agencies.

Ms. Robertson asked Mr. Farnsworth if the agencies should also be building their own web apps.
Mr. Farnsworth responded that it would be preferable for agencies with the capability to build their own.

Ms. Robertson commented that her understanding was that the maps.idaho.gov website was for maps, and was not really meant for sharing datasets.
Mr. Farnsworth responded that for a GIS person using AGOL, who understands how to find datasets on INSIDE Idaho was fine, but that he did not recommend business users doing that.

In response to a question from Ms. Robertson, Mr. Farnsworth explained that map services were being made available in the organizational account, and that Ms. Robertson's services were not being re-published, but rather consumed.

Mr. Farnsworth explained that some counties had parcel data that was two years old. He has been focused on getting the data current. He noted that an agency has offered to put the data into the standard and is already doing that, although several elements still needed to be worked out. He has spoken with several counties about selling their data, and one of them is interested in signing up to deliver the comprehensive full dataset. With the exception of Ada County, most of those datasets are not free. He noted that any project done through Access Idaho involved a significant resource investment.

In response to a question from Ms. Kawalec, Mr. Farnsworth explained that most state agencies have a login to the FTP server, so they can download whenever they need to. However, there was no way to know how often an agency does this. He added that he would like to work with IDWR to see if it would be practical to do a floodplain layer that parcels can be overlayed on.

Ms. Favreau added that, because they can't put the parcels out there directly, there's an application that has already been built and published.

Mr. Farnsworth discussed Mr. Smith's work with NIFSI on the fire center, noting that there is a service from NIFSI of current fire boundaries which is updated every night, and which Mr. Smith overlayed with the parcels. He noted that just the public layer of parcels was shown.

Ms. Kawalec asked whether it would be possible to have the process in by May so that come July they will all be updated at the same time. She emphasized the importance of end-of-year data.
Mr. Farnsworth responded that he has been working on that and the agency he's been speaking with says that they are in the process of updating their parcels for the counties right now. This agency has also said that on the older ones they have, most of them on the list are within the last six months. He noted that if things worked out with this agency, the oldest data would be about 6-8 months old.

Mr. Farnsworth briefly discussed the metadata standard.

ITA REPORT
Ms. Kawalec reported on the February 25, 2015 ITA meeting. She discussed the state government technology strategic plan, which had been approved by ITA and incorporates GIS into a number of its goals in the overall business processes for the state.

TWG UPDATE
SOILS TWG – Mr. Korol reported on the newly established Soils TWG. Items recently discussed included the NRCS Idaho soils dataset as a possible nomination as the official state soil dataset and the possibility of using the Web Soil Survey (WSS) as the location of state soils data instead of asking INSIDE Idaho to host the entire NRCS dataset. No other comparable dataset for the state currently exists. Other options included asking INSIDE Idaho to host "gSSURGO" products, or asking INSIDE Idaho to automatically redirect to the WSS page when a soil data product was requested. He noted that although the dataset has large holes in it, NRCS and the Forest Service are working to get the Forest Service soil data to higher standards so that eventually there might be an entire state dataset.

GEODETIC CONTROL TWG – Ms. Serr reported on the recent hiring at ISU of Kazi Arifuzzaman, as the new geodetic coordinator. The TWG has recommended that Mr. Arifuzzaman be recognized at the state level as the geodetic coordinator so that the GIS community and surveyors know that he is a resource. He has already been recognized by the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) on the national level as the geodetic coordinator for Idaho. It was agreed that his contact information would be added to the GIS website.

Ms. Serr noted that the TWG has been discussing the Multi-State Control Point Database (MCPD) and that they were going through some database and web application optimizations to streamline performance. It

was hoped that the changes being made in the schema and on the web application would increase performance.

Ms. Serr briefly discussed the NAIP, which will be flown in June. The last NAIP that was flown utilized the MCPD with the control points that were available then, and the TWG encouraged people to contribute their control points to this database. These points can be submitted to Mr. Arifuzzaman for review.

In response to a question from Mr. Hill, Ms. Serr responded that there had been some discussion about getting the Real Time Network (RTN), but they were still in the process of getting things worked out. She added that Mr. Weber should have something to present on the RTN at the next meeting.

HYDROGRAPHY TWG – Ms. Favreau discussed the last Hydrography TWG meeting, which was held on March 12. She briefly discussed the upcoming modifications of the NHD, upcoming projects, standards, future activities, and the demo course on metadata. A link to the minutes is provided here and can also be found on the GIS website, as well as on the IDWR website. She noted that USGS is releasing an add-on tool for metadata that is already out on the NHD main website (http://nhd.usgs.gov/tools.html). She recommended that those interested in more easily accessing feature level metadata could download the ArcGIS add-on for desktop.

OTHER BUSINESS
ELECTION RESULTS – Ms. Kawalec reported on the 2015 election. The new members will begin their terms on April 1, and are subject to ITA approval. She expressed her appreciation for those willing to serve and announced that she will be stepping down from the committee. Election of a new chair for the committee will take place once the new members have begun their term. She encouraged the members to recruit new people in the GIS community to the IGC. Election results were as follows:

STATE:	Brynn Lacabanne	TRIBAL:	Laurie Ames
	*Pam Bond**	UTILITY:	*Brian Liberty**
FEDERAL:	*Jerry Korol**	PRIVATE:	Frank Roberts
	Wendy Hawley	OPEN:	*Stewart Ward***
LOCAL:	*Jared Stein***		*Wilma Robertson**
	Donna Phillips		
	Dennis Hill		** Incumbent, re-elected*
			** Newly elected

PLANNING FOR 2015 IGC SPRING BI-ANNUAL MEETING – Ms. Kawalec reported that this meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14th in Ada County. The location will be announced as soon as it is finalized. Possible agenda items were discussed, including Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and the MCPD.

UPDATE ON DEFINITION OF LAND SURVEYING LEGISLATION – Mr. Chapman reported that the legislation to update the legal definition of land surveying in Idaho has passed and been sent to the Governor to be signed. He commented that the GIS community and surveying community have grown closer together as a result of this. He noted that going forward education will be the focus for the surveying community.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING
The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m. The next meeting was scheduled for May 14, 2015. The location and time will be announced.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Seaman

Erin Seaman, Office of the CIO