

MINUTES

NC Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee Meeting
April 9, 2008
Education Board Room Lounge
1:00pm - 3:00pm

Members Present: Bill Holman, Jeff Essic (for Steve Morris), Julie Stamper, Tim Johnson, Sean McGuire, John Farley, Keith Johnston, Gary Thompson, Hope Morgan, Tom Morgan, Steve Strader, Stephen Dew (by phone)

Attendees: Megan Durden, Julia Harrell, Cam McNutt, Joe Sewash, Zsolt Nagy, Rex Minneman, David Giordano

Welcome/Introductions – Bill Holman, Chair

Bill Holman convened the meeting at 1PM and welcomed the members and attendees. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

NC Geographic Information Coordinating Council

Council Update – Tim Johnson

The last GICC meeting was held February 13. The updated final report from the Public/Private Partnership Working Group was presented. Among the recommendations are to provide incentives for local government to adhere to GICC-adopted standards, as well as for CGIA to develop formal data sharing agreements with utilities. The entire report can be found on the GICC website at http://www.ncgicc.com/Portals/3/documents/GICC_Pub_Priv_Report_v2_1_2008.pdf.

The Council also heard a presentation about the GIS Study recommendations. The study was given to the General Assembly on February 1, and includes sections on governance, funding, and infrastructure.

The GICC also received a presentation from Nancy von Meyer on building an integrated statewide parcel dataset. At the conclusion of the presentation, Dempsey Benton asked CGIA to review what Nancy discussed and determine subsequent action for the GICC.

State Government Subcommittee – Sean McGuire

January 31 was the last SGUC meeting. The group received presentations and discussion on Data Sharing, GeoPDF, ISRN (Integrated Statewide Road Network), a mapping application from DWQ-Groundwater, and an RTI International project called MIDAS. John Correllus is the new Chair of the committee, taking over for Dianne Enright.

The next SGUC general meeting is April 17.

Local Government Subcommittee – Julie Stamper

Julie reported that at the last LGC meeting (January 31) the group discussed data sharing, the Public/Private partnership report, imagery cost-share, and the possibility of a LiDAR specification. The committee also made appointments to Council work groups.

John Farley indicated he sends a lot of LiDAR data to local government. Bill Holman asked Julie what is the LGC perspective on data sharing? Julie indicated that since it was just recently passed, there hasn't been any real effect yet. Bill asked Julie to let the SMAC know if the LGC has any problems.

John mentioned the data sharing document is general, and that DOT is still calling counties twice a year for data because they have to. The GICC passed the data sharing recommendations but no implementation plan. Tim Johnson mentioned the hope is that NC Street Map becomes the mechanism for centerline distribution. Hope Morgan indicated she is preparing to send letters to local governments asking for GIS data for flood mapping. She said she would tell the recipients she will get centerline data from DOT. Tim said the topic should be brought back to the GICC, with regards to data sharing next steps.

Action Item: Bring back to the GICC the question of next steps that should be taken with regards to Data Sharing (i.e. implementation).

Federal Interagency Committee – Steve Strader

The FIC last met on January 15. They received a presentation from Dr. Ken Taylor on the FEMA product called HAZUS. The FIC executive committee met on March 18. Mary Combs will send to federal agencies in NC a federal version of the data sharing letter sent to state agencies by GICC Chair, Dempsey Benton.

Work Groups

Roads and Transportation – John Farley

John reported the NC Street Map application is in beta testing. A May 1 release date has been targeted. An announcement publicizing the release is in progress, with follow-up outreach to local governments so they will use the application. Zsolt Nagy asked once data is posted will it be available from NC OneMap? John responded yes, but that the data providers can opt out and not make it available via NC OneMap. Julia Harrell asked if a WebEx or some online training could be provided. John answered that there is no funding currently to undertake that.

Imagery and Orthophoto – Gary Thompson

The Orthophoto Planning subcommittee met last on 4/7. Gary asked everybody to make sure they are on the "sneakernet" distribution for orthos, if they need the data. Hope Morgan will email to the SMAC listserv the "Traditional Aerial Film Camera vs. Digital Camera" white paper. Comments will be solicited from the SMAC members through 4/23.

Action Item: Hope Morgan to email SMAC listserv digital camera white paper.

Gary mentioned NOAA is conducting a pilot project along the NC coast. They are collecting imagery and LiDAR. The geographic extent is from the ocean shoreline, inland to the sound side of the Outer Banks.

Seamless Parcels

David indicated the working group is taking shape. Members have been seated and he and the co-chairs will be working toward the first meeting. As a workgroup member, Julia mentioned a possible grant opportunity, with Wisconsin as a co-sponsor, to produce a centralized parcel repository. Tim stated he would like to see the workgroup set goals/objectives and timelines by the next GICC meeting.

Regular Status Updates

NC Board of Geographic Names – Wayne Walcott

Wayne had several NCBGN name change recommendations to present before the SMAC.

1. Whitehall Lake – The request is to rename Moody Lake to Whitehall Lake, to coincide with the name of a nearby business park under development. GNIS, local usage, and publications all reference the feature as Moody Lake. The NCBGN recommended this water body not be renamed. The SMAC concurred.
2. Big Branch – The request is to name an unnamed tributary in Buncombe County. The name was chosen as part of a creek-naming contest with local residents. The NCBGN recommended this water body be named Big Branch. The SMAC concurred.
3. Buttermilk Creek – The request is to name an unnamed tributary in West Asheville. The name was selected by a community-wide voting process. The NCBGN recommended this tributary be named Buttermilk Creek. The SMAC concurred.
4. Corner Gum – This request is to rename a small unincorporated community in Currituck County from Gum Corner to Corner Gum. The basis of the proposal was to change the name to recognize local usage. The NCBGN recommended this name change. The SMAC concurred.
5. Hickman Creek – This request is to name a previously unnamed tributary in Hoke County. It was submitted by a resident who wished to honor his father, an engineer with the water and sewer department. The NCBGN recommended the tributary be named Hickman Creek. The SMAC concurred.
6. Lake Overlook – This proposal is to make official a name that has been used locally for a number of years to identify a reservoir in Orange County. The feature was named such in an Orange County plat map from 1974. The NCBGN recommended naming this feature Lake Overlook. The SMAC concurred.

Cam McNutt asked if these name changes are communicated to the NC Division of Water Quality (DWQ). Wayne responded that he does not know. Steve Strader indicated he doubts if the USBGN filters down name changes as they occur. Steve added that the new names show up in the federal GNIS (Geographic Names Information System). The old name is also retained in GNIS. Cam said that DWQ has named streams themselves. This presents a conflict between DWQ and GNIS. Bill asked that this topic be added to the next SMAC agenda.

Action Item: Add agenda topic “coordinate differing names for water bodies between DWQ and GNIS” to next SMAC agenda.

Wayne indicated he will stay on as NCBGN chair until a replacement can be found.

National Geospatial Programs Office – Steve Strader

A tactical plan for the National Map 2.0 and Geospatial One Stop (GOS) has been released. The next version of the National Map calls for a centralized database of elevation, hydrography, imagery, land cover, boundaries, structures, transportation, and geographic names. This is a diversion from the previous National Map, which centered on a distributed “virtual” database. USGS will use all data they can find to build a consistent base map across the country. GOS will house the existing National Map catalog of map services, pending approval of the map service owners. There will also be an online change recommendation form for the National Map, which will include data.

There is no available ortho cost-share money for this fiscal year. Steve is trying to get funding from NGA (National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency) for orthos in the urban areas in NC. Tim asked if there was anything the GICC can do, perhaps write a letter. Steve indicated it might be a good idea. He and Tim will discuss this. Bill added the SMAC would welcome a letter.

Action Item: Tim and Steve to discuss a letter from GICC supporting ortho cost-share partnership.

Floodplain Mapping Program – Hope Morgan

Hope indicated she would send to the SMAC listserv the DFIRM map maintenance status map and the digital camera white paper.

Action Item: Hope to email SMAC listserv the DFIRM map maintenance status map.

Streambed Mapping – Joe Sewash

Joe gave a project update to the Environmental Management Commission's Water Quality subcommittee on March 12. He gave an overview of phase 1 of the project, showed comparisons of 1:24,000-scale hydrography to the streambed mapping hydrography, and also stated the business benefits of the project.

Hurricane Recovery Act money is available within its footprint to perform streambed mapping outreach. Outreach materials will be created and business cases will be documented for the data.

NC OneMap – David Giordano

New data releases include Natural Heritage Element Occurrences and Significant Natural Heritage Areas. Staff is working on putting the NC DOT ISRN centerline dataset in the NC OneMap viewer. They are also working on releasing ~60 collections of county imagery. This data will be available for download from the NC OneMap website.

Julia has conservation planning layers to be added to the NC OneMap viewer, as well as water and forest assessment layers and a Ridge Law dataset. Bill cautioned not to "dilute" the layers already in the NC OneMap viewer.

Action Item: David to ask SMAC members for additional layers they think should be added to the GICC NC OneMap viewer priority list of initial 37 data layers.

Zsolt gave a PowerPoint update on the NC OneMap Inventory. It is available for download from the GICC website.

Library of Congress and Digital Preservation – Jeff Essic

NCSU Libraries is currently ingesting old imagery as part of their preservation project. A multi-state preservation project with Kentucky and Utah will have their next meeting at the end of May. NC will host it. The GICC archiving group will meet next on May 2.

Action Item Review – David Giordano

1. Hope Morgan to provide map maintenance map to assist in ortho planning.

Hope will email the map document to the SMAC listserv after today's meeting.

2. Hope Morgan to post digital/film whitepaper to the SMAC listserv.

Hope will email the whitepaper to the SMAC listserv after today's meeting.

3. Bill Holman to inquire about a streambed mapping presentation at a future Environmental Management Commission meeting.

Joe presented to the Water Quality subcommittee on March 12.

4. Formalize membership of the Work Group for Seamless Parcels (WGSP).

Membership is complete.

New Business

NAVD88 – Gary Thompson

NAVD88 is the official federal vertical datum. NC does not have one. At the next GICC meeting, Gary asked if the SMAC could bring this issue to the table and ask the Council subcommittees for input. Feedback would be collected and then brought back to the GICC for the adoption of NAVD88 as the official vertical datum for NC (if that is the outcome). The SMAC agreed.

Action Item: SMAC to ask for feedback from Council subcommittees for making NAVD88 the official vertical datum.

NC State Boundary – Gary Thompson

Gary gave a brief PowerPoint on the history of the state borders between NC and the adjacent states. It is downloadable from the GICC website.

Adjourn