

## GIS Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes - February 17, 1993

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. by the Chair, Rod Armstrong.

Present were:

Rod Armstrong	Governor's Policy Research Office
Mahendra Bansal	Natural Resource Commission
Dennis Burling	Department of Environmental Quality
Lash Chaffin	League of Municipalities
Keith Crompton	US Stratcom
Blaine Dinwiddie	Omaha Public Power
Jerry Knocke	Department of Revenue
Terry Kubicek	Natural Resource Commission
Norm Helzer	USDA, SCS
James Langtry	Lancaster County Engineer
Dick Lees	Science Applications International Corp.
Jim Merchant	Conservation & Survey Division
Jon Ogden	Department of Roads
Joseph Parsley	Science Applications International Corp.
Tim Prescott	USDA-SCS
Steve Rathje	Natural Resources Commission
Duane Stott	Scottsbluff County Surveyor
Lynn Thiemann	Governor's Policy Research Office
Laura Valenziano	Legislative Research Office
Robert J. Wasilewski	Science Applications International Corp.
Dayle Williamson	Natural Resource Commission
Dennis Wilson	City of Omaha
Paul Yamamoto	Department of Environmental Quality
Larry K. Zink	Coordinator, GIS Steering Cmte.

**MINUTES:** Rod noted that the January 20, 1993 meeting of the Steering Committee was one member short of a quorum. He asked if anyone had any objections to actions taken at that meeting. No objections were raised. Dayle W. moved, Laura seconded, that the minutes of the January 20, 1993, meeting be approved. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:** Due to Rod's need to leave early for another meeting, the Str. Cmte. agreed to move items directly involving Rod to the top of the agenda.

**ROD'S REPORT ON STR. CMTE. MEMBER ATTENDANCE:** Rod reported that he had talked with Gordon Kissel of Nebr. Assoc. of Resources Districts and Lash Chaffin of the League of Municipalities about the Str. Cmte.'s desire to have more regular input and involvement of their constituent's concern in the Str. Cmte.'s work. Gordon K. has asked John Miyoshi of the Lower Platte North NRD to attend for him. Lash indicated that he will seek someone to attend regularly representing the League's interest.

**FUTURE FINANCIAL NEEDS OF STR. CMTE.:** Rod asked for input from the Str. Cmte. on its desires and ideas related to continuing the current situation of having part time staff support for the Str. Cmte.'s efforts. General support was expressed for the positive impact that part time staff support has had on the functioning of the Str. Cmte. Widespread support was expressed by Str. Cmte. members for continuing this staff support. Laura V. raised the possibility that proposed legislation, LB 109, might allow the Legislative Research Office to help provide financial support for the staff position. Str. Cmte. members offered no other specific proposals for how financial support for Str. Cmte. staff could be provided. Rod indicated that he was willing to explore the possibilities for a limited appropriation to cover the costs of part time staff support and other direct Str. Cmte. expenses, such as travel. Rod emphasized that this was not for GIS implementation itself.

**PROPOSED LEGISLATION POTENTIALLY IMPACTING GIS:** Laura V. initiated a discussion about the potential implications, for GIS implementation, of some of the proposed legislation. Larry Z. had prepared and passed out an abbreviated summary of some bills. There was extensive discussion about LB 401 which would provide for computer assess to computerized public data bases. Concerns raised included: privacy, liability, loss of the opportunity to recover cost of database development, and the public effectively being double-billed for information collected at public expense and then marketed by private interests. Dayle W. raised the question as to whether the Str. Cmte. could take a position on proposed legislation at this meeting since it was not explicitly on the meeting agenda. It was decided to place the issue on the next meeting's agenda and ask Rod to share the concerns raised in discussions he would have regarding this bill.

**LONG-RANGE STRATEGIC PLANNING:** Rod expressed his desire, as Chair, that the various Subcmtes. have their Subcmte.'s draft of assigned Strategic Goals and related implementation details completed by the March 17th Str. Cmte. meeting. This would hopefully allow the Str. Cmte. to give final approval at its April meeting. This timeline received general support from the Str. Cmte.

**CHAIR SHUFFLE:** Due to Rod A.'s need to leave for another meeting, Dayle W. assumed the duties of meeting chair.

**DATA INVENTORY SUBCOMMITTEE:** Jon O. reported that the Subcmte. had not had time to work on fleshing out Strategic Goal #2 due to the Subcmte.'s work on the Pilot Project.

Jon O. reported that the Pilot Project Team for developing an Online GIS Data Inventory, in cooperation with the Nebraska Library Commission, was making good progress. A record of the decisions of the Project Team was mailed out with the meeting agenda. The Str. Cmte. expressed appreciation of the work being done. Minor editorial changes were suggested on page 1 of minutes from 2/09/93. Dennis B. suggested changing the broad "Environment" category to "Natural Resources". Jim Langtry suggested changing "Ownership" to "Legal lot base". Jim M. noted that the "topology" listing was probably meant to be "topography". Terry K. expressed his desire that the Online listing somehow include the capability to connect electronically with the actual digital database.

**POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE:** In Rod's absence, Larry Z. gave the Subcmte. report. Larry referred to the current working draft (version 2/9/93) of Strategic Goals 1, 3, 6, 7, and 8 which were mailed out with the meeting agenda. It was noted that an additional implementation goal (Goal 6) was added. Larry noted that these goals were not complete and a significant amount of work needed to be done yet. Larry reported on the Policy Subcmte.'s suggestion that after the next Str. Cmte. meeting the completed draft Strategy be sent to all Str. Cmte. members for a straw poll of members feelings about the relative priority of various goals, objectives and tasks.

Larry brought two specific objectives under Goal 1 to the Str. Cmte.'s attention: Obj. 1 to develop an abridged listing of land-related or geo-referenced information needs; and Obj. 4 Identify current costs and anticipated financial needs for GIS implementation. Larry raised the question of the merits of beginning to work on those objectives as soon as possible. Laura raised a concern about the relative priority of the two objectives, indicating that she felt that the financial objective was very important. The Str. Cmte. urged the Policy Subcmte. to examine implementation of both objectives and if the Subcmte. felt it was possible to achieve both in a timely manner without the necessity of prioritizing them, the Subcmte. was authorized to proceed with a Data Needs Survey. Otherwise, the Policy Subcmte. should wait until the Str. Cmte. had determined the relative priority of the various objectives. It was suggested that the Policy Subcmte. form an ad hoc committee for the Data Needs Survey - Jim Merchant volunteered.

**TECHNICAL STANDARDS SUBCOMMITTEE:** Terry K. reported that the Subcmte. had meet and handed out a large volume of materials to be reviewed. The Subcmte. plans to meet again on March 3rd and further define Goal #4. Jim M. again stated his desire for more discussion, at some time, on standards. Larry Z. suggested that unnecessary work could be saved, if the Subcmte. would develop a list of areas proposed for standards development, and affected agencies, to facilitate early Str. Cmte. feedback.

**EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE:** Jim M. reported that the Education Subcmte. had not met to work on Strategic Goal # 5. He reported that Larry Z. had drafted some proposed revisions which he basically supported. He said these would be sent out with the minutes. Jim reported that a GIS newsletter was mailed out and proof copies given to a number of groups to use in their publications. Jim noted that there will be an Omaha GIS Users meeting on March 26th and a GIS Fair in Ames, IA on April 12th. Jim stated that the GIS Fair was a possible model for Nebraska to consider. He also briefly discussed a Kansas State Capitol Rotunda GIS Fair. Because of expressed interest, Jim offered to get additional info on how Kansas did their GIS Rotunda Fair.

**CHAIR SHUFFLE:** Jim M. took over as chair as Dayle W. had to leave to catch a flight.

**JERRY KNOCKE - REVENUE DEPARTMENT:** Jerry gave a brief report of the potential for GIS use in the local assessor's office. He noted that many of the data layers potentially available in a GIS would be very useful to property assessment and could be a real advantage in efforts to achieve standardization and equalization. Jerry noted that currently 40 counties are involved with the County Administered Property System (CAPS) system and have data stored with CDP. He said all but about a 12 counties are computerized. One of the big challenges for using GIS is a parcel numbering system.

**STAFF REPORT:** Larry gave a brief overview of his activities since the last Str. Cmte. meeting. A written report was handed out at the meeting.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REVIEW:** Larry Z. reported on changes to the Subcmtes.: Jim Brown, Larry Worrell, and Dennis Wilson added to the Technical Standards Subcmte.; and John Miyoshi added to the Policy Subcmte. Larry also reported that the only feedback he had gotten from the request for names of potential subcmte. members was from Jim M. and those names were attached to the handout on Subcmtes. No further feedback had been received on the structure and responsibility of the subcmtes.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm. The next Str. Cmte. meeting will be on March 17th.

**TO DO LIST:**

- \* Technical Standards Subcmte., formerly Basemapping Subcmte. will complete recommendations related to draft Strategic Goal #4 on goal wording, necessary objectives and tasks to accomplish the goal, as well as recommendations on the level of urgency; recommended deadlines; staff, expertise, and resources needed; lead agency or person; and participating agencies. Recommendations to be to Larry by 3/10/93.
- \* Data Inventory Subcmte. will complete recommendations related to draft Strategic Goal #2 on goal wording, necessary objectives and tasks to accomplish the goal, as well as recommendations on the level of urgency; recommended deadlines; staff, expertise, and resources needed; lead agency or person; and participating agencies. Recommendations to be to Larry by 3/10/93.
- \* Education Subcmte. will complete recommendations related to draft Strategic Goal #5 on goal wording, necessary objectives and tasks to accomplish the goal, as well as recommendations on the level of urgency; recommended deadlines; staff, expertise, and resources needed; lead agency or person; and participating agencies. Recommendations to be to Larry by 3/10/93.
- \* Policy Subcmte. will complete recommendations related to draft Strategic Goals #1, 3, 6, 7, and 8 on goal wording, necessary objectives and tasks to accomplish the goal, as well as recommendations on the level of urgency; recommended deadlines; staff, expertise, and resources needed; lead agency or person; and participating agencies. Recommendations to be to Larry by 3/10/93.
- \* Jim will get more information regarding how Kansas approached their GIS State Capitol Rotunda Fair.
- \* Rod will explore avenues for continued funding for part time staff support for the Steering Committee.
- \* Rod will share the Str. Cmte.'s concerns about LB 401 with groups meeting on that bill.
- \* Rod will put discussion of pending legislation related to GIS on the next meeting agenda.