



## Meeting Summary

### Current Standards and Relationship to the NESDI

An overview was presented on the progress and necessary next steps for the NESDI. The NITC has recently approved several standards. The next step is to advocate and coordinate statewide projects to meet these new standards. Methodologies and requirements need to be included in the business plans. This includes operational, implementation and maintenance requirements. Several recommendations were offered to communicate these standards to specific audiences. There was a discussion on communicating and handling requests for noncompliance of standards. Many new standards will require some time to adopt depending on the issue. All NITC standards and guidelines have a waiver process. The request must have documentation as to why the standard would not work. If the Technical Panel begins to receive many waivers for a particular standard, it was suggested that the GIS Council review the standards and reasons for waivers.

### Strategic Initiative Action Items

**Elevation Business Plan.** Mr. Lear provided an overview on the next steps for the elevation business plan. He recommended that a program management team form and start moving towards several implementation plans including: acquisition, marketing and outreach, stewardship, distribution, and authorization of a state LiDAR program with responsibilities. It was moved and approved to accept the Elevation Business Plan as a final document and begin moving forward on next steps of implementation.

**Land Records.** The adhoc Assessor GIS group did not meet in time for this meeting and they are to get back to Mr. Watermeier as to when they want to meet to further discuss their questions. Some of the recent concerns was frequency of the data being provided.

**NebraskaMAP.** The work group has been working on data work flows, metadata requests, how to process data files, components of the architecture, and security. Rather than have operational issues such as approval of changes to existing data holdings go to the Council, it was suggested to have the OCIO and working group handle the matter. In cases, where a steward to the data was not identified or not able to be updated, then would go to the GIS Council for discussion and recommendation for next steps. The team is aiming for September/October to officially release the new components to NebraskaMAP.

### Remote Sensing Outreach

Several GIS Council members and University of Nebraska representatives met and discussed needs and approaches to coordinate future outreach efforts, in particular for remote sensing topics. Ms. Vaitkus is currently working on grant from NebraskaView as a potential methodology to accomplish some of these tasks.

### State GIS Coordinators Report

**LB 652 – Adopt the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act.** It is speculated that the bill will be held up in committee for the year for further research and definition for the bill.

**GIS K-12 Education Initiative.** The statewide Esri software ELA for schools is in place. Educators have access to the Esri site to download software if they choose. The Nebraska Department of Education is also involved in coordinating five new workshops again this year. We will be reaching out to GIS professionals during the upcoming GIS Symposium to identify volunteers to serve as mentors and provide technical help.

**2015 Federal Geospatial Activities.** The COGO Report Card on the US National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) was distributed to the Council members. NSGIC wants states to advocate locally for the Geospatial Data Act of 2015. Additional information will be sought as to if and how the GIS Council can advocate for this bill.

**2015 Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Symposium.** Several members of the GIS Council will be presenting at the upcoming symposium to be held April 14-16, LaVista, Nebraska. Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.gislis.org>

Updates from Agencies Various updates were provided by agencies and are included in these minutes.

### Remembrance of Jim Merchant

Mr. Merchant had recently passed away. He was a GIS Champion and he recommended that the Council activities be more involved with the University. He was an advocate and started NebraskaMAP and wanted to make sure it would further succeed by efforts of the GIS Council.

**Motions**

Motions Carried:

- The February 12, 2015 minutes were approved.
- Motion was approved to accept the Elevation Business Plan as a final document.

Motions Failed:

There were no motions that failed.

**I. Roll Call and Quorum**

<b>Members Present:</b> * <i>Authorized to Vote</i>	<b>Members Absent:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Bill Wehling</i>, Department of Roads, Chair</li> <li>* Tim Cielocha, Public Power Districts, Vice Chair</li> <li>* <i>Josh Lear</i>, Department of Natural Resources</li> <li>* <i>Chad Boshart</i>, NEMA/Military Dept.</li> <li>* <i>Karis Bowen</i>, DHHS</li> <li>* Lash Chaffin, League of Nebraska Municipalities</li> <li>* Eric Herbert, NACO</li> <li>* <i>Jon Kraai</i>, Nebraska State Patrol</li> <li>Jim Langtry, USGS</li> <li>* <i>Gary Morrison</i>, Dept. of Environmental Quality</li> <li>* Jeff McReynolds, Lincoln Metro Area</li> <li>* John Miyoshi, NE Assoc. of Resource Districts</li> <li>* <i>Jim Ohmberger</i>, Office of the CIO</li> <li>* <i>Cullen Robbins</i>, Public Service Commission</li> <li>* Michael Schonlau, Member at Large</li> <li>* <i>Les Howard</i>, Conservation and Survey Div. – UNL</li> <li>Todd Wiltgen, NACO (Has not received final approval as of meeting date)</li> </ul> <p>* <i>Italicized names are designees to council seats.</i></p>	<p><i>Nancy Cyr</i>, Legislative Research                      Steve Cobb, State Surveyor                      Laura Kintner, Governor’s Policy Research Office  <i>Ruth Sorensen</i>, Property Tax Administrator                      Pat Larson, Member at Large  <i>Sudhir Ponnappan</i>, Nebraska Game and Parks                      Michael Preston, NE Geospatial Professional Assoc.                      Todd Whitfield, Member at Large                      Brittny King, NACO (attended after roll call)</p>
<b>NITC Representatives:</b>	Nathan Watermeier, GIS Council Coordinator; and Lori Lopez Urdiales, Office Services Manager, Office of the CIO
<b>Public Visitors:</b>	Jeff Timm, OCIO; Rose Braun, Mark Osborn, Rob Christian, Michael Munson, Kent Miller, Department of Roads; Erik Hubl, Lancaster County; Dan Erker, Infogroup; Chad Kudym, Databank; Milda Vaitkus, UNL-CSD, and Casey Dunn, Legislative Research

**I-III. General Meeting Formalities (continued)**

<b>Roll Call and Quorum</b>	The Chair, Bill Wehling, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Roll call was taken. There were 16 members present at the time of roll call. A quorum was present to conduct official business. One member arrived later.
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<p><b>Introduction of Audience Attendees</b></p>	<p>Public visitors were welcomed and were asked to introduce themselves if they wished. Visitors who wished to identify themselves as attending the meeting were to sign the visitor log and their name and affiliation would be reported in the minutes.</p>
<p><b>Public Meetings Regulations and Posting of the Same</b></p>	<p>Meeting notice posted on the <a href="#">Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar</a> on December 15, 2014 and agenda posted on GIS Council website March 6, 2015.</p>
<p><b>Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>Mr. Shonlau moved to approve the February 12, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Cullens seconded.</b> Roll call vote: Wehling-Yes, Cielocha-Yes, Lear-Yes, Boshart-Yes, Bowen-Yes, Chaffin-Yes, Herbert-Yes, Howard-Yes, Robbins-Yes, Kraai-Abstained, Langtry-Yes, Ohmberger-Abstained, McReynolds-Abstained, Miyoshi-Yes, Morrison-Yes, and Schonlau-Yes. <b>Results: Yes-13, No-0, Abstained-3. Motion carried.</b></p> <p>Ms. King was not present at the time of voting.</p>

**IV. CURRENT STANDARDS AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE NESDI**

	<p><b>Overview and Next Steps.</b> Mr. Watermeier provided an overview to date on where the GIS Council has been and necessary next steps for the NESDI. The NITC has approved standards recommended by the GIS Council. He also provided an overview of specific characteristics of the recent standards that have been approved (i.e., imagery, elevation, street centerline, and address). The next step is to advocate and coordinate statewide projects to meet these new standards. Methodologies and requirements need to be included in the business plans. This includes operational, implementation and maintenance requirements.</p> <p>Ms. King arrived to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Raise awareness, Education, Outreach and Technical Assistance.</b></p> <p>This will be first time for many learning that standards have been initiated and approved. It is important to communicate and make aware of these standards. To assist with communication with cities, Mr. Chaffin offered to publish an article in their newsletter. He asked if the Office of the CIO would be willing to write the article that would include a brief explanation, benefits and advocacy points. He recommended the same be done for NPPD and NACO newsletters. Mr. Watermeier will draft the article and send to the GIS Council members for review before releasing.</p> <p>Other suggestions and recommendations where offered and included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing and New Mail lists. Members were encouraged to share informational article with their professional email lists.</li> <li>• Use County contacts based on application.</li> <li>• Target specific groups pertaining to the standard.</li> <li>• Educational materials should include graphics that would show benefits, for example going from 12 to 6 inch imagery.</li> <li>• Take advantage of upcoming statewide conferences to do informational sessions, workshops and have informational booth (NACO, Municipalities, GIS/LIS Association, etc.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Communicating and handling requests for noncompliance of standards</b></p> <p>It was discussed about how to handle requests for efforts that are not following or adopting standards. Many new standards will require some time to adopt depending on the issue. All NITC standards and guidelines have a waiver process. A request for waiver must be submitted to the NITC Technical Panel for their review and approval. The request must have documentation as to why the standard would not work. If the Technical Panel begins to receive many waivers for a particular standard, it was suggested that the GIS Council review the standards and reasons for waivers. Depending on the</p>
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situation, this may or may not impact future amendments to standards. Places where standards are not being met are suggested to bring it to the attention of the GIS Council for further recommendations.

The GIS Council, by statute, has authority to “*The assessment of needs, identification of scope, setting of standards, and determination of an appropriate enforcement mechanism;*” 5.2.2(c) when making recommendations to the Commission for the establishment of guidelines and policies for statewide Geographic Information Systems operations and management activities. (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-572(2))

**V. STRATEGIC INITIATIVE ACTION ITEMS**

**DISCUSSION** **Elevation Business Plan.** Mr. Lear provided an overview on the next steps for the elevation business plan. He was thanked for heading up the work group and developing the business plan. Mr. Lear recommended that a program management team form and start moving towards several implementation plans including: acquisition, marketing and outreach, stewardship, distribution, and authorization of a state LiDAR program with responsibilities. Mr. Wehling would like to move this forward to as a final document pending approval and opened it up for discussion. There is verbal commitment from most of the agencies involved to proceed with the Elevation Business plan.

**Chaffin moved to accept the Elevation Business Plan as a final draft by the GIS Council. Mr. Miyoshi seconded.** Roll call vote: Wehling-Yes, Cielocha-Yes, Lear-Yes, Boshart-Yes, Bowen-Yes, Chaffin-Yes, Herbert-Yes, Howard-Yes, Robbins-Yes, Kraai-Yes, Ohmberger-Yes, McReynolds-Yes, Miyoshi-Yes, King-Yes, Morrison-Abstained, and Schonlau-Yes. **Results: Yes-15, No-0, Abstained-1. Motion carried.**

Mr. Miyoshi left the meeting.

**Land Records.** The adhoc Assessor GIS group was meeting today and they are to get back to Mr. Watermeier as to when they want to meet to further discuss their questions. Some of the recent concerns was frequency of the data being provided. Requests for data would be coordinated with the counties. There is also no longer a request for homestead data.

**NebraskaMAP.** The work group met yesterday and discussed data work flows, metadata requests, how to process data files, components of the architecture, and security. Rather than have operational issues such as approval of changes to existing data holdings go to the Council, it was suggested to have the OCIO and working group handle the matter. In cases, where a steward to the data was not identified or not able to be updated, then would go to the GIS Council for discussion and recommendation for next steps. A new logo and branding theme has been developed and will now be extended to the development of the interface pages. The recent 2014 FSA NAIP imagery has been both cached and provided as an image service. The team is aiming for September/October to officially release the new components to NebraskaMAP.

**VI. REMOTE SENSING OUTREACH**

**DISCUSSION** Mr. Watermeier met with several GIS Council members and University of Nebraska representatives on approaching the need to coordinate future outreach efforts, in particular for remote sensing topics. Ms. Vaitkus is currently working on grant from NebraskaView as a potential methodology to accomplish some of these tasks. Ms. Vaitkus will keep the Council informed of the status of the grant and other activities benefiting remote sensing outreach.

## VII. STATE GIS COORDINATORS REPORT

## DISCUSSION

LB 652 – Adopt the 911 Emergency Services Communications Act This bill seems like it may not move forward. It is speculated that the bill will be held up in committee for the year for further research and definition for the bill. One of the main issues was how the funding portion was being handled and another reason on who needs to be involved in the advisory committee.

K-12 Initiative. The statewide Esri software ELA for schools is in place. Educators have access to the Esri site to download software if they choose. The Nebraska Department of Education is also involved in coordinating five new workshops again this year based on the three year grant with the Nebraska Environmental Trust. We will be reaching out to GIS professionals during the upcoming GIS Symposium to identify volunteers to serve as mentors and provide technical help.

2015 Federal Geospatial Activities. The COGO Report Card on the US National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) was distributed to the Council members. Grade determination were provided to various aspects to the NSDI and are as follows: A-Fit for the Future, B-Adequate for Now, C-Requires Attention, D-At Risk, and F-Unfit for the future. Out of 8 different subjects, there was only one B. The rest of the grades were C's and D's. NSGIC wants states to advocate locally for the Geospatial Data Act of 2015. Chaffin suggested that each Council member needs to read the bill and determine first if it is something they approve of for there organization. Mr. Watermeier will send Council members the link to the Act. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/740/all-info> It has since been referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. Nebraska Senator Deb Fischer sits on this committee. After discussion, it was also recommended to find out if the Council can submit a letter of support.

2015 Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Symposium Several members of the GIS Council will be presenting at the upcoming symposium to be held April 14-16, LaVista, Nebraska. The agenda and some of the presentation abstracts for the GIS/LIS Symposium was shared with the GIS Council members. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.gislis.org>

## VIII. UPDATE FROM MEMBERS AGENCIES

## DISCUSSION

Department of Roads. Mr. Wehling reported that their GIS Committee meets regularly and discusses items important to the GIS Council.

USGS. Mr. Langtry reported that the agency is announcing the upcoming 3DEP LiDAR offering. Nebraska is already participating with the recently accepted proposal for western Nebraska. Proposals will be due in July 2015. Public meetings will be held to inform the public about the elevation program. The USGS website also has a web site that shows federal priorities of the project.

## IX. OTHER BUSINESS

## DISCUSSION

Remembrance of Jim Merchant. Mr. Watermeier and other Council members attended his service. There were many people in attendance. Mr. Merchant was a GIS Champion and he recommended that the Council activities be more involved with the University. He was an advocate and started NebraskaMAP and wanted to make sure it would further succeed by efforts of the GIS Council.

## X. INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM ATTENDEES

## DISCUSSION

There was no public comment.

<b>Meeting Conclusion</b>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>Mr. McReynolds moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lear seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.</b>  The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.
<b>Next Meeting</b>	The next meeting will be May 20, 2015, 1:00-3:30 p.m. at the Department of Roads, Lincoln Nebraska.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Nathan Watermeier of the Office of the CIO/NITC.