

**Minutes of the
Arizona Geographic Information Council
Data Committee
September 24, 2008
Arizona State Land Department Building**

Attendees Included:

Gene Trobia, SCO
Victor Gass, AZDEQ
Brian Brady, City of Yuma
John Fann, AZ Commerce
Jean Ann Rodine AZDEQ
Wes Kortuem, ADHS
Laura Burnette, State Parks
Tom Tyndall, State Parks,
Nicole Brown, AGFD
Sue Smith, Azwater
Jami Garrison, ADOT
Keith Larson, NRCS
Lee Allison, AZGS
Tim Colman, SCO

Committee Members via Teleconference Link:

Tom Sturm, USGS
Kevin Blake, Yavapai
Candace Bogart, USFS
Howard Ward, TerraSystems

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am.

I GIS Inventory (Ramona) update – Jana Hutchins

1. The effort to get statewide framework data (as defined in Ramona) is mostly complete. The next focus will be on getting county data into the system. Tom Sturm asked if we are including facilities/critical infrastructure data. Gene and Jana replied that this is not included in the initial effort, which focuses on framework data but will be requested in a following phase.

Jana will be giving a presentation on the inventory effort at the upcoming AGIC 2008 Geospatial Education & Training Symposium. To support this, a workstation will be set up near the conference registration table and will be staffed by volunteers to obtain additional inventory information from attendees.

II Arizona Height Modernization Program (AZHMP) Update – Gene Trobia

Nine CORS stations are now online. There are plans for at least an additional nine stations to be added. The SCO has established Partnership Grants to help establish additional stations, support new geodetic surveys or support special requests that meet AZHMP requirements. Gene reported that Federal Height Modernization money cannot be used to establish real-time networks. However, work is ongoing with local county agencies to build a network of CORS stations. Candace Bogart asked if ADOT is involved in this effort. Gene replied that he and Dave Minkel are working to make ADOT aware of the benefits of the Height Modernization program and they may be involved.

III. NSGIC Advocacy Agenda Priorities – Gene Trobia with Kevin Blake

Gene reported on the results of the two state caucuses from the recent NSGIC annual conference. The priorities that came out of the caucuses were:

- Continued support for IFTN: Recent developments include a public archive of Landsat data and a plan for federal funding of the base NAIP program. Support for IFTN has been provided by the Dept. of Interior and the Dept. of Agriculture. There are ongoing efforts to work on an implementation plan to fund the full program.
- Parcel mapping: The Mapping Science Committee report on Cadastral Data and the Federal FLAIR Act, if it passes, provide some impetus for national implementation. The FLAIR Act would direct the development of a database of all federally owned lands (including parcels).
- Partnership Program: NSGIC has asked that funding for the FGDC CAP program be expanded to \$1.1M, on an annual basis.
- Transportation for the Nation: This is a new Advocacy priority for NSGIC, although work has been ongoing to work with USDOT and others to develop a nationwide street centerline database for many years. NSGIC is working closely with the new USDOT GIO on this issue.
- Technology: The Broad Band Initiative would provide an opportunity for supporting GIS data development in support of the initiative. This initiative would especially benefit rural America. Arizona would really benefit from this.
- E-Government Reauthorization: Has potential GIS component related to data compatibility and interoperability

IV. The National Map/USGS update – Tom Sturm with Gene Trobia

Tom gave a theme-based breakdown of activities in support of The National Map. Elevation and imagery comprise the largest portion of the USGS budget for this type of work, followed by hydrography, transportation, structures (facilities), names, and governmental units (boundaries). The focus for elevation is on partnership development for LiDAR capture. The USGS is participating in a number of projects in the West, including a statewide acquisition program in Oregon (including Lidar), but there is no

current activity in Arizona. Current imagery activities in Arizona focus on the Phoenix and Tucson urban areas and the AZ/Mexico border. The Phoenix and Tucson efforts are being done with the Maricopa Flood Control District and Pima Association of Governments with funding coming from NGA. NGA is also funding the border project with the USGS providing quality control. Imagery for the border is being captured (30 miles north and 10 miles south of the border) at this time, but permission has not yet been given to fly over Mexico. So completion of the project may be delayed. The USGS hydrography program is focusing on some basic database maintenance at a national level and on growing the program for stewardship of the National Hydrography Dataset through state-based partnerships. The program has awarded stewardship seed funding grants in a number of western states. Transportation data is getting increased attention and currently the USGS has ongoing partnerships with WA DOT and in Idaho for data development and stewardship. The USGS is taking an integrated approach to geographic names and structures data development so that a common set of features in the correct location are created (i.e. GNIS school name with facility/building location). Tom is working on a project with the NV DOT related to this.

V National Wetlands Inventory report - Candace Bogart

Candace reported that the Forest Service is currently producing 1 meter non-ortho color imagery for the Apache Sitgraves Forest. Also, Region 3 is contracting with the Tennessee Valley Authority to digitize raster versions of existing NWI maps from the early 1980's to create a wetlands polygon database. The AZ portion of the work is in progress with completion estimated around the end of the calendar year. Candace also mentioned that AZ DEQ and the U of A are working to compile new wetlands information of some areas of Arizona.

VI 2009 Work plan priorities – Gene and all meeting attendees

The discussion began with a review of 2008 priorities (and carry forward any projects that did not get completed and are still a priority):

1. Imagery - continue development, maintenance, distribution. Incorporate most recent best available Maricopa County Aerial imagery into existing Arizona Imagery Server application.
NOTE: (some cost may be associated with this objective)

Currently we have used 1.86 of the 2 TB that were purchased on the last MOA - so in order to load Maricopa County, we need more disk space. This means adding about another TB for next year as well as a few hours to load the data.

2. Continue development on Statewide Clearinghouse
3. Begin statewide parcel dataset development - Level One - get all the data in 'one bucket' and develop minimum congruent standards.

4. Transportation - continue centerline working group.
5. AZ3D - Stay apprised of and involved in efforts.
6. Ramona GIS Inventory - continue efforts to fill in Framework level data at regional and local levels.
7. Lidar – monitor national and state activities with reports from the SCO.
8. Height Modernization - Stay apprised of and involved in these efforts
Details are available at <http://agic.az.gov/board/committees/data/meetings.htm>
The Committee agreed that the 2008 goals for items 1 and 3 were completed.

Proposed activities for 2009 are:

- Imagery: Develop a plan for sustained funding of the ASU imagery server, obtain collections of additional imagery and continue monitoring developments in the NAIP program and IFTN. Incorporate most recent best available Maricopa County Aerial imagery into existing Arizona Imagery Server application (There may be costs associated with housing Maricopa County Imagery).
- Collect cadastral/parcel data to Level 1 – which is get all the data into one 'bucket' and develop minimum standards
- Continue work on street centerline development from 2008 work plan
- Stay apprised and support the development of AZ3D.
- Continue development of the Arizona Geospatial Clearinghouse
- Conduct an Arizona GIS Roundup (Ramona) Inventory – Continue building the inventory by completing statewide framework data and focus on collecting county/local data
- LiDAR – explore the options of collecting LiDAR data in Arizona
- Height Modernization – stay apprised and involved in national and Arizona issues.

The proposed activities will be further developed by the Committee in preparation for presentation at the November AGIC Board meeting.

VII Other announcements

Jami Garrison mentioned that ADOT has obtained a new data collection vehicle that is capable of capturing ground LiDAR, GPS, and imagery for ADOT's surface management and inventory needs. Jami also made some conference related announcements.

Lee Allison mentioned that his office has received National Science Foundation funding to support the initial development of the distributed science data network that Lee has been working on through the American Association of State Geologists.

Keith Larson announced that the Watershed Data Base (WDB) for AZ has been sent in for certification. The WDB depicts watershed boundaries at the 6th level, 12-digit level and there are about 3400 units. Keith will enter this data into the Arizona GIS Roundup (Ramona) database.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 pm.