

Geographic Information Coordinating Council  
**MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

November 16, 2015

1:00 to 2:00 PM

NC Department of Information Technology (DIT)

3700 Wake Forest Road

Lighthouse Conference Room

**MINUTES**

1. Chair Stan Duncan welcomed Bob Brinson, Dan Madding, Tim Johnson, Jeff Brown, Brett Spivey and on the phone, Bob Coats and Silvia Terziotti

Lacking a quorum, the Chair called the meeting to order for informational purposes only.

2. Minutes of the September 21<sup>st</sup> and October 19<sup>th</sup> meetings will be considered for approval at the next meeting.

3. Quick Updates

- a. Census Geospatial Data

Bob Coats reported that the Census Bureau and the State Data Center hosted the “NC Emergency Response Hackshop” in Wilmington, November 6-7, at the UNC Wilmington Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Participants included Hope Morgan from NC Emergency Management, Tina Bone from NC 911 Board, Brett Spivey and Jeff Brown from CGIA, Census Bureau staff involved with open data and statistics, and the US Department of Agriculture. The numbers were lower than expected because of competing events, but the programmers and subject matter experts collaborated on useful applications. Both play important roles in generating ideas and focusing the programming. Some developers followed suggestions from Hope Morgan (e.g., tornado tracks), but others came up with ideas on the spot that turned out to provide a new perspective on available data (e.g., from NCDOT traffic cameras). Microsoft and Esri provided expertise and resources. The federal partners were pleased with the event. Hope Morgan suggested holding more events around the state on a variety of issues and developing a competition for applications. Bob Coats offered to continue to help coordinate with the federal partners.

Brett Spivey commented that the most interesting aspect of the hackshop was the way ideas emerged and were either discarded or fleshed out. He sees potential in using the hackshop approach among state agencies to develop useful new applications. Incremental steps to making more use of existing online resources to create new maps and new perspectives could emerge from similar sessions. Feedback to data producers can be one result. Ideas can be preconceived or can evolve during the session. Availability of open data for applications is a factor in what can be produced in a short time.

Jeff Brown expressed appreciation to Mr. Coats for providing time for state agencies to brief the hackshop on NC OneMap and the various tools and data offered by NC Emergency

Management. He observed that the hackshop was a good opportunity for the Census Bureau to describe its application programming interface (API). Mr. Coats commented that NC's participation is early in the process and appreciated. Also, the hackshops are an impetus for application developers who enjoy this type of challenge to coalesce in coding groups around the country. A new group in Wilmington emerged from the weekend.

Stan thanked all the people involved and urged future participation.

On the topic of Census 2020, the redistricting program begins in December and runs through May 2016. There will be a free software package—Geographic Update Partnership Software (GUPS) and the Census Bureau will release preliminary Census block geography as a starting point for the Block Boundary Suggestion Program. Recipients will include county boards of election. The software will be applicable to the Boundary and Annexation Survey process in parallel. To begin the process, the Census Bureau is offering an optional presentation to the General Assembly on redistricting and other programs including the Geographic Support System Initiative involving CGIA. If the General Assembly accepts the Census Bureau's offer to meet, Mr. Coats suggested GICC participation considering the extensive use of GIS in the programs.

Mr. Duncan emphasized the importance of the Council taking a leadership role in Census collaboration and the value of a centralized address database for Census 2020. Mr. Coats agreed and urged a strategy for state agency cooperation. He also asked if legislation is needed to prepare us for 2020. Stan observed that with the formation of the Department of Information Technology (DIT), this is an opportune time to define the requirements and costs and make progress.

#### b. Orthoimagery

Tim Johnson reported that the Southern Piedmont and Mountains phase (2015) is on schedule, with delivery meetings scheduled for January and release on NC OneMap in February as usual. He noted that a couple of areas may need to be re-flown this winter to resolve some visual quality issues.

The coastal region (2016) is underway to start the next four-year cycle of imagery acquisition. Contract negotiations with selected vendors are in progress. Coordination with the Secretary for Military and Veterans Affairs and military bases has gone well. Flights are approved for all areas of the coastal region.

Mr. Duncan added that he has received positive comments from county tax assessors about the imagery and the program.

#### 4. Annual Report

The Annual Report has been reformatted to a 12-page document that focuses on accomplishments and plans. There is not a due date, but it will be ready for review by the Department of Information Technology this week. In parallel, CGIA is working with the DIT communications team on a brochure to provide a companion piece that is briefer and more graphic.

#### 5. Preparation for the GICC Meeting November 19

The Council program will be presented by Kyle Snyder, Director of the Next Generation Air Transportation Center at NCSU. The center is designated as a Center of Excellence by the Federal Aeronautics Administration. The Council agenda includes a 30-minute segment for discussion. This is a rare opportunity to have Mr. Snyder's time and attention. Mr. Duncan observed that some of the discussion may touch on federal regulations, public safety, privacy, commercial versus recreational, aerial photography firms losing business, and relatively low cost of recreational UAS.

Logistics for the meeting will be different for the State Employees Credit Union building. There is a security station for signing in and members will be escorted by Council staff to the 12<sup>th</sup> floor. The meeting will start at noon with an informal brown-bag lunch in an adjacent room.

Mr. Duncan expects the time available for committee reports to be limited and he requests committee chairs to be brief this time, briefer than usual. There will not be a representative of the Local Government Committee in attendance, so there will be no report.

#### 6. Local Government Committee Chair Vacancy

The chair position is still vacant. One committee position is vacant, also, representing NCLGISA. None of the six current members have enough availability to commit to serving as chair.

Mr. Duncan would like to see a chair from a location closer to Raleigh, perhaps extending no farther than Greensboro, Asheboro, or Wilson. That would make in-person participation in Management & Operations Committee meetings more likely and simplify travel to Council meetings. Modification of bylaws regarding the chair is under consideration.

#### 7. Committee Reports

For the GIS Technical Advisory Committee, Dan Madding reported that he and his colleagues have completed a draft document on mobile GIS to give subject matter experts something to build upon. This is intended to be a set of recommended practices to inform GIS practitioners who are considering or writing applications using mobile devices. URISA's mobile workshop book is a useful reference getting started. ArcGIS Collector is being tested. He added that there is a need for someone to write a section about the accuracy of GPS coordinates captured on a phone or tablet with reference to North Carolina's GPS standard (Global Navigation Satellite Systems). Mr. Madding will contact Gary Thompson for advice, and would like to know if there is another expert available. Part of the analysis is making websites mobile friendly. He requested contact information for local governments using mobile applications including 311. He will also see a demonstration by the NC Division of Water Resources on mobile data collection methods. The document will likely need to be updated in a couple of years considering how technology has been developing.

#### 8. Other Items from the Group

Mr. Duncan announced that John Correllus, Director of the Government Data Analytics Center (GDAC) will serve on the Council, starting this week, as the designee for the State Chief Information Officer. He will introduce Mr. Correllus at the meeting and welcome him back to

the Council where he served from 2000 to 2010 as a representative for the Department of Commerce and as chair of the State Government GIS User Committee.

Mr. Brown added that Ryan Draughn, at the October SMAC meeting, assigned two working groups to update Council adopted standards. The Working Group for Seamless Parcels will update the data content standard for parcels based on the NC Parcels Project, and the Working Group for Roads and Transportation will update the standard for street centerlines. Both were adopted in 2005 and are in need of revision.

Mr. Madding recommended an update of the 1996 Land Use/Land Cover standard that was created to guide development of the 1996 land cover product produced by CGIA, which turned out to be a one-time dataset. The TAC may be able to look into land use/land cover next year.

#### 9. Future Meeting Dates:

Mr. Duncan advised that the M&O meeting scheduled for December 14 will probably not be held. Tim Johnson explained that CGIA is moving to the Education Building to the 7<sup>th</sup> floor location it occupied six years ago, probably during that week. GDAC, to which CGIA now reports, will be located on the first floor of the Education Building. The next meeting is likely to be held on January 11. Mr. Duncan will announce a decision later.

The meeting adjourned at 1:59 PM.