Executive Summary
MONTANA LAND INFORMATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (MLIAC)
December 9, 2008

Members or Designees

Robin Trenbeath—DOA/ITSD; Art Pembroke – Lewis and Clark County IT Dept; Lance Clampitt – USGS; Mike Birtles – Bureau of Land Management; Rudy Cicon—MARLS Representative; Connie Eissinger—McCone County Commissioner(via MetNet); Ed Madej—Tetra-Tech; Annette Cabrera—Yellowstone County (via MetNet); Evan Hammer—DNRC; Catherine Maynard—DNRC; Lydia Bailey for Chris Smith—Dept of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Michael Sweet—University of Montana (via MetNet); Don Patterson—USDA Forest Service (via MetNet); Darlene Staffeldt—Montana State Library and Kris Larson for Ken Wall—GeoData Services Inc.

Guests

Doug Burreson – Missoula County, Erin Geraghty—DOA/ITSD, R.J. Zimmer—DJ&A, Nathan Carter—DEQ, Chris Stump—DEQ, Michael Fashoway—DOA/ITSD, Stu Kirkpatrick—DOA/ITSD, Gerry Daumiller – NRIS, Marty Balikov – ESRI, Nilo Cabrera – Yellowstone County, Bryant Ralston – ESRI, Tim Weisenburger – ESRI, Marlin Sander -- MDT, Kreh Germaine – DOA/ITSD

Approval of September Executive Summary **Action Item**

Darlene Staffeldt noted some awkward language in the first bullet of "Update on the Portal Metadata Standard" and Stu noted a misspelling. The Council approved the September Executive Summary as modified.

Governor's 2010/2011 Budget – Robin Trenbeath

The Governor's budget included one million dollars for the Governor's Challenge (subsequent to the MLIAC meeting, the Governor removed the Challenge from the budget) and $950,000 in MLIA grant spending authority. The request for $750,000 per year for BMSC funding was not included.

2009/2010 Land Information Plan – Robin Trenbeath ** Action Item**

An email was distributed to clarify the $240,000Land Plan spreadsheet error. The estimate for MLIA funds collection by March of 2009 is $800,000 (approximately $100,000 less than last year). Robin proposed that grants continue being funded on their merit, without regard to set dollar amounts per topic up to the total amount available. A motion to remove the individual amounts in each goal category was approved unanimously.

The Governor's Challenge was added to the spreadsheet on the last page. The Challenge will be included in the Land Plan and the budget process, but will not use MLIA funds (with the removal of the Governor's Challenge from the budget, these projects again became funding eligible). Milestone 2.1.1 could be used to support any Governor's Challenge projects.

The Council asked why certain goals (specifically 2 and 3) from last year's Plan were not included in this year's Land Plan. After some discussion, the Council decided to re-instate these issues, if for no other reason than to demonstrate their support of the GIO's efforts. There was a motion to include these issues in the new plan, with a report on what has been accomplished and what has yet to be accomplished. It was approved unanimously.

A request was made that the grant criteria verbiage include a requirement that all data produced under MLIA grants be registered with the MSL GIS Portal.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the Governor's Challenge and the relationship to Framework layer funding. Opinions varied. Salient points included:

- The funds would best be used for framework layers.
- It is the Council's responsibility to provide sound advice to the Governor.
- It might be best to decline the funds offered by the Governor because they do not accomplish the set Council goals.
- Others felt it would be foolish to decline the funds when the Governor is giving the Council direction on what he wants accomplished.
- The Council should communicate to the Governor that other functions/layers need to be funded.
- The Council wants the Governor and the Legislature to understand that the framework layers and base data are necessary to support the Governor's Challenge and other critical policy-level issues.
- Art Pembroke went on record that he feels the Council is not providing sound advice to the Governor on the framework funding issue.
- MAGIP will provide a letter of support for the council to use these funds to support the base services necessary to accomplish the Governor's goals. They also encouraged others to provide letters and testimony of support.
- Motion to approve the Land Plan as modified was approved unanimously.

MLIA Grants
➢ Flathead Addressing Project – Stu Kirkpatrick
The parties have agreed to terminate the grant contract & return the remaining monies to the MLIA account (approximately $83,000). The Grant Termination letter is available at:
http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/mliac/December_2008/december_2008.mcpx

➢ Grant Administrative Cost Guidelines – Robin Trenbeath
This draft document shows guidelines for what administrative costs will be allowed when evaluating grants. There was a question on the MLIA $240K 'administrative' costs as to whether they are considered administrative. Robin clarified that operating costs (which the $240K is) are not the same as administrative costs (operating costs = travel, training; administrative costs = internal overhead).

Cathy Maynard asked for clarification on the "ratio of total MLIA funded overhead to the total grant funds requested, the higher the ratio the lower the grant score." Robin responded that the philosophy of the Council has always been that MLIA money is intended to get projects on the street, not to pay administrative costs. Robin purposefully did not say how much the score would drop; that is to be determined by the Grant Committee. The goal is to get entities to find other avenues to pay those administrative costs, so more MLIA money goes directly to projects.

Mike Sweet is comfortable with the fact that higher rates can be submitted as part of the process and the Grant Committee determining if those costs are justifiable.

Clarifying what qualifies as administrative costs was intentionally not specified to allow the committee to determine that on a per grant basis.

The University system requested the term overhead or indirect be used rather than administrative costs.

Is there a legal obligation to charge an indirect cost? Robin will check with ITSD legal department.

➢ Proposed Rule Change – Art Pembroke

The working group proposed changing the cycle from annual to biannual to match the State fiscal years, lengthening the Land Plan development time, and the time for grant submissions. They will work on these changes in preparation for the 2011 Legislature term. In the meantime, they will visit the option of re-writing the Rule.

➢ Grant Subcommittee Start-up – Mike Bousliman

Mike has been unable to get this started, but will do so in the near future.

Lunch (Provided for Council and Invited Guests)

➢ Stewardship Review Process – Robin Trenbeath

Robin expressed disappointment at the number of volunteers; Geodetic Control– 2, Imagery – 4, Soils – 3. These are important issues and if this is all the interest there is in reviewing stewardship, Robin recommends the Council drop the process; there are other places to invest our limited resources. Council discussion followed. Are we talking to the right people? Reviews are time consuming and difficult - not lack of interest, just lack of time and higher priorities. Typically, things are working well. Mike Sweet suggested that Robin do the reviews and report to the Council. However, with legislature coming into session and so many other obligations, this would put a tremendous strain on Robin. Erin Geraghty suggested that perhaps the theme leads need to meet more frequently to discuss issues.

Robin asked Mike Sweet and Kris Larson review and report on the issue at the next meeting.

➢ Governor's Challenge Update – Robin Trenbeath

BMSC is acting as the overall coordinator, with the order of priorities being: Abandon mines, Red and Dead, Carbon Sequestration, Energy Map/Atlas, Drought, Organic Matter and Mineral Rights Ownership.

Abandon Mines

Nat Carter, DEQ spoke regarding efforts primarily focused toward abandon mines and the energy atlas. They have quite a bit of information already available, just not necessarily in the required form.

Red & Dead

Lance Clampitt, USGS in conjunction with State Forestry and US Forest Service is doing a lot of work on mapping the Red and Dead. Evan Hammer, DNRC is comfortable sharing the information they have with Lance or anyone else to help achieve the goal. Mike Sweet, suggested a one-day workshop in April to get some of these groups together. This is a bit later than we had hoped but we can try for smaller sessions with more specific input. Linda Vance stated that Red & Dead is well-tracked and easy to follow on State land but the beetles don't recognize property lines, this is where the base level map function needs to be available.

Carbon Sequestration

A meeting is scheduled between Lance Clampitt, the Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership, the State GIS Coordinator and the GIO. Catherine Maynard, DNRC: National level has research going on with regard to this subject and the State is working with the Institute in Bozeman on these issues.

Energy Map/Atlas

DEQ is doing some Energy Map/Atlas work, as required by statute. They would like the MLIAC, as the governing body, to consider this a higher priority than currently listed.

Drought

Catherine Maynard has just launched a new website called the Montana Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN).

Organic Matter

As part of the soils database, organic matter is tracked, mapped and measured. The only issue is obtaining the information in a format that is usable by the State.

Mineral Rights Ownership

Collecting this information on private property is probably too costly. Data on public land is available but will need to be manipulated.

➢ MAGIP Issues – Kris Larson

MAGIP is working on best practices for framework data layers and guidelines for other types of data. Ongoing topics include Metadata, persistent identifiers, a standard spatial reference system, addressing data, data transfer standards, data accuracy standards, imagery format standards and tying boundaries to GCDB. They are requesting the Council's help to inform people that MAGIP has a geospatial educational trunk for free use by K-12 schools. It contains lesson plans and 15 new GPS units. In order for the Council to keep abreast of MAGIP efforts, she encouraged members to sign up on the MAGIP list serve (Kris will send the link to the group).

➢ FWP Crucial Areas and Corridors Project – Janet Hess-Herbert

See PowerPoint presentation at
http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/mliac/December_2008/december_2008.mcpx

➢ BMSC Outreach Activity – Stu Kirkpatrick

MLIA grant workshops

There were 4 sessions, with over 50 participants; feedback was excellent.

BMSC

BMSC staff and the Dept. of Census facilitated three-hour Boundary/BAS workshops at four locations. The sessions were not well attended but still, useful

RJ Zimmer gave two presentations at the MAGIP technical session in Great Falls on adjusting boundary.

BMSC staff; Erin Geraghty for boundaries, Michael Fashoway for structures/addressing and Joshua Dorris for transportation are making road-trips once a quarter to visit two or three local governments. The outreach schedule will be posted on the soon to be re-vamped BMSC website at http://giscoordination.mt.gov/default.asp

Our cadastral database person has been spending a lot of time working with Missoula and Flathead Counties helping them move their data to a GCDB base. Michael Sweet has attended a couple of these sessions and found them very helpful.

➢ Updates and New Business

HB 49 – Erin Geraghty

Both proposed bills passed the Education and Local Government subcommittee. The are numbered respectively, LC0370, Senate Bill 57, and LC0371, Senate Bill 58. The part regarding a surveyor reviewing legal description was left off SB58.

NAIP Status – Stu Kirkpatrick

APFO/FSA wants better accuracy control points for the upcoming 2009 NAIP project. We are partnering with MDT to gain the necessary accuracy. We are approximately $150,000 short of our goal, but Robin will be requesting end of fiscal year funds this spring.

Super Computer – Alex Philp

The Official title is the "Rocky Mountain Computing Center", a 5013C non-profit organization. The facility is being designed as one of the nation's first on-demand computing centers. They have hired an Executive Director. There is two million dollars is in the Governor's budget to support this effort.

Height Modernization

No status report.

➤ Open Forum and Public Comment

Darlene Staffeldt asked for an update on Metadata standards. Robin responded that he had submitted them but not received an update. He will follow-up on the issue.

➤ Next Meeting Date and Agenda Items

Next meeting will be held on March 5, 2009, location to be determined. Proposed agenda items include:

- Metadata Standards
- Governor's Challenge
- Budget
- Grants status report
- Status report on the first cycle of grant success/failures
- Proposed rule Change.

Adjourn