Executive Summary
Montana Land Information Advisory Council
Wednesday, April 18th, 2012
Kalispell, Montana

Attendees:

Members or Designees: Chairman Jennie Stapp – State Library; Mike Bousliman – Department of Transportation; Annette Cabrera – Yellowstone County; Dan Chelini – Department of Environmental Quality; Lance Clampitt – U. S. Geological Survey; Warren Fahner – Lincoln County; Fred Gifford – Tetra Tech Inc.; Wendy (Thingelstad) Largent – Montana Association of GIS Professionals; Cathy Maynard – Natural Resources Conservation Service; Cynthia Moore – Department of Revenue; Art Pembroke – Lewis and Clark County; Nate Rogers (Designee for Christiana von Riechert) – University of Montana; Lydia Bailey – Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Michael Sweeney – Department of Administration; Linda Vance –Montana Association of GIS Professionals; Dennis McCarthy – USFS and Ken Wall – Geodata Services Inc.

Guests: Nat Carter – DEQ; Elizabeth Lahey - DNRC; Evan Hammer – MSL; Miles Wacker – MAGIP/MDT; Chris Stump – MAGIP/DEQ; Kreh Germaine – SITSD; Tim Weisenburger – RDI; Nathalie Smith – Esri and Jim Robinson – DNRC.

Staff:
Stu Kirkpatrick and Erin Fashoway - MSL

Jennie Stapp called the meeting to order at 12:28 p.m.

Approval of December Executive Summary:

The executive summary was approved with no changes or corrections.

State Executive Branch ITMC GIS Task Force – Mike Bousliman

Mike Bousliman gave an update on the Governor's GIS Task Force progress. The Task Force was formed to address GIS organizational, architectural (hardware/software) and strategic planning issues facing state agencies. The group encountered many challenges and some issues remain unresolved, potentially better addressed by MLIAC or others. Organizationally the consolidation of the Base Map Service Center into the Montana State Library was a success. There is still work to be done on the architecture side. The Governor's office has recommended submitting a state executive planning process request to pay for portions of the hosted architecture costs at SITSD. Mike reiterated that while it may be time for approaches other than the task force, the GIS community shouldn't let go of the goals.

MLIA/MSDI General Administrative Budget – Jennie Stapp

Jennie requested that the Council refer to page 8 of the entire MSL 3rd quarter budget which was accidently included in its entirety. Page 8 focuses on the MLIA portion of the budget. The Library Commission approved the 3rd quarter budget the previous week however it does not reflect costs

incurred for the enterprise GIS architecture at SITSD. Those costs are still being reviewed, and yet to be paid. MSL did receive news that a $47,350 credit will be applied from the 60 day grace period during the BMSC transition to MSL. Art Pembroke asked if was possible to break out the MLIA GIS coordination costs into an individual cost center and Jennie responded that would be possible in the next budget report. Lydia Bailey asked if or where the SITSD credit would show up in the budget. Jennie responded that while it could possibly show up in the maintenance cost, costs not incurred usually don't show up in a budget.

Legislative Update – Jennie Stapp

Jennie led the Council through a list of the executive planning proposals put forth by MSL:
1. Transfer of BMSC to the MSL – this consists primarily of housekeeping language that replaces references to the Department of Administration with the Montana State Library in the MLIA statute. Statute concerning conservation easements and boundaries would require similar change. The MLIA funding authority would be passed to MSL with an additional request of $35,000 for additional IT support within the library.
2. A funding request for two cadastral FTE and additional operational costs.
3. A request for a Water Information System Manager

Jennie noted that Representative Jon Sesso is very supportive of the legislative changes required to move the BMSC and MLIA funding authority to MSL.

Some related Council discussion followed. As a result of the work of the GIS Task Force, a recommendation that enterprise architecture costs primarily associated with MSDI services and data is still on the table. Kreh Germaine from SITSD provided an explanation of the SITSD cost model for hosted services.

MSDI FY13 Work Plan – Stu Kirkpatrick

The plan was introduced by Stu Kirkpatrick and covered the tasks related to base theme maintenance and coordination as well as the list of prioritized new projects for FY13. Council discussion followed. Any additional comments were requested as soon as possible as the MSDI work plan must be incorporated into a MSL work plan prior to the start of the fiscal year. Council members emphasized the importance priority goal #1, the reengineering of the MSDI web presence, as well as the continued need for MSDI theme stewards and leads to engage the community.

MAGIP Data Access Best Practices – Chris Stump

Chris Stump, technical working group chair of MAGIP distributed and reported on a document from the group recommending best practices concerning data distribution, using MSDI themes as a case study. Some Council members, while commending the thoroughness of the initial investigation, had concerns. Some policy issues when a private organization recommended data policies to federal agencies were voiced. Jennie acknowledged there needed to be a balance between user recommendations and agency requirements. It was reported that the document will be an agenda item at the MAGIP Board meeting on April 19th and a follow-up report will be provided Council in September.

MLIA Grants Update – Stu Kirkpatrick

All FY11 Grants except Ravalli County Multipurpose Cadastral Grant are completed. That grant was given a one year extension and will be completed by June 30, 2012. FY12 grants are proceeding as scheduled except for the Carbon County Emergency Notification grant. They have indicated they will be asking for an extension due to software procurement problems.

The FY 13 MLIAC Grant Subcommittee completed their evaluations of this year's applications and provided State Librarian/Council Chair Stapp a prioritized list of grants for funding. Staff applauded the efforts of the subcommittee and noted while many were first time grant evaluators they conducted a thorough and professional job.

Council discussion was invited on the issue of the Lower Musselshell Conservation District's grant application that passed money directly through to the Wetlands Steward. Several Council members were uncomfortable with this since the Council had approved a FY13 lump sum directed through MSL to theme stewards at the December meeting. Jennie asked for, and Council provided general consensus that the two bottom scoring grants applications from Powell County and the Yellowstone Conservation District not be funded. She also indicated that her current preference was not to fund the Lower Musselshell application and would deliberate further on the issue.

The funding pass-through issue should receive additional clarification by the Grant Subcommitee before the next grant cycle.

There was some discussion on whether another grant writing video should be produced to assist applicants.

Five counties submitted short grant success stories to Staff who will work with the MSL Marketing Coordinator to highlight these successes.

MAGIP Report:

The conference appears to be very successful although attendance is down from 2010 because of the economy. A fall technical session will be scheduled in Great falls. MAGIP elections are will open after the conference and the MAGIP Board will meet of Friday, April 20th following the conference.

Council Updates:

- Cloud Services Procurement – SITSD's Robin Trenbeath provided Council with the current status of an 18 month, 4 state cloud services acquisition effort. After proceeding through an RFI and subsequent RFP effort the four states have narrowed the finalists to 4 private sector cloud service providers. The goal is to have a Western States Contracting Alliance (WSCA) contract in place with one or more of the vendors by mid-summer. Robin cautioned that the cloud market is immature and that cost models are very different.
- State Water Planning – MSL's Evan Hammer reported that DNRC's Jim Robinson, in partnership with MSL will be working together using MSDI Hydrography in the state water planning process. Hydrography data will need to be current and some maintenance processes put in place. DNRC has created an overview of the process

which MSL will post. The EPP request (referenced in the Council's legislative update) stems from this effort.

Open Forum and Public Comment:

- Lance Clampitt brought it to Council attention that his term as Council representative on MAGIP is ending. A new appointment must first be endorsed by Council and then ratified by the MAGIP Board. Lance offered to continue to fulfill this role until a new Council appointment is made. Lydia Bailey expressed some interest fulfilling that role but must wait until after July 1 to see if it is feasible.
- Mike Sweet requested that the Council please consider the intent of the MAGIP best practices even though it may not have been completely vetted. He advised that data users will acquire data from the easiest source however may not be the best data
- Ken Wall requested that the State E-911 office provide Council a presentation on Next-gen E911 and GIS implications.
- Annette Cabrera and Evan Hammer reiterated that the pass-thru funding issue initiated out of the Lower Musselshell grant application needs to be addressed with some guidance provided to future MLIA grant applicants.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Agenda Items:

The next meeting will be scheduled for September 6th. Meeting details will be forthcoming. Agenda items will include:
- Presentation on Next-gen E-911 by the State E-911 coordinator and possibly local government
- Data access best practices update
- Cloud services procurement update

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.