

## Executive Summary

### Montana Land Information Advisory Council (MLIAC) September 7, 2006

#### Members

**Jeff Brandt**, Department of Administration; **Mike Birtles**, USDI/BLM; Randy Wilke (designee for **Dan Bucks**, Department of Revenue); **Lance Clampitt**, USDI/USGS; **Dave Davis**, MARLS; **Jim Hill**, Montana State Library; **Lisa Kimmet**, Prairie County; **Ed Madej**, Tetra Tech; **Catherine Maynard**, USDA/NRCS; **Don Patterson**, USDA/FS; **Art Pembroke**, Lewis & Clark County; **Loren Peterson**, Tribal Government; Carolyn Wolf, (designee for **Mary Sexton**, Department of Natural Resources & Conservation); **Steve Shannon**, Northwestern Energy; designee for **Chris Smith** Fish, Wildlife and Park; **Michael Sweet**, U of M – Missoula/MAGIP; **Robin Trenbeath**, Department of Environmental Quality; **Senator Joe Tropila**; **Ken Wall**, GeoData/MAGIP

#### Guests

**Charlene Buff**, NHP Contractor; **Doug Bureson**, Missoula County; **Allan Cox**, U of M/Natural Heritage Program; **Gerry Daumiller**, Montana State Library; **Michael Fashoway**, Department of Environmental Quality; **Sibyl Govan**, Montana State Library; **Janet Hess-Herbert**, Fish, Wildlife & Parks; **Stu Kirkpatrick**, Department of Administration/ITSD; , **Greg Kudray**, MT Natural Heritage Program; **Ron Moody**, Montana State Library; **Skip Nyberg**, Department of Transportation; **Alex Philp**, GCS Research; **Bryant Ralston**, ESRI; **Curt Smith**, National Geodetic Survey; **Darlene Staffeldt**, Montana State Library; Kally Tripp, Department of Administration/ITSD; **Shane Tuss**, Northwestern Energy; **R. J. Zimmer**, DJ&A

#### Denotes motion(s)\*

#### Welcome and Introductions – Jeff Brandt

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. Jeff Brandt welcomed the Council and audience to the September MLIAC Meeting.

#### Executive Summary Approval – June 1, 2006 Meeting **\*\*Action Item\*\***

There was a motion to approve the June 1, 2006 executive summary with the wording change to motion # 7 (establish to assess), this was seconded and passed.

#### Council Endorsement of Imagery for the Nation – Stu Kirkpatrick **\*\*Action Item\*\***

This issue action request was brought forth by the Department of Administration in response to a National States Geographic Information Council request that state councils provide formal support for Imagery for the Nation.

Jeff entertained a motion for a Council letter of endorsement for Imagery for the Nation, Robin Trenbeath made the motion, Steve Shannon seconded and it was passed.

#### Framework Data Subcommittee Update – Mike Sweet

The Framework Subcommittee did not meet over the summer. The subcommittee is actively involved working on the Land Information Plan and Strategic Plan. Those efforts, along with the GIS Common Operating Plan are dependent on the successfulness of implementing the stewardship document. The committee will continue working with the Department of Administration to identify Stewardship and Theme leads. The framework subcommittee will

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develop a process to do this. They will be working with the theme leads and try to have a dialog about priorities, within their theme and the big picture. The time frame to complete this is December. Mike Sweet invited additional participation from the Council.

#### **Land Information Plan Subcommittee Update – Lance Clampitt**

Lance Clampitt presented the progress of the Land Information Plan Subcommittee to date. The subcommittee is working on version six of the plan and the next meeting is September 28. A plan must be submitted to DOA/ITSD by November 1, 2006.

#### **Strategic Plan Update – Janet Cornish**

Janet Cornish is under contract with the Department of Administration to prepare a strategic plan using FGDC grant funding. Janet reviewed the draft version of the plan submitted to MLIAC. This version gives some form and format to the document focusing on the synthesis of the goals and objectives. There are 5 primary goals; education, data stewardship, marketing outreach and access, public policy, and a coordination goal. This plan should provide the framework in which the State will prepare its annual business plans and also help guide the MLIAC grant program. The timeline has been designed to finish the plan as soon as possible.

Over the next month better delineation of strategies will take place. For example who is going to be responsible for pieces of the plan and what resources need to be devoted to it. By the December meeting there should be a complete draft for consideration.

Discussion followed related to whose plan this really was and how it really related to the Governor's important issues. It was also suggested that the strategic plan and the annual land information plan be combined into one document

#### **Height Modernization – Curt Smith, National Geodetic Survey**

Curt Smith gave a PowerPoint presentation on Height Modernization and invited Council members to the Height Modernization Forum on October 17. Discussion followed, primarily on what the Council's role should be in promoting Height Modernization. Curt felt the Council involvement needs to be to encourage the Department of Transportation to move forward with height modernization. Art Pembroke volunteered to provide height modernization information at the upcoming MACO conference. Mike Sweet felt it important that the council expresses their interest in this activity and feels that the Council should send a letter to the Department of Transportation showing their support and this should be revisited at the December meeting.

It was agreed that ITSD would write a letter, on behalf of the Council, to the MDT Director supporting this effort

#### **GIS Related EPP Requests – Jeff Brandt**

Jeff Brandt had only had a partial report for the State Agency Executive Planning Process (EPP) which included only ITSD GIS related requests. He will go back to ITSD and see what needs to be done to get a full report from all state agencies. There are 2 EPP ITSD items; authority to expend BLM federal funding and a FTE for a grant and contracts coordinator.

#### **Conservation Easement Audit – Stu Kirkpatrick**

This agenda item was requested by the Department of Revenue. Angus Maciver from the Legislative Audit Division gave an update on a Conservation Easement Audit requested by the 2005 Legislature. Audit staff has worked with several parties including ITSD GIS Bureau, Dept. of Revenue, the Montana Heritage Program, and county Clerk and Recorders to analyze the situation. MLIAC may have a role to play some where down the line. The growth of conservation easements is becoming a significant land use in the state. There is no one that is tasked or in charge with collecting information. The question is whether a better system for collecting and reporting data is necessary and which agencies should be involved in that effort and who would be responsible for that work.

#### **GIS Common Operating Environment Report – Robin Trenbeath**

Robin Trenbeath gave a PowerPoint presentation on the GIS Common Operating Environment for Montana that was compiled at the request of CIO, Dick Clark in response to the MLIAC motion from the June, 2006 meeting. A four person committee of Robin, Ken Wall, Lance Clampitt and R. J. Zimmer compiled the report that included 16 recommendations related to a common operating environment for GIS.

Considerable Council discussion followed related to data warehousing vs. data clearinghouse, the potential for a new state enterprise data center, hiring a State Geographic Information Officer (GIO) and other recommendations contained in the report.

Additional comments were taken from the audience including Ron Moody from the State Library Commission, Sibyl Govan, MSL, and Alex Philp of GCS Research.

Council took no formal action on the report but a follow-up report was requested for the December meeting.

#### **Montana Land Information Act**

##### **Status of Administrative Rules – Jeff Brandt**

The Administrative Rules are in effect at this time. There were a couple of last minute changes that will be incorporated in the review and updated at final publication. The rules are in effect at this time.

##### **Legislative report submission requirements**

ITSD has given the Legislative Branch the necessary abstract of what will be contained in the final report.

##### **Grant Review Subcommittees**

Jeff reviewed the subcommittee member list and checked for accuracy.

##### **ITSD FY06/07 MLIA expenses**

In response to a Council request from the June, 2006 meeting, ITSD presented a summary of FY06/07 MLIA expenses as well as a clarification as to the budget authority used to authorize the MLIA fund expenditures. The review of budget authority was conducted by various parties including internal ITSD review, Department of Administration review, Legislative Fiscal Division and the Governor's Office of Budget and Program planning review. The document provided two conclusions:

1. Coordination Budget Authority - ITSD has the statutory authority to allocate a portion of the MLIA for GIS coordination
2. Layer Maintenance - ITSD has the authority to allocate a portion of the MLIA for maintenance of the cadastral, critical infrastructure and transportation addressing layers until a land information plan is implemented and Administrative Rules (ARM) are adopted.

There were several Council questions concerning where the detail behind the line items is located in the report. These questions were deferred until the next agenda item - MLIA cash balance projections was presented.

### **MLIA cash balance projections**

The Council reviewed the MLIA balance projections submitted by ITSD. Jeff Brandt stated there clearly needs to be some kind of cash balance reporting function that occurs in a standardized manner and recognized that past efforts probably didn't meet all Council members' expectations or needs. Jeff explained that in this version, ITSD tried to separate out the GIS coordination role and that ITSD MSDI efforts not previously tracked, are now being tracked individually. Based on the discussion from the previous agenda item, Jeff noted that while ITSD's MSDI efforts did receive funding as per the authority described in the previous agenda item, that they would undergo the same process as any other funding request when the first round of grants is initiated.

A lengthy and controversial debate ensued involving several topics including the amount of ITSD FTE being funded and the authority to fund GIS coordination, and the nature of what has been and will be funded from MLIA. It was clear that these budget projections didn't entirely meet Council needs. There was objection to ITSD adding in a Grants and Contracts Coordinator without prior Council discussion. It was noted that one problem the council is having is because it appears there is no Council input is included in the decisions that are being made with respect to the coordination budget. The expectation was there would be Council consensus and that the Department of Administration would play as an equal player at the table. Additional discussion continued on ITSD's request for the new FTE and ITSD was asked to bring this back to the Council for additional discussion after they provided more information on cost and justification of need.

Jeff Brandt reiterated Department of Administration's intent is to get accountability back and ITSD doesn't have any intent on administering MLIA in a heavy handed manner.

### **MAGIP Report – Gerry Daumiller**

The MAGIP Executive Board has not met since the last MLIAC meeting.

The October GIS technical session agenda is on the MAGIP website. Registration will be online and available in a week. Bryant Ralston has been working on an agenda for the Annual Meeting for 2007 and it looks like it will take place during spring break at Miles Community College in Miles City. There will be a Board meeting on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Open Forum and Public Comment**

Mike Sweet made a request to list the items that are in action but are unresolved and do not appear as an action item on the agenda. Current examples would be the authoritative source

exercise and prototype persistent identifier. Mike would like to see these appear as bulleted items on future agendas.

Jeff Brandt was asked to follow up with Representative Maedge about his participation on the council. Jeff has left a message for him and has not anything back yet and Jeff has not initiated any effort to get a replacement for him.

A Census MOU is being worked on and a draft is expected to be completed by October 1.

Robin Trenbeath announced that the IT Conference will be held December 7-9 and there is a GIS track scheduled for this conference.

Steve Shannon will be stepping off of the Council as of 2007.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:45**

**\*\*\*ITSD will keep tapes of each meeting for one year. If you want check out the tape(s) call ITSD at 444-2700\*\*\***