

Executive Summary
MONTANA LAND INFORMATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (MLIAC)
March 5, 2009

Members or Designees

Robin Trenbeath-DOA/ITSD; Art Pembroke-Lewis and Clark County IT Dept; Lance Clampitt-USGS; Rudy Cicon-MARLS Representative; Connie Eissinger-McCone County Commissioner; Ed Madej-Tetra-Tech; Annette Cabrera-Yellowstone County; Catherine Maynard-NRCS; Janet Hess-Herbert-Dept of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Michael Sweet-University of Montana (Technical Representative for MAGIP).; Darlene Staffeldt & designee Jennie Stapp-Montana State Library; Mike Bousliman-Department of Transportation; Alex Philp-GCS Research LLC, Lorin Peterson-Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes IT Manager; Ted Chase-Department of Revenue (designee for Randy Wilke) and Ken Wall- GeoData Services Inc.(Technical Representative for MAGIP).

Guests

Evan Hammer-DNRC, Bill Cloud -Department of Transportation, Erin Geraghty-DOA/ITSD, R.J. Zimmer-DJ&A, Chris Stump-DEQ, Stu Kirkpatrick-DOA/ITSD, Lydia Bailey-Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Kris Larson-CDM, Stephanie Tecca-DOA/ITSD and Bryant Ralston-ESRI.

Approval of December Executive Summary **Action Item**

Catherine Maynard requested a change on page 4, line 1. She would like the sentence to read "USDA has just launched a new website...". The Council approved the December Executive Summary as modified.

Update on Portal Metadata Standard – Robin Trenbeath

Portal Metadata Standards were previously reviewed by MLIAC. These standards are applicable to state agencies only, not the entire GIS community. They have been approved by the ITSD Executive Team. Two remaining steps include legal review and a public comment period. An announcement will be distributed upon approval. The Montana State Library plans to create a template that will have a feedback process to help with the registration and Metadata acceptance.

MLIA Rule Subcommittee Status – Art Pembroke/Darlene Staffeldt

The Subcommittee reported it is working out some issues but feel comfortable that there will be no legislative changes needed; mostly Rule process changes.

MLIA Grant Reports

Montana 2008/2009 Grant Close-out/ Grant Status Report– Stu Kirkpatrick

Handout provided; available at

http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/mliac/March_09/march_2009.mcp. Seven 2008 grants are closed; Gallatin Co. waiting a GCDB adjustment and two wetland projects are behind due to a variety of issues. Wetland recipients are communicative and DOA continues to monitor these two grants. For 2009 grants, L&C County's grant is complete. The DEQ grant completion date has been extended to April 2010. Butte/Silverbow is constructing an addendum allowing them to complete work in-house rather than having to contract an outsider.

Montana 2010 Grant Applications – Stu Kirkpatrick

DOA received 17 grant applications, asking a total of approximately \$1.4 million. This includes a request to spend (if needed) the \$300,000 of MLIA holdback for NAIP. The Grant Review Committee met Monday, March 2 and agreed on the scoring methodology and how to proceed. Their next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 16. At this time the grants will be prioritized and suggestions will be submitted to the GIO by May 1.

Indirect Cost Allocation – Robin Trenbeath

Robin was previously asked by the Council to research the legal obligation to charge an indirect cost for a MLIA grant application. He found that there is no legal obligation to charge or not to charge an indirect cost; it is more of an organizational policy or procedure.

Stewardship Review Process – Mike Sweet/ Kris Larson

A handout was provided “Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure Theme Review Handout” Available at http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/mliac/March_09/march_2009.mcp.x.

A draft questionnaire will be completed by March 15, 2009 and sent to theme stewards in April. First round interviews will be completed by April 25, 2009. Final interviews will be completed by May 15, 2009. The final report, including a process for periodically reviewing framework layers will be completed by June 5, 2009. There will also be an appendix included with the final report that will contain the interview information from each steward. The intent is to create an executive summary to show the common themes and some areas of focus among all the theme stewards. As a follow-up to this questionnaire, the team will conduct user (data) and non-user interviews to measure their level of functionality, success and happiness with the system.

Governor’s Challenge Update -

Robin gave an update on portions of the original challenge. DEQ has continued interest in developing an energy atlas. The BMSC is working with BLM to obtain some data on public mineral ownership. Abandoned mine information on clean-up work can be found at www.restoration.mt.gov. Several "Red and Dead" projects are known to be in progress. The funding in the Governor's original budget for this challenge was removed.

Discussion moved to stimulus funding and whether it could be used to advance work on the challenge. Of the \$800 million in the stimulus package only about \$200 million is discretionary and there is not any specific GIS funding identified. There was significant discussion that the Council needs to bring GIS front and center at every opportunity and needs to get GIS in front of the Governor and the Legislature. The Council agreed to write a formal letter to the Governor stating the knowledge and support of a variety of projects surrounding the Governor’s Challenge issues. Lance Clampitt will draft the letter and forward it to Janet Hess-Herbert who will review and forward it to the other Council members for electronic approval, and for Robin to submit.

Alex wanted to make the Council aware that he is part of the Rocky Mountain Super Computing Center (RMSC) in Butte. A \$6.9 million total investment in a public and private effort to provide high performance computing to a variety of areas. This group has been challenged to do some work in smart grid technology. They would like to invite any agencies that are interested to do a quick assessment of some very advanced integrated land use planning analytics to produce a deliverable in the area of a Smart Grid within the next three weeks. Robin would like to work with the RMSC to find the opportunities and reach the goal.

Ken Wall suggested a book that offered some good information on putting together data and the methodology behind it. The book is by David Maguire: [Geographic Information Systems and Science](#).

Lunch (Provided for Council and Invited Guests) 1:38:30 – 2:17:03

MAGIP Report - Kris Larson/Erin Geraghty

President's report:

The MAGIP spring meeting and workshops are scheduled for the week of March 9th in Miles City. It was discussed if these meetings were intended to be in competition with the Intermountain Conference in Idaho Falls. It was determined that they are intended to provide learning opportunities to Eastern Montana for those who are unable to attend the IM conference and would otherwise receive no outside educational opportunities. Evan Hammer is no longer a MLIAC council member and therefore needs to be replaced as the MAGIP designee. Any council member that is interested in this position please contact Robin before the June MLIAC meeting.

GIS Best Practices

Handout provided "GIS Best Practices in Montana" available at http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/mliac/March_09/march_2009.mcp.x.

The MAGIP Board of Directors recommends these best practices be endorsed by the Montana Land Information Advisory Council (MLIAC). MLIAC endorsement does not mandate the use of the above best practices or imply that they are applicable to every situation. MLIAC approval of these best practices will be requested at the June, 2009 meeting.

GIS Funding – Robin Trenbeath

How do we prepare for the next Legislative session in regards to moving funding forward?

Discussion centered on what went wrong this legislative session. The council agreed that the main issues were the downturn in the economy and a perceived lack of relevancy of GIS to those on the outside. The Council needs to develop a work plan to educate the Legislature and other agencies on the importance and relevancy of GIS in all aspects of business. The goals of the Council are to increase education to prove relevancy, develop a better plan for executing the Legislative Funding Process, review policies for accuracy and submit any necessary changes or new policies in a timely manner for optimal impact. It is the feeling of the Council that if it is in the policy it is more likely to receive funding. Robin Trenbeath will chair a subcommittee to develop a funding work plan and a strategic plan of action. Interested Council members should contact Robin.

Updates and New Business

Legislative Update SB57 & 58 (Special District Boundary) Status - Erin Geraghty

SB 57 has passed thru the Senate and is now at the House. Hospitals and rural fire districts were removed due to other legislation in place that would conflict. SB58 covers more special districts than 57. ITSD was asked to remove funding requests associated with the fiscal notes originally attached to the bills in order to help get the bills passed. Verbiage was changed from "shall" to "may" for the mapping/GIS tasks associated with the bills. The goal now in getting these bills passed, without funding, is to have them on the books so that we have a better chance at funding next session. Art Pembroke expressed his concern that this will only lead to another unfunded mandate or forced usage of MLIA funds rather than open a door for additional general funding.

Portal Progress – NRIS Staff

The GIS Portal, based on the GIS Portal Toolkit 3.1, has been in production for some time. It is accessible through the GIS website at www.gisportal.mt.gov. A new version will be available

soon, based on GIS Portal Toolkit 9.3. NRIS will be holding a metadata publishing workshop at the Miles City Conference. They will also be holding a session that is centered on the importance of Metadata and using the portal. MSL recently held a meeting of the Portal Steering Committee and presented a project specification document which sets up a work plan for the larger portal project. Several roles, responsibilities and phases have been established for the long-term project.

BMSC Outreach – Stu Kirkpatrick

BMSC is still maintaining its goal of visiting three counties each quarter. These visits are to review problems that local government GIS is having and share BMSC expertise with them, and working together to develop formal data sharing agreements. Three visits were made to Kalispell to assist with their Cadastral adjustments. There were three visits to Butte/Silverbow to help them with their MLIA grant. To help maintain the accountability for progress that the Council has asked for, the BMSC 2009 Work plan has been updated and will be published on the GIS coordination website. Erin Geraghty will be the incoming MAGIP president and will focus additional outreach through those efforts.

* A request was made that a few topics be permanent agenda updates in the future; BMSC, Portal Updates, Stewardship Reports and Budget Reports.

NAIP Status –Robin Trenbeath//Evan Hammer

a. Accuracy Control Points

The state continues to work with APFO on this issue

b. Contacts

The partnership is currently \$123,000 short (counting holdback MLIA funds which could be used for additional grants if funding above and beyond the \$123,00 can be raised). Additional funds are needed by fall 2009 (first invoice) or spring 2010 (second invoice). UM has challenged MSU to matching contributions of \$75,000. A handout was provided “2009 NAIP Contribution Requests” that lists those organizations to whom Robin has sent funding request letters. Robin will be contacting state agencies after session, when they have a better idea of their FY09, 10 and 11 budgets, to ask for their support.

NAIP 2009 MLIA Grant Application - Evan Hammer

A grant request to expend the MLIA NAIP holdback funds was submitted by MSL/NRIS and BMSC. Some deliverables address functional requirements for cooperation in providing imagery over the long term. The intention is to move forward with plan for the co-stewardship of imagery, specifically a plan for providing and distributing the NAIP 2009 imagery and archiving older imagery.

Montana Department of Transportation – Mike Bousliman/Bill Cloud

Mike Bousliman gave a brief introduction, and introduced MDT Data and Statistics Bureau Chief Bill Cloud. This presentation demonstrated how MDT is using GIS to assist with daily business processes.

Open Forum and Public Comment

Kris Larson as representative for MAGIP would like to write a letter to the Governor in appreciation and support of the Governor’s Challenge and would also like to be referenced in MLIAC’s letter as a supporter (see Governor's Challenge update). The RMSC tentative ribbon cutting ceremony will be April 7th in Butte. Full tours will be available at that time.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Agenda Items – Robin Trenbeath

June 4, 2009

Location: To be determined; suggested sites were Bozeman or Billings.

Potential Agenda Items

NAIP

SB57 & 58

MLIA Rules Sub-Committee

MLIAC Rep to MAGIP Board

Governor's Challenge

Status of the 2010 Grant Approval process

GIS funding

Rural Area Census Report (American Community Survey)

Adjourn

Stewardship Report

Budget Committee Report

MAGIP Best Practices ****Action Item****

Portal Metadata Standard

Governor's Challenge Letter of Support

BMSC Outreach

Heritage Presentation