

Members or Designees

Robin Trenbeath – Department of Administration; Mike Bousliman – Department of Transportation; Rudy Cicon – MARLS Representative; Ed Madej – Tetra-Tech; Annette Cabrera– Yellowstone County; Catherine Maynard – Department of Agriculture; Art Pembroke – Lewis and Clark County IT Department; Janet Hess-Herbert – Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Erin Geraghty –MAGIP; Lorin Peterson – Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes IT Manager; Jon Sesso – House District 76; Jennie Stapp (designee) – Montana State Library; Dan Chelini (designee) – Department of Environmental Quality; Evan Hammer (designee) – MAGIP; Ted Chase (designee) – Department of Revenue;

Guests

Chad Hultin –Department of Commerce; Bryant Ralston –ESRI; Jim Robinson – DNRC; Nat Carter –Department of Environmental Quality; Bryce Maxell – Natural Heritage Program; Linda Vance – Montana Natural Heritage/MAGIP; Michael Sweet –University of Montana; Tracy McGiffin – NorthWestern Energy; Ken Wall – Geodata Service, Inc.; Stu Kirkpatrick, Michael Fashoway, – Base Map Service Center; and Julie Kriedeman – DOA/ITSD.

April Executive Summary **APPROVED**

Planning Subcommittee

Status of the FY10/11 Land Plan – Stu

Stu reported the midyear Land Plan status. Except for goals and objects where we did not receive any grant applications and securing funding, the Council should consider their work a success.

Annette Cabrera noted that part of the reason we did not meet all our goals is due to our year not matching the state fiscal year. She also wondered why we continue to list goals/objectives for which we are not receiving grant applications. In both cases, the Land Plan Committee can make a determination to include or exclude goals and objectives, and/or to modify their timelines.

Establish FY11/12 Land Plan Committee - Robin

Annette Cabrera (Chair), Cathy Maynard, Erin Geraghty, Ed Madej, Lorin Peterson, and Janet Hess-Herbert agreed to be on the FY12 Land Plan Committee.

2008/2009/2010 Grant Status – Stu

[MLIA Grant Status Spreadsheet](#)

2008: all grants are closed with \$534,000 of the total \$748,000 allocation expended.

2009: all grants are closed with \$689,000 of the total \$803,000 allocation expended.

2010: all grants are in good shape; with 6 outstanding (3-4 of those will be closed out before the next meeting).

Grants waiting on final bills: Gallatin County GCDB, City of Red Lodge Geoatlas, and the Salish Kootenai Battle Sites Data Collection.

Grants extended: MT Heritage Land Cover, Hydrography Stewardship, and MT Heritage Wetlands.

FY2011 Grant Awards/Status – Stu/Robin

2011 grants - every grant that was prioritized and approved by the Grant Subcommittee was also approved by the DOA and their contracts are in place.

Robin confirms that under spent money from 2008/2009 is rolled back into the account.

Stu has asked Red Lodge Geoatlas to do a presentation.

Grant Process Recommendations – Annette/Stu

[MLIA Grant Subcommittee - Grant Criteria](#)

This Grant Committee took the initiative to improve the process and do some revisions.

Highlights:

- Reviewed the DNRC RIT grant process
- Eliminated the desirable criteria section and moved the criteria into four other parts of the grant,
- Established a formal extension policy,
- Separated out the application; instead of it being one big document it now has four specific sections, and
- Attempted to quantify the how applications will be scored (see below).

[MLIA Grant Subcommittee - Draft Scoring Rubric](#)

The Subcommittee distributed a draft Scoring Rubric and received general consensus that they going in the right direct. The Subcommittee will meet again this fall and work to refine the rubric. The goal is to have the Council approve the proposal at their next meeting so it can be in place for the next grant cycle. Comments on the document can be sent to Stu or Annette.

GIS Funding

State MSDI/BMSC Funding – Robin

The MLIAC Funding and ROI documents were submitted to DOA. At the Information Technology Managers Council (ITMC) meeting there was a request from the Budget Office to constitute a task force to look at State Executive Branch government GIS to including funding and organization. Mike Bousliman will lead the group. Until Mike knows precisely what the group is being charged to do, he cannot answer many questions.

Q Is the Budget Office aware that they have a state level Advisory Council?

A. Yes, but the Budget Office is looking to raise State Executive Branch discussions to a higher level (agency directors).

Mike Bousliman stated that it may be a matter of education and understanding of what we do have, but until he has specific direction, it's hard to do anything but speculate.

Janet Hess-Herbert and other Council members questioned the same thing; is our State CIO telling us that this committee is ineffective. Further Janet stated that she will not participate in either the Council or the Task Force if this is the way the State chooses to run things. Cathy Maynard echoed many of Janet's comments, including that if the State chooses to look to some other body for advice, it seems that should include disbanding this Council.

Art Pembroke stated that if we are not going to get the CIO support as an Advisory Council, what are we here for? He felt that the Legislature should repeal the Land Information Act and let the local government get back to keeping all the MLIA funding and the State deal with their own house cleaning.

Dan Chelini stated that he would not comment on the existence of this group. He felt that when the Governor's Budget Director takes an interest in what's going on, that is a definite sign that we are being taken very seriously. He further stated that this is a positive opportunity to get a

strong message to Governor's Budget Office of what we think and how we want to move forward. Janet Hess–Herbert stated that she thinks we are opening up something we already solved in the 2006 COP.

Dan Chelini stated while agencies can pay for separate infrastructures, but it is much more efficient and much more cost effective for the enterprise to develop a shared architecture.

Jennie Stapp stated that the benefit of the Council is in providing more opportunities to coordinate GIS at the state level and at the broader level with local governments, federal governments and the private sector.

Representative Sesso stated that his willingness to be involved is based on the fact that local government is in tune with their opportunities to apply for and receive grants. We have not done good job as a Committee to communicate availability of grants, and need to redouble our efforts. Further, he has always been an advocate for the State agencies to be more coordinated and appropriators' of state funds. There is dissatisfaction at the local level in terms of the use of the MLIA funds being concentrated at the state level. MLIAC has made tremendous progress and we are getting the ear of Governor through his CIO and now in the Budget Office on how are we going to sustain the efforts during a time of a difficult financial situation.

Art Pembroke is concerned about the Task Force's role and if there will be an overall GIS funding impact on local government, he advocates that there be a senior local government representative heavily involved in that discussion.

Annette Cabrera has some concerns because she doesn't want the perception out there that the Council is ineffectual. She asked Representative Sesso to speak with Dick about his comments and he agreed. However, she would challenge the conclusion that Dick has not been supportive; he has been an advocate of the Council nationally and with the Governor. She considers the Task Force to be more about getting to the bottom of how the State might be more efficient, and much less a reflection on the global work of the MLIAC.

Enterprise GIS Cost Detail – Robin

[Enterprise GIS Cost Detail](#)

A question was asked on who is currently paying for these costs. Robin responded that it is being paid by state agencies through rates. State agencies have always paid for this but before FMM it was hidden in things like desktop rates. The benefit of the new process is that it put light on the costs of each ITSD services. Currently, there is enough being collected to support the architecture through FY2011; next biennium is the issue.

Policy Review of Stewards Report – Robin *Action Item*****

[MSDI Steward Report - Policy](#)

Robin highlighted the document to show items that are being work on or could be worked on by the Land Plan Committee. Jennie would like to see more actionable Land Plan objectives, timelines and metrics for the coming year.

Mike Bousliman made a motion to approve the policy document but leave some flexibility for the suggestions. Dan seconded the motion and the Council passed it unanimously.

Once the FY12 Land Plan was adopted, Robin agreed to report progress as a standing agenda item.

Geographic Names as MSDI Layer –Evan for Lance/Robin *Action Item*****

GNIS - MSDI Stewardship Request

Evan read into the Council's record Lance's report – The proposal is a request for Geography Names (GN) to formally become part of the MSDI. This proposal is the culmination of over 2 years of study and development. GN has met or exceeded all the MLIAC selection criteria, and is presented to the council for a vote. GN are important to Montana because they add context to locations; without the you would not be able to search for identified features by name. In addition, numerous other geographic features such as structural points and hydrograph features are currently being integrated with GN; making names an even more valuable component of GS spatial information. Although this theme stands on its own, it is part of or supports numerous other geospatial themes and applications.

Evan added that MSL would be happy to accept stewardship for GN. Further, he noted that they are aware of several other groups that are doing a significant amount of work developing GN, and that MSL believes GN is much more complicated than it might first appear and there will be numerous challenges finding ways for the group to work together and to support GN across administrative boundaries.

GNIS - MSDI Action Item

Robin noted that the Council now has the subcommittee recommendation and the GIO's preliminary concurrence with the proposal, and that it is time to decide whether Geographic Names will or will not be approved as the fourteenth MSDI layer. The Council unanimously approved the proposal.

MAGIP Report – Linda Vance President's Report

Linda Vance is President this year; Wendy Thingelstad from Lake County has been elected Vice President; Tony Thatcher is no longer Treasurer, the position was filled by John Henderson from Bozeman; Lee Macholz from the fire centers term expired and Mindy Cochran has taken over as Secretary; Jason Danielson has joined the board; Ricki Ann Kettering has taken over from Stuart Challender as the Chair of the Professional Development Committee; and Janet Cornish has ended her MAGIP contract and Lee Macholz has stepped in as a combination of Web Administrator and Executive Administrator.

Upcoming events – At the Board Retreat (September 30 to October 1), MAGIP will go over the results of the Intermountain GIS Conference Summit, review and reconsider their mission statement, and from that devising a 2010 Work Plan. Among the issues they will be discussing are the 2011 Spring Meeting and how to reach more GIS professional.

Active Committees recently awarded two grants for K-12 curriculum, one to Lewistown and will add the second in a written submission. The Technical Committee continues to work on web standard and best practices. The Professional Development Committee is focusing on the question of mentoring. The Membership Subcommittee is looking into increasing membership and encouraging participation. The exact roles of those committees and the work plans will be discussed further at the retreat.

Linda reminded the Council members of the Fall Technical Session scheduled for October 27 in Helena, and that they can sign-up or renewing their membership through the MAGIP website.

Linda reported that the Conference team is planning for the 2012 Intermountain GIS Conference, to be held in the Flathead Valley.

Updates and New Business

FY2011 Coordination Budget – Robin

Final FY2010 Expenditure Report

[MLIA Coordination Budget -FY2010 Closeout](#)

In FY2010, we under spent the MLIA Coordination budget (\$240K) by approximately \$ 3,600. These under spent dollars roll directly back into the MLIA general account.

Initial FY2011 Report

[MLIA Coordination Budget - FY2011 Projected](#)

Robin encouraged Council members to review the spreadsheets in their electronic form, and to examine the notes for each cell on how budgets were estimated and what is included in those projections. Contact Robin with any questions.

BMSC Outreach – Stu

The Cadastral Coordinator spent time over the summer with Missoula County and in Gallatin County. There are 15-20 counties that have data sharing MOUs with the BMSC for structures and addresses.

MSL Portal – Evan

NRIS recently upgraded the portal and have begun developing usage tracking tools. They recently sponsored a meeting of the Portal Steering Committee to review how they manage the portal. NRIS is looking to get more external input into how they manage the portal. To that end, they are planning an outreach session for the MAGIP fall technical session in October.

2011 NAIP

There are plans for a Montana Orthoimagery project next summer (2011). The base product (completely paid by the Feds) is a statewide, one-meter natural color. If Montana wishes to become a partner, we can get the 4 band (Infrared) for \$270,000. Further, there is an opportunity to get ½ meter accuracy for an additional \$1.3 million. The Imagery working group will review and make recommendations. Please contact Stu or Evan with feedback.

The general feel was a 5-year repeat would be sufficient for the majority of the uses. Ed Madej noted that if flown, there needs some better quality control; last time some imagery was blurred and they had to spend \$10,000 to have it redone.

Representative Sesso noted that imagery is a product that is universally useful to all of the members of the group, Feds, State, local and private. Further, we should not fail to demonstrate how the consortium has worked to provide these 'universal' sources of current data for anyone to use. There is a lot to be proud of on the technical side of things.

Ken reinforced the idea that this is the best deal in town; leveraging our limited funding into tremendously valuable products. For example, the pine beetle infestation went from 1.6 to doubling in one year. Originally we thought a five year Orthoimagery rotation would be sufficient, but that appears not to be the case and we need to leverage the private sector so to not let this opportunity pass. Infrared is critical and was originally used for crop rotation enforcement with farms and ranches, but is becoming an increasingly valuable product.

Broadband Demo – Chad Hultin, Commerce

Chad Hultin is the Project Manager for Commerce on the Broadband Project. He showcased what is being done, the data collected, and how Commerce is working closely with the BMSC on this project.

Open Forum and Public Comment

Evan Hammer noted that Jeff Dobb is leaving NRIS to work on the Broadband project within the BMSC. Jeff did a significant amount of development/support for the portal, and Evan wanted to recognize his hard work on the portal and wish him well in the future.

Michael Sweet, as a past Council member and long time participant in this effort, noted that he is certainly disappointed in Dick Clark's remark and hopes the Council will take this as an opportunity to move forward by:

- Not waiting until the December meeting to respond.
- Look at this as an opportunity to not only educate Dick on the products of this Council,

Michael also commented on Representative Sesso's reference to local government and grants, noting that the Council develops a land information plan, has tried to educate both local governments and tribes on how those funds may be accessed, but the Council can't award grants for applications that are not received. The portion of MLA funds that benefit counties is much greater than the percentage of funded including things like geographic names, Orthoimagery, Cadastral, etc.; State or Federal functions that have huge benefit to local and tribal governments.

Linda Vance announced Heritage has been able to leverage the MLIA Wetland Mapping grant money receiving \$250,000 from the Bureau of Land Management and an additional \$320,000 from US Fish and Wildlife Service for the project.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Agenda Items – Robin

The next meeting is on November 30, 2010, 10:00 a.m. at the Red Lion/Colonial Inn in Helena (Montana Government IT Conference - this is the Tuesday before the conference begins).

Topics for Next Meeting

Status report on the ITMC Task Force
Policy criteria status
Grants committee – Process and scoring changes
Land Plan

Meeting Adjourned at 12:56 p.m.