

Executive Summary
Montana Land Information Advisory Council (MLIAC)
Thursday, April 18, 2018
1:00 p.m.
Radisson Colonial Hotel, Helena, Montana

Attendees:

Members or Designees: Acting Chair Evan Hammer – Montana State Library (MSL); Joshua Alexander – U.S. Interior Department Representative; Dawn Anderson – State Agency Representative; Mike Bousliman – State Agency Representative; Rudy Cicon– MARLS Representative; Gordon Conn – State Agency Representative; Janet Cornish online – Private Business Representative; Warren Fahner – Local Government Representative; Elaina Graham – U.S. Department of Agriculture Representative; Matt Heller– U.S. Interior Department Representative; Molly Hirschi – GIS Professional Representative; Valentijn Hoff – Montana University Systems; Lee Macholz – Local Government Representative; Cathy Maynard – U.S. Department of Agriculture; Eric Spangenberg – Local Government Representative; Shawn Dell Walks Over Ice online – Indian Tribal Interests; and Leslie Zolman – GIS Professional Representative.

Guests: John Adams, Pam Fromhertz (NOAA-NGS), Debbie Gessaman online (), Wally Gladstone (NECI), Bruce Newell (State Library Commission), Joshua Phillips (Eli & Associates/MARLS), Steve Shivers (USGS), and Ken Wall (State Library Commission).

Staff: Troy Blandford, Jennifer Chutz; Erin Fashoway, Michael Fashoway, and Marlys Stark.

Acting Chair Evan Hammer called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

Administrative Updates/Agenda Changes

The Real Time Network information item will be moved up to follow the State Librarian's report.

Approval of Executive Summary

The November 9, 2017 summary was posted for approval.

Motion was made by Member Graham and seconded to approve the November 9, 2017 executive summary and the motion passed.

State Librarian's Report

MSL staff have been busy with several conferences including BigSky GeoCon along with this meeting in Helena and the Montana Library Association conference last week in Bozeman and the National GeoSpatial Advisory Council Meeting earlier in April.

Montana Real Time Network

Wally Gladstone, gave a presentation on the Montana Real Time Network (RTN) partnership and a general overview of the technical aspects of a RTN. Governor Bullock of State of Montana wrote the Governor Inslee, State of Washington, to request a temporary Pilot Project on Washington's RTN.

Erin Fashoway provided a brief overview to the State Library Commission last week on the Montana RTN Partnership and at this point just wants to provide information to the council.

NGS Updates from the Regional Advisor – Montana NGS Coordinator

Pamela Fromhertz, NGS Coordinator, asked to have the Council endorse the NGS Coordinators for Montana: Joshua Phillips (Eli & Associates - MARLS) Survey Community Representative Coordinator and Erin Fashoway Geospatial Representative Coordinator.

The council was okay to support Erin Fashoway and Joshua Phillips as coordinators at this time. They also would like more information. The council discussed whether to endorse at this time and at what level.

Member Walks Over Ice made a motion seconded by Member Bousliman to endorse the coordinators to move forward with their work and collect more information for a formal decision in June with a statement of support at this time and the motion passed.

MLIA Account Review and Financial Report

The collections report is usually about a month behind actual time. The past two months appear to be below average so the upwards trend was not continued. The council discussed the available account balance and how that figure is reached. The available balance is very different from what is in the land plan for a variety of reasons. Consideration is being given to changes to the Administrative Rules of Montana pertaining to the grant fund such as the definition and some others. Keeping a buffer in the account may be an agenda item for discussion in June.

MLIA Grant Administration (FY2017/2018) Report

There are two FY18 grant projects that are behind schedule, Manhattan is ahead of schedule and all the others seem to be fine. For FY17, the Carbon and McCone Counties projects are behind but hoping to be done by June. Both did ask for a second extension so they have until the end of the year to finish. The City of Lewistown had personnel changes and a project manager that switched jobs so the extension paperwork didn't get signed and the grant was closed.

Subcommittee Reports

The Grant Subcommittee spent a lot of time and effort in reviewing the grants and prioritizing them. Their recommendations need to be approved. Some discussion was held by the council on offering special grant application training to the tribes since the tribal applications seemed

to score lower than other entities, over all. The council also discussed grant amounts. For the recommended priorities as presented in the council materials, several options were discussed.

1. Accept the recommendations as presented;
2. Go strictly in order of ratings so the bottom two above the line wouldn't be funded;
3. Add more funding and fully fund all fourteen above the line;
4. Go strictly in order of ratings but approach Harlem to see if they can adapt their project to use just the amount available and if they can't offer the remaining funds to the next in line and fully fund that project.

Motion was made by Member Maynard and seconded by Member Cornish to follow the recommendation and fully fund the first twelve as recommended and fund the next two depending on how things work out with those two applicants and the motion passed with Member Zolman abstaining.

This will be presented to the State Library Commission on May 8 for final approval prior to May 15 as statute requires.

The Land Plan subcommittee did not have a report but thanks is given to the committee members and several suggestions for the next land plan were discussed. Erin will try to pull together comments and present at the next council meeting in June. Council members that are interested in serving on the land plan subcommittee for the next cycle should let Erin know immediately. Janet Cornish will chair that subcommittee again.

General MSDI Updates

Cathy Maynard had to leave prior to the NAIP 2017 agenda item so Evan and Erin updated the council. USDA is considering going to a license data model for the NAIP. Currently MSL gets access and makes it available for redistribution. This is the only statewide imagery we have for the State of Montana. If USDA moves to a license model, everyone will have to have a license including everyone that uses it as well as the state itself. This might lead to applications using outdated imagery longer. All applications now are based on the current NAIP and there are lots of discussion among agencies about other sources of imagery. There is discussion about lower resolution being available for public domain. 2017 had gaps so 2018 they hope to fill those gaps and have the imagery available by January of 2019. NAIP is definitely going to a three-year cycle.

USGS is conducting a survey which Troy and Erin are helping to coordinate about starting a partnership for LiDAR inventory and repository. The survey should be completed in July.

Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure Updates

There needs to be name clarifications or changes since layers have grown or adapted since the list was first developed. Meeting materials provide proposed new names along with the old and an explanation for the change. NHP has also requested that Wetlands be changed to Wetlands and Riparian but that change hasn't been discussed with DEQ as the co-steward.

Motion was made by Member Bousliman and seconded by Member Spangenberg to accept the recommendations as presented and the motion passed.

MSL is assuming stewardship of the elevation layer which has been vacant since 2015. Troy Blandford will be the lead for that. There doesn't appear to be a process to change a theme lead but since the layer seems to be moving more in a direction that mixes with work MSL is currently doing, a lot of the upcoming work would have to happen by MSL whether they are the lead or not.

Motion was made by Member Graham and seconded by Member Conn to accept the change in stewardship and the motion passed.

National Geospatial Data Act

This has been proposed to congress and the council sent a support letter when it went to congress several years ago. The council needs to decide whether to send a support letter or not. A template letter was provided in the materials which can be used as written or with a rewrite. Evan gave a quick summary of the act.

Motion was made by Member Bousliman and seconded by Member Spangenberg to approve the support letter as it is written and the motion passed. The letter will be signed by Jennie as chair on behalf of the council.

GIS Coordinator's Report

There is an effort by NSGIC to explore GeoEnabled Elections with a grant. Erin Fashoway gave a quick NSGIC summary and discussed the MLA workshop she presented.

MAGIP Report

Most of the recent work was focused on putting together the conference. They have published the work plan and board accomplishments and are currently working on a salary survey. They are taking an active role on social media, provided funding to the U of M Geography Club, had a booth at the MARLS conference, voted to increase grants and scholarships, and have election ongoing. All information can be viewed at their website.

Census 2020

Leslie Zolman gave a quick census summary including information shared before about Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA), Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) and the 2020 redistricting date program phase 2.

Evan Hammer commented that he had forgotten to report on the request for proposal (RFP) results during the State Librarians Report and wanted to mention that the public relations push for GIS will not just be promoting but showing the value of GIS.

Public Comment

There was none received.

The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.