

Minutes from the May 10, 2002 Annual Meeting
(University of Nebraska – Omaha / Milo Bail Student Center)

Attendance:

Tom Rauner	Health and Human Services
Dan Silvis	Douglas County Assessor
Mike Thornburg	Aerial Services Inc.
Larry Zink	GIS Steering Committee
Mike Thompson	Nebraska DNR
Maggie Aldrich	City of Lincoln, Urban Development
Erik Hubl	Lancaster County Assessor's Office
Jim Langtry	Lancaster County Engineer's Office
Susan Myers	City of Scottsbluff
Duane Stott	Scottsbluff County
Nicole Godfroy	City of Omaha, Planning
Mark Bohrer	Omaha Public Works
Jolene Cox	US Army Corps of Engineers
Doug Guess	Lancaster County Assessor's Office
Paul Yamamoto	Nebraska DEQ
Jeff Peake	UNO-Geography
Josh Lear	Nebraska DNR
Steve Swaney	HDR Engineering
Gail Knapp	City of Omaha
Geoff Wood	Lamp, Rynearson & Assoc.
Ed Kelley	Nebraska DOR
Ryan Axmann	City of Lincoln, Watershed Management
Frank Larson	City of Lincoln
Roger Ohirich	City of Lincoln
Shane Dostac	City of Lincoln
John Beran	State Surveyor's Office
Jeff Arnold	CALMIT
Scott Robinson	Lancaster County Engineers's Office
Rose Braun	Nebraska DOR
Michael Niedermeyer	Nebraska DOR
Scott Richert	Lancaster County Assessor's Office
Stephen Kinzy	ESRI
David Smith	UNL-Extension
Bonnie Shultz	NECC
Chris Paulsen	ADC, Inc.
Teresa Silence	ADC, Inc.
John Miyoshi	Lower Platte North, NRD
Glenn Williams	Nebraska DOR
Carl Kincade	ESRI
Doug Steinke	Central Platte, NRD
Chris Stanton	GIS Workshop, Inc.
Marcus Tooze	GIS Workshop, Inc.
Les Howard	CSD-UNL
Laurie Becker	UNK
Joan Green	City of Omaha
<u>Maribeth Milner</u>	<u>UNL-Ag and Hort.</u>

Total = 46

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Association Goals/Policy Issues
5. Regional User Group Updates
6. Future Events and Business Items
7. Board & Officer Elections
8. Membership Feedback
9. Breakout Sessions
10. Raffle

Welcome:

Jeff Peake welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introductions:

Ed Kelley welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded to acknowledge the current board members. The current officers and board are as follows:

Officers:

President: Ed Kelley (NE Dept. of Roads)
President-Elect: Gail Knapp (City of Omaha Planning Dept.)
Past-President: Scott Richert (Lancaster Co. Assessor's Office, Lincoln)
Secretary: John Beran (NE State Surveyor's Office, Lincoln)
Treasurer: Vacant

Board:

Doug Steinke (Central Platte NRD, Grand Island) 2002
Josh Lear (NE Dept of Natural Resources) 2002
Chris Stanton (GIS Workshop, Inc.) 2002
Susan Myers (City of Scottsbluff Planning Dept.) 2003
Kathryn Russell (Kearney Co. Roads Dept., Minden) 2003
Marcus Tooze (GIS Workshop, Inc., Lincoln) 2003

Treasurer's Report:

John Beran went over the treasurers report.

2001 Calendar Year:**Income:**

Interest	\$248.62
Dues	\$5,125.00
Other	\$100.00

Symposium:

Benefactors	\$3,600.00
Exhibits	\$7,975.00
Registrations	\$38,175.00
WGA Contract	\$2,972.00
Other	\$604.50
Total	\$53,326.77

Total Income **\$58,800.39**

Expenses:

Software	\$212.99
Meals	\$113.88
Forums	\$17.25
Misc.	\$20.00
Printing	\$370.62
Travel	\$672.74

Symposium Expenses:

Conf. Center	\$30,814.97
Rental	\$878.63
Goodies	\$5,742.79
Mailing/Printing	\$4,66.48
Misc.	\$349.38
Speaker Expenses	\$2,364.00
Transportation/ETC.	\$476.76

Symposium TOTAL \$44,793.01

TOTAL EXPENSES \$46,200.49

Treasurer's Report

January 1, 2002 – May 10, 2002

Income:

Interest	\$4.68
Membership Dues/Renewals	\$7,405.00
Reimbursements	\$850.00

TOTAL INCOME \$8,259.68

Expenses:

Conference Fees	\$1,664.86
Gifts	\$36.53
Printing/Postage	\$814.94
Travel	\$176.64

TOTAL EXPENSE \$2,692.97

NET INCOME \$5,566.71

Current Balance Sheet**Assets:**

9-month CD	\$9,000.00
Checking	\$17,081.06

Liabilities:

No liabilities

TOTAL ASSETS \$26,081.06

Association Goals/Policy Issues:

Scott Richert outlined the goals and objectives of the Association. Scott then asked Larry Zink to outline the resolution supporting the development of the spatial data infrastructure for Nebraska, which includes hydrography and street address centerline databases (See Appendix). Larry indicated that the NHD was not going to be cheap and the address centerline file is being pushed by homeland security and E911 programs. These databases are in the early stages of development and will need an extreme amount of resources to complete. Larry said the GIS/LIS Association should be an advocate and support creation of the two datasets. Steve Kinsky (ESRI) indicated that 5 states have developed similar databases including Ohio, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and Kentucky. Steve suggested that the Association needs to endorse this policy in order to move these databases along. Marcus Tooze (GIS Workshop) indicated that E911 is the driving force behind the street centerline dataset. Phase II wireless compliance requires a street centerline file. A number of state agencies have a need for the dataset and we need an agency to take charge. Carl Kincade indicated that the GDT dataset might be a possibility. Marcus stated that there needs to be state and county cooperation. Mr. Zink said there has been a fair amount of activity but no agency has taken the responsibility. Kinzy said the Omaha Dime file was created because of federal funding. He indicated that without federal funding the dataset would not be created. Josh Lear went on to summarize the status of the NHD in Nebraska. Erik Hubl made a motion to approve the resolution supporting the development of spatial data infrastructure for Nebraska hydrography and street address centerline databases. Zink seconded the motion. Motion was approved with show of hands.

Larry Zink continued to summarize the second resolution, which dealt with supporting the development of a Nebraska spatial data center (See Appendix). Mr. Zink indicated that the data needs to be developed, metadata would need to be created and the center would be used as a consultant for other counties. The association can play a key role in its development and this resolution would allow the board to pursue and shape its development. Erik Hubl asked if there were any states doing anything similar to this concept. Steve Kinsky said that there were university-based models in Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas and that Kentucky and Ohio have developed a full time office with associated staff. Kinsey indicated that the data can be stored in different places and not reside in one place, but the office would need software and the infrastructure to access the data. Mr. Zink indicated that 49 senators don't know about GIS. Chris Stanton, said the Senators do know its importance, but since they no longer have a GIS office, now might be a good time to approach them about the data center concept. Larry Zink made a motion to approve the resolution supporting the development of a Nebraska spatial data center. Laurie Becker seconded the motion. Motion was approved with show of hands.

Larry Zink suggested that advocacy be included as an objective or goal for the Association. Mike Thompson stated that advocacy is going to be an ongoing process.

Regional User Group Updates:

Eastern – Mark Bohrer with the help of Nikki Godfroy said the eastern group has had one meeting thus far, with 26 people attending. The next meeting is scheduled for May 30th at the OPPD Energy Plaza. The talk will be the same floodplain talk that was given in Lincoln last month.

Lincoln – Ed Kelley said Jim Lacy and Carl Kincade were responsible for getting the Lincoln forum started after a year or two of sporadic activity. Ed indicated that there were two forums this past fall and three speakers this spring. Ed said that the forum is planning to resume in the fall.

Central – Doug Steinke stated that Mark Albrecht has also assisted in putting on the meetings and that they are currently in a state of flux. Feedback from previously held meetings have been from all extremes with some stating that the meetings were useful to some saying they were a waste of time. Kathryn Russell has brought a new energy to the group, especially the surveyors. Doug hopes to have another meeting late summer or early fall. Marcus Tooze stated that the city of Aurora and Kearney County have received an ESRI and NACO grant to initiate GIS in their respective areas.

Western – Susan Meyers said an Association board meeting was held in Scottbluff last fall. The meeting also included 5 speakers and Carl Kincade provided ArcView training for 14 people. There were 40 to 50 people attending including a state senator. Susan indicated that there was more interest than previously thought. The cemetery GIS project is working well and another event is scheduled for this coming fall. Duane Stott stated that he was encouraged by the use of geo-coding software for E911 applications.

Future Events and Business Items:

Carl Kincade stated that he will start a state GIS in Health user group in Nebraska. Ed Kelley stated that Dr. James Merchant would be willing to get things started for the 2003 Symposium. Gail Knapp said that the Omaha folks are still brainstorming and looking for volunteers for the Midwest ESRI Users's Group Conference.

2003 Nebraska GIS Symposium
Week of May 12, 2003
Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln

2003 Midwest ESRI User's Group Conference:
September 2003
Location TBA, Omaha

Board & Officer Elections:

John Myoshi served as nomination chairman for the election of new officers and board members. John indicated that there was around a 20% response rate. The 2003 Association officers and board are as follows:

Officers:

President: Gail Knapp (City of Omaha Planning Dept.)
President-Elect: Doug Steinke (Central Platte NRD, Grand Island)
Past-President: Ed Kelley (NE Dept. of Roads, Lincoln)
Secretary: Scott Richert (Lancaster Co. Assessor's Office, Lincoln)
Treasurer: John Beran (NE State Surveyor's Office, Lincoln)

Board:

Susan Myers (City of Scottsbluff Planning Dept.) 2003
Kathryn Russell (Kearney Co. Roads Dept., Minden) 2003
Marcus Tooze (GIS Workshop, Inc., Lincoln) 2003
Chris Stanton (GIS Workshop, Inc., Lincoln) 2004
Paul Yamamoto (NE Dept. of Environmental Quality, Lincoln) 2004
Laurie Becker (Univ. of NE- Kearney) 2004

Ed Kelley wished to thank and acknowledge all of those nominees who were willing to serve. Ed acknowledged the following individuals:

Jim Langtry	Joan Green	Mike Thompson
Marc Albrecht	Kirk Larson	Rose Braun
Char Estes	Andy Bishop	Les Howard
Ryan Axmann	Shane Buscher	Chris Busskohl
Michelle Gage	Craig Mielke	Glenn Williams

Membership Feedback:

Gail Knapp emphasized that coordination and cooperation as the key to an effective GIS. Laurie Becker asked how do we build some type of structure into the system. The two resolutions that were just passed do not include a mechanism for funding. The counties are using E911 money to fund GIS projects. The funding issue is big. What have other states done? Larry Zink talked about the RFP that he just completed and stated that counties don't have the resources available to do it on their own. Counties need to make sure that the GIS databases they create are important and applicable to multiple departments. Laurie stated that hopefully vendors would be able provide RFP's. Steve Kinsy stated that Ohio has given out awards recognizing great technical GIS projects in the state. The association may want to consider such an award for the 2003 symposium. The award is low cost and is a warm and fuzzy thing to do. Larry stated that county folks are the ones that suffer and that NACO and League of Municipalities or similar organizations need to be leveraged. Jim Langtry stated that resources are limited and that NACO should be used to lobby for GIS, as well as target a Senator to sell the cause.

Tom Larson stated that there needs to be an inventory of GIS activity in the state. Tom thought it would be helpful to other state agencies. Erik Hubl suggested that maybe a webpage with a clickable map displaying GIS activities and projects. The map would also including contact information. Teresa Silence stated that the trouble would be getting the information to the association and that communication is a big problem. Duane Stott stated that there is an opportunity to use this group as a lobbying mechanism and that this discussion has made a strong argument for the regional service center concept.

Maribeth Milner asked whether any agricultural issues have been addressed. Marybeth explained the availability of the FSA color aerials and that the NETA conference emphasized precision agricultural. Maribeth went on to say that we need to build bridges and cooperation.

Larry Zink suggested that we put a "Did you know" section on the association webpage, but stated that it would have to be maintained. Ed Kelley recognized John Beran as the current web master for the association. Maribeth stated the recreational GPS use is increasing in the state. Laurie Becker suggested that we should point people to the GIS web page and build links to issues such as the "open records" and "privacy issues". Carl Kincade suggested that we need a "Nebraska Geo-network" concept. Jeff Arnold suggested someone create a diagram or conceptual design of the geo-spatial network.

Zink suggested that there is a need to pull together a GIS PowerPoint presentation or slide show, which would be maintained, on the web site. Larry asked for a show of hands on who would be willing to contribute 4 slides. The slides would be used as examples to show how GIS was used to solve a problem. Kinsy suggested that supplemental information go along with each of the slides.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:05 p.m.

Breakout Sessions: (1:30 – 4:30)

Session 1: 2003 GIS Symposium Planning
A brainstorming and planning meeting for next year's GIS Symposium. Gail Knapp, Ed Kelley and Larry Zink moderated the meeting.

Session 2: Intergraph Technical Forum
Robert Gillson provided information and demonstrations of Intergraph products, which included GeoMedia.

Session 3: Education & Certification Issues
This session combined the topics of forming an educational subcommittee and a discussion of the URISA GIS professional certification. Laurie Becker and Josh Lear provided presentations.

Session 4:**ESRI Technical Forum**

Stephen Kinzy provided information and demonstrations of ESRI products, including ArcGIS.

Raffle:

Raffle items and winners include the following:

- a) Nebraska GIS/LIS Association T-Shirts
Doug Guess, Erik Hubl, Mike Thompson, Rose Braun, and Joan Green
- b) ESRI Copy of ArcView 8.2
Bonnie Shultz
- c) ESRI Copy of ArcPad 6.0
Jeff Arnold
- d) ESRI T-Shirts
Maribeth Milner, Dennis Gilbert, and Frank Larson
- e) ESRI Mouse Pads
Bonnie Shultz, Rob Gilson and Jolene Cox
- f) ESRI Coffee Cups
Dan Silvis, Les Howard and Maggie Aldrich
- g) Intergraph copies of Intelliwhere OnDemand
Carl Kincade and Jim Langtry
- h) Intergraph GeoMedia T-Shirts
Mark Bohrer and Duane Stott
- i) Intergraph Golf Shirts
Mike Neidermeyer and Nikki Godfroy
- j) Intergraph GeoMedia Coffe Mugs
Glenn Williams and Erik Hubl
- k) UNO Lanyard
Scott Robinson
- l) UNO Key chain
Maggie Aldrich
- m) UNO Water bottle
Jolene Cox
- n) UNO Hockey Puck
Scott McIntyre

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is 10:00 am, Wednesday, June 12 at the University of Nebraska Technology Park, 4701 Innovation Drive, Lincoln.

Respectively Submitted,



Scott E Richert, Secretary
Nebraska GIS/LIS Assoc., Inc.

APPENDIX

Nebraska GIS / LIS Association, Inc.
Resolution Supporting the Development of a Nebraska Spatial Data Center
Passed by Membership at 5/10/02 Annual Meeting

- Whereas:* Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is a powerful information technology tool that has been adopted by numerous public and private entities for an ever-widening array of applications;
- Whereas:* Current and accurate geospatial data is a necessary component of GIS, and in most cases the most expensive component;
- Whereas:* Facilitating geospatial data sharing is widely recognized as one of the most cost-effective strategies for reducing overall GIS implementation costs, and for helping to produce consistent and compatible public policy results across agencies and levels of government based on the shared use of the most current and accurate geospatial data available;
- Whereas:* The Nebraska GIS Steering Committee has recognized that facilitating data sharing and distribution is a priority long-term goal and in its September 2000 Strategic Plan endorsed an initiative to “Develop structures, standards, and processes that facilitate easy access to, integration, and usability of publicly available geospatial data” and noted some of the problems and weaknesses of the current Nebraska clearinghouse system and called for convening a subcommittee to make recommendations for enhancing Nebraska geospatial data clearinghouse capabilities;
- Whereas:* The Nebraska GIS Steering Committee’s Advisory Committee on Interactive Internet Mapping has recommended, “A State of Nebraska spatial data access and support center should be established to facilitate efficient access to and sharing of Nebraska-related geospatial data and to provide appropriate technical support to assist the multiple users of this data in state, local, and federal agencies, the private sector and the general public”;
- Whereas:* The Nebraska GIS Steering Committee has created an Advisory Committee on Facilitating Geospatial Data Sharing and charged it with making recommendations related to the structures, standards, and processes that should be developed to facilitate easy access to, integration, and usability of publicly available Nebraska-related geospatial data; and
- Whereas:* The Nebraska GIS/LIS Association is a professional organization representing the Nebraska GIS user community with goals to “Assist, educate, coordinate and guide the implementation and development of GIS technology in the state of Nebraska” and to “Foster a spirit of cooperation among local, state and federal agencies, and the private sector in addressing priority databases for Nebraska.”

Now Therefore, be it resolved:

- Section 1.* That the Nebraska GIS/LIS Association believes that the development of an enhanced Nebraska spatial data center is an important component of Nebraska’s spatial data infrastructure and supports the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Interactive Internet Mapping that, “A State of Nebraska spatial data access and support center should be established to facilitate efficient access to and sharing of Nebraska-related geospatial data and to provide appropriate technical support to assist the multiple users of this data in state, local, and federal agencies, the private sector and the general public.”
- Section 2.* That the Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Board should actively work to support the development of such an enhanced Nebraska spatial data center and work with Association members to inform their elected representatives about GIS and the need for a Nebraska spatial data center to facilitate the efficient development and sharing of a common spatial data infrastructure.

Nebraska GIS/LIS Association, Inc.
Resolution Supporting the Development of Spatial Data Infrastructure for Nebraska
Hydrography and Street Address Centerline Databases
Passed by Membership at 5/10/02 Annual Meeting

- Whereas:* Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is a powerful information technology tool that has been adopted by numerous public and private entities for an ever-widening array of applications;
- Whereas:* A select subset of spatial databases (aerial imagery, elevation, transportation, cadastral, hydrography, soils, street addresses and geodetic control) are needed for a wide variety of GIS applications and serve as a foundation to develop and integrate other spatial datasets and consequently they are considered key pieces of our common spatial data infrastructure and have been prioritized for statewide development by the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee;
- Whereas:* The Nebraska GIS Steering Committee and several cooperating state, federal and local agencies have made considerable strides in developing many of these priority geospatial datasets (DOQs, DEMs, transportation, and soils), however there are a couple key elements of our common spatial data infrastructure that could currently benefit from extra support to insure their timely development;
- Whereas:* Surface water is very important to the social and economic life of Nebraskans and accurate standardized maps of our state's hydrographic features is one of the core elements of our spatial data infrastructure which has yet to be developed on a statewide (1:24,000 scale) basis;
- Whereas:* The leadership of several agencies (Dept. of Natural Resources, Dept. of Environmental Quality, Conservation and Survey Division, U.S. Geological Survey and Natural Resources Districts) has led to the cooperative identification of standards (National Hydrography Dataset - NHD), the completion of NHD pilot projects, and the securing of limited development funding, however significant additional resources will be required to complete statewide development of this element of our spatial data infrastructure.
- Whereas:* Street addresses are the most common spatial/locational component of public and private databases and the key to utilizing the power of GIS technology to display, analyze and integrate databases, based on their street addresses, is the availability of a current and comprehensive street centerlines database with associated attribute data that provides accurate address ranges for each street or road segment;
- Whereas:* There are several current, independent initiatives (E911 enhancements and related local rural addressing, Dept. of Roads comprehensive statewide GIS transportation centerline database development, US Bureau of Census TIGER modernization, homeland security, local government GIS development, etc.) which have the potential to directly or indirectly assist in the development of street address centerline databases, but the coordination is currently lacking to heighten the synergy of these independent initiatives in a manner to facilitate the development and maintenance of a standardized, statewide, street address centerline database for Nebraska;
- Whereas:* The Nebraska GIS/LIS Association is a professional organization representing the Nebraska GIS user community with goals to "Assist, educate, coordinate and guide the implementation and development of GIS technology in the state of Nebraska" and to "Foster a spirit of cooperation among local, state and federal agencies, and the private sector in addressing priority databases for Nebraska."

Now Therefore, be it resolved:

Section 1. That the Nebraska GIS/LIS Association believes that the development of standardized, statewide hydrography and street address centerlines databases are important components of Nebraska's spatial data infrastructure.

Section 2. That the Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Board should actively work to support the development of these cores statewide databases and work with Association members to inform their elected representatives about GIS and the importance of coordinated public investment in the development and maintenance of these and other elements of our common spatial data infrastructure.