

Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Board Meeting

Friday May 15th – 9:30 am

Kirkham Michael

12700 West Dodge Rd.

Omaha, NE 68154

Officers Present

President	Mike Preston	Yes
President-Elect	Jeff McReynolds	Yes
Past-President	Eric Herbert	Yes
Secretary	Shaula Ross	Yes
Treasurer	Eric Kriener	Yes

Board Members Present

Board Member	Mike Schwab	No
Board Member	Norman Small	Yes via phone @ 9:49am – out at 10:45am
Board Member	Joe Eckmann	Yes via phone @ 10:27am
Board Member	Virginia Emly	No
Board Member	Pat Larson	Yes via phone
Board Member	Michele Hill	Yes via phone

Others Present

Larry Zink @ 9:45am

Agenda

1. Welcome to new Board Members
2. Call to Order
 - a. Review agenda (corrections/additions/deletions)
3. Review & approve previous meeting's minutes
4. Financial report
 - a. Income/Expenditures
 - b. Tax update
5. Committee reports & members
 - a. Education
 - b. User group
 - c. Nebraska GIS Council
6. Symposium Review
 - a. The good, the Bad, and the Ugly
7. Scholarship
 - a. How much and How often
8. Annual Meeting Location
9. Other Business
10. Next meeting

Welcome new Board Members

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:40am by Mike P. The agenda was changed from the original to include Scholarships and Annual Meeting location as topics to discuss.

Review & approve previous meeting's minutes

Meeting minutes from April were not available yet to review.

Financial report

Income/Expenditures

Total assets \$45,125. Income was \$252. Expenses were 17,333 (symposium). There was discussion about possibly buying a printer, labels and paper for Association business (mailings, ballots, nametags, etc).

Tax update

A letter was sent to the IRS regarding the penalty assessed on the Association and it will be at least 8-10 weeks before we hear anything back.

Committee reports & members

Education Committee

Norman S. has put together an education committee, which consist of the following:

- Chair – Norman Small
- Professional Development: Sonja Sebree & Claire Brown
- Academic: Dr. Joel Helmer, Concordia University
- ESRI: Joe Eckmann
- Youth Development: Lee Sherry, University Nebraska-Lincoln
- Committee member: Kim Menke
- Geographic Educators of Nebraska: Dr. Randy Bertolas

Next Symposium (prefer Wednesday) would like to have an Academic Youth Development Seminar. Norman already has 5 instructors confirmed for the next Symposium and already has 3 of the 5 abstracts. Norman also brought up promoting GIS and Geospatial Concepts by possibly having a 'Community Day Event' one of the afternoons during the symposium.

User Groups

A LOAG Users Group meeting in combination with an ESRI Seminar was held on May 12th (9am-4pm) at the Embassy Suites, Lincoln. The topic was ArcGIS Server and Creating Effective Web Maps. LOAG is looking at having quarterly user group meetings, with both Lincoln and Omaha meetings on the same topic and day (one in morning and the other in the afternoon).

Nebraska GIS Council

A Council meeting was held at Nebraska Department of Roads on May 13th at 1pm. Topics discussed at the council meeting included Aerial Imagery, LiDAR and NebraskaMap Initiatives. Larry Z. inquired about interest from the GIS/LIS group on GIS project coordination and what is happening within the group. Larry Z. is still working on ideas for a Strategic Plan and has an FGDC grant to support such an effort. There was discussion on needs to have a Regional or Statewide Strategic Plan, long term funding, who should be involved, how to promote GIS through outreach efforts, sources of information such as existing regional Master Plans, etc.

Symposium Review

Eric K. did not have enough time to compile the surveys before the board meeting, but plans to have something before the next meeting. Looking through the surveys there has been mostly positive feedback. The registration process (Cvent) worked well for a majority of attendees. We had a good number of first timers at the Symposium this year. Some improvements suggested were to have the session abstracts available to review sooner during registration and to have some of the break-out sessions scheduled more than once.

There was discussion on some of the things that we may want to consider reviewing (rooms, internet connection/speed, alternatives for internet access, etc.) before the planning year for the 2011 Symposium in La Vista. Looking further down the road, the 2013 Symposium may be hosted in Norfolk.

Scholarship

There was discussion on the possibility of offering some kind of scholarship to a student or students. It was suggested that the students would have to submit a proposal for a GIS project they intend to work on and then possibly present their work at the Annual Meeting or Symposium.

Eric H. moved to set up a scholarship program which would include one \$1000 (\$500/semester) and two \$200 (\$100/semester) scholarships. Pat L. seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-1.

Eric K. moved to create a scholarship committee. Jeff M. seconded. All approved. Motion passed.

The details of scholarship program will be reviewed further by the new scholarship committee. Eric K. has volunteered to chair the committee.

Annual Meeting Location

Some of the places mentioned for possible annual meeting locations were Lincoln, Omaha, Nebraska City, Ogallala, Kearney and Sydney. The board will consider these and other possibilities and the location will be discussed further at the next Board meeting.

Other Business

Larry Z. suggested that since the GIS/LIS Association has matured from where it originally started, that maybe the goals and objectives of the Association should be reviewed. There was discussion on what can be done beyond the symposium to serve the GIS community. Eric K. suggested that we may want to send out a survey to find out what our members would like to see. Eric H. brought up possibly beefing up the User Groups.

Other discussion included funding for lobbying to promote GIS datasets and technology, visiting with groups like NACO and League of Municipalities to promote GIS and the GIS/LIS Association, and continued outreach to our more rural counterparts.

Next Scheduled meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for June 12th at 10am in Lincoln at the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.

Adjourned

Board meeting closed at 11:15am

Shaula Ross: Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Secretary