

# Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Annual Meeting

April 11, 2014 (8:30 am-noon)

Quarry Oaks Golf Club  
16600 Quarry Oaks Drive  
Ashland, Nebraska 68003

## Officers Present

President	Mike Schwab	Yes
President-Elect	Mike Preston	Yes
Past-President	Nathan Watermeier	Yes
Secretary	Shaula Ross	Yes
Treasurer	Eric Kriener	Yes

## Board Members Present

Board Member	Jeff McReynolds	Yes
Board Member	Jerry Lawson	Yes
Board Member	Travis Talbitzer	Yes
Board Member	Pat Larson	No
Board Member	Shane Buscher	No
Board Member	Stephanie Cunningham	Yes

## Agenda

1. Board Meeting
  - a. Association Goals
  - b. Treasurer's Report
  - c. Membership Report
  - d. User Group Update
  - e. Election Results
  - f. Special Announcements
2. Presentations
  - a. Digital Soils Data – Steve Peaslee, NRCS
  - b. NE GIS Council Update – Mike Preston, Velosys
  - c. State GIS Standards/NE SDI – Nathan Watermeier, State of NE
  - d. Online GIS Certificate – Dr. Denise Schlake-Ideus, SECC
  - e. Improving Coordinate Accuracy – Mike Munson, NDOR
  - f. Managing Energy Saving Trees with GIS – Mike Schwab, Beehive
  - g. National Parcel Summit Overview – Brent Jones, ESRI
3. Lunch
  - a. Sponsored by Beehive & HDR

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Mike Schwab.

## Association Goals

### 2014-2015 Association Goals

- Establish new partnerships and shared activities with other state associations (PSAN, NACO, Health, GITA, NEATA, and others).
- Promote user groups where they are successful. Evaluate the role of other user groups where there has been no activity.
- Provide and promote opportunities for training and education.
- Promote and identify student involvement and scholarship.
- Deliver a quality 2015 Bi-Annual Symposium in La Vista.
- Promote and use the new online discussion forum on our web site.

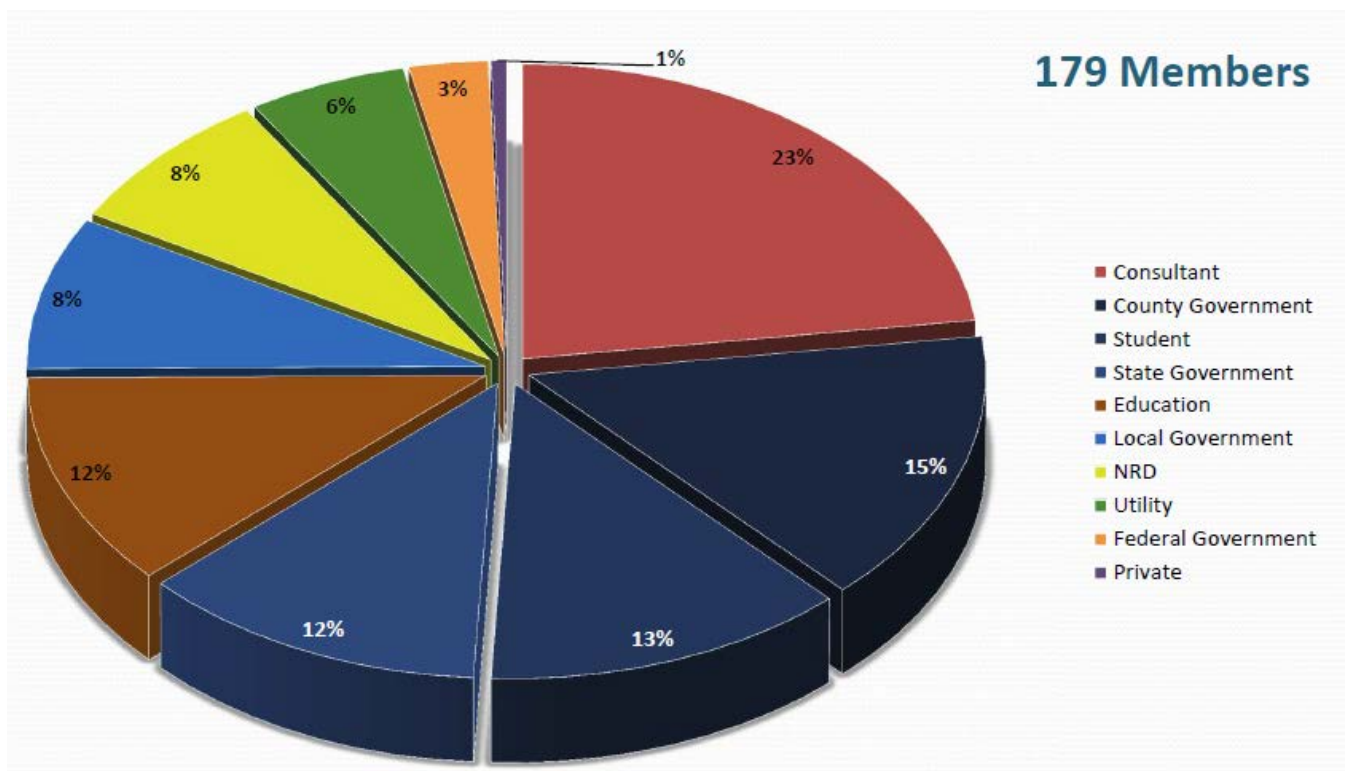
## Treasurer's Report

Eric Kriener reviewed Income and Expenses for April 17, 2013 - April 11, 2014. A majority of the expenses incurred were associated with the 2013 Symposium. As of April 11, 2014 the checking account balance was \$40,997.81. Projected expenses associated with the Annual Meeting are around \$1,500.

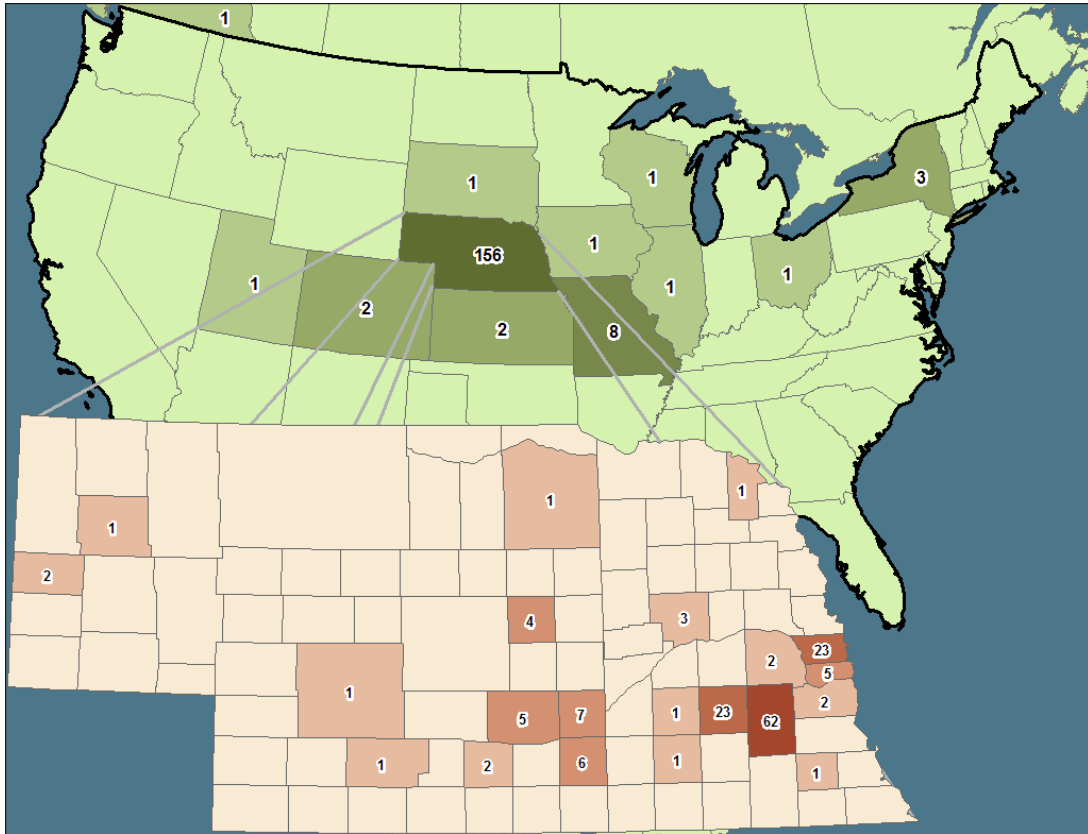
## Membership Report

A summary of the current membership was presented. Included in the summary was a chart showing members work affiliations and a map showing member distribution.

Membership Summary



## Membership Distribution



## User Group Update

Current User Groups include:

- **Southeast** (Lincoln/Omaha)
- **Central** (Kearney/Grand Island)
- **Western** (Panhandle – Jeff Sprock)
- **Northeast** (Tri-State – Kathie Pfaffle)

## Election Results

### 2013-2014 Board of Directors

Officers:

- President: Mike Schwab (Beehive Industries)
- President-Elect: Mike Preston (Velosys)
- Past-President: Nathan Watermeier (State of Nebraska, OCIO)
- Secretary: Shaula Ross (Lower Platte South NRD)
- Treasurer: Eric Kriener (Sarpy County GIS)

At Large Board Members:

- Pat Larson (City of Grand Island, NE)
- Stephanie Cunningham (City of Kearney)
- Shane Buscher (Velosys)
- Travis Talbitzer (HDR)
- Jeff McReynolds (Lincoln\Lancaster)
- Jerry Lawson (Douglas/Omaha GIS)

## 2014-2015 Board of Directors

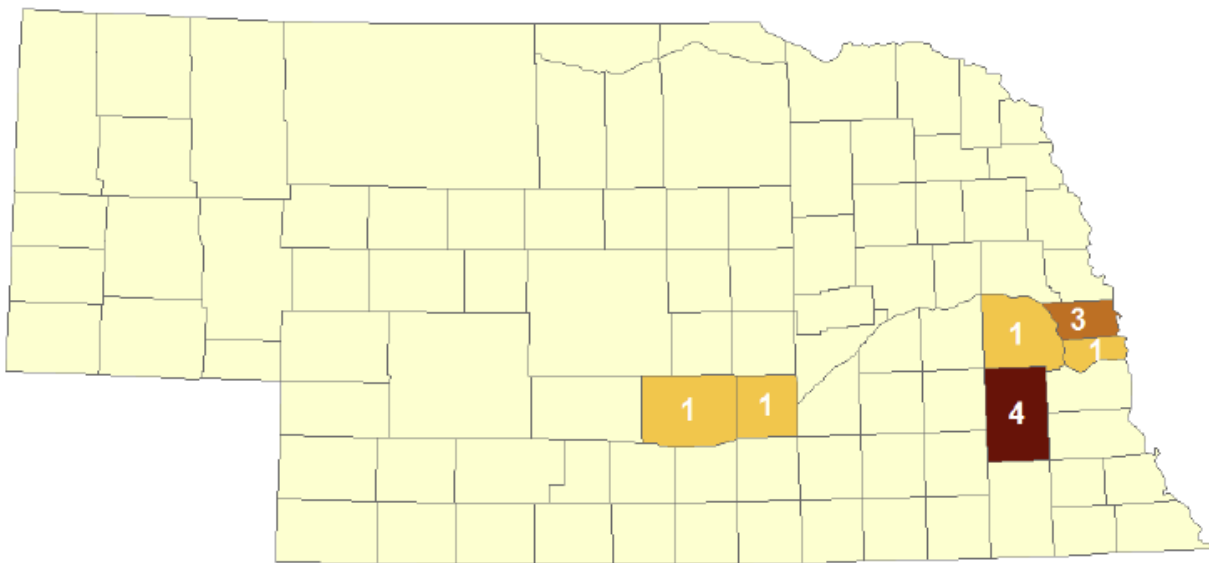
### Officers:

- President: Mike Preston (Velosys)
- President-Elect: Travis Talbitzer (HDR)
- Past-President: Mike Schwab (Beehive Industries)
- Secretary: Shaula Ross (Lower Platte South NRD)
- Treasurer: Eric Kriener (Sarpy County GIS)

### At Large Board Members:

- Jeff McReynolds (Lincoln\Lancaster)
- Shelley Schulte (JEO)
- Joe Sather (JEO)
- Pat Larson (City of Grand Island, NE)
- Stephanie Cunningham (City of Kearney)
- Shane Buscher (Velosys)

### Board Distribution (2014-2015)



Thank you to all who ran as candidates for the Board.

### Nominee Acknowledgements

- Jerry Lawson (Douglas/Omaha GIS)
- Michael Munson (NE Dept. of Roads)

### Board Membership Appreciation

Recognition for leaving Board members:

- Jerry Lawson: Director At Large 2012-2014
- Nathan Watermeier: Director at Large & President 2010-2014

## Special Announcements

### NE GIS/LIS Scholarship

#### Eligibility

- Open to Full-time Grad/Undergrad Students
- Currently at College or University in Nebraska
- Pursuing program related to GIS
- Winner will present at Symposium/Annual Meeting

#### Award

- One year \$1,000 Scholarship (\$500/Semester)
- Certificate of award and acknowledgement on [gislis.org](http://gislis.org)
- One term of membership/Symposium registration

### Association Awards

Award nomination information can be found at GIS/LIS Website at [www.gislis.org](http://www.gislis.org) > membership > awards. Nomination Categories include: Excellence in GIS, GIS Contributions to the Community, Excellence in Coordination/Management, Excellence in GIS Education, and GIS Student Award.

#### 2014 Outstanding Student Award Winner

- Adam Brown – Master of Arts – Community and Regional Planning, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

### Future GIS/LIS Meetings

- 2014-2015 GIS/LIS Association Board Meetings
  - Held at various locations, see the calendar on [www.gislis.org](http://www.gislis.org) > calendar for dates and locations of meetings
  - Meetings are open to all members
- 2015 Biennial Symposium
  - April 14-16, 2015
  - La Vista Embassy Suites Hotel & Conference Center
- 2016 Annual Meeting
  - Agenda and Location TBD
  - Indicate interest and ideas to the Board of Directors and Officers

### NE GIS/LIS Social Networking

Keep up to date on what is happening with the GIS/LIS Association. Social Networking available on the GIS/LIS Website at [www.gislis.org](http://www.gislis.org) > organization > social networking: RSS feeds, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Flickr and GIS/LIS Forum.

### Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be May 9, 2014 at 10am in Lincoln at the Lower Platte South NRD.

### Presentations following the Business Meeting

**Digital Soils Data** – Presentation by Steve Peaslee (NRCS). Steve gave updates on the current status of Digital Soils Data available from NRCS. The old Soil Data Mart website has been retired. Web Soil Survey (WSS) is now the primary avenue for viewing, exploring, and distributing soils data with direct links to download data. All

SSURGO data for Nebraska was updated the end of 2013. There is a new gSSURGO format that has been introduced, with state-wide tiles available. The gSSURGO data is in a file geodatabase and contains a gridded SSURGO, an integer raster that works well for analysis. However, the state-wide gSSURGO tiles are not practical for county-wide applications.

**NE GIS Council Update** - Mike Preston (Velosys). Mike gave updates on the NITC GIS Council activities. The 2014 GIS Council Goals include: Standards and Guidelines; Defining NESDI (Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure) and Data Stewardship; Business Plans; and Geodetic & Survey Control. There are some current openings in membership on the Council which include: Member At Large, Federal Liaison, Omaha Metro, and NACO (NE Association of County Officials). Positions on the Council are 3-year terms. Current working groups on the council include: Imagery, Elevation, Land Records, and Street Centerline Address Database (necessary for NG911).

**State GIS Standards/NESDI** - Nathan Watermeier (State of NE). Nathan reviewed the status of State GIS Standards and NESDI. The business plans are about half done. They are looking at NESDI relationships on accumulation of datasets and how they all work together. Work is being done to formalize the NESDI through Policies and Institutional Arrangements, Infrastructure, Data Stewards, and Education. There are plans to have partnerships with the survey community to gather and make survey control data more readily available and to promote access to sub-meter accuracy. Datasets reviewed for statewide coverage include: Elevation (using LiDAR); Imagery (leaf-off, 12inch); Street Centerline and Address Points – preparation for NG911 and NENA; and Land Records. The Nebraska Department of Education was awarded a GIS K-12 grant through the Environmental Trust. An ELA with ESRI using ArcGIS Online has been acquired. They are currently looking for volunteers to help with curriculum and to help teach instructors.

**Online GIS Certificate** - Dr. Denise Schlake-Ideus (Southeast CC). Southeast Community College has received a Geospatial Technology Grant through the US Department of Labor. The grant runs now through September 2017 and is to help with the development of new curriculum. A new SCC program for a Geographic Information Systems Technician (GIST) Certificate will be available pending approval by NE Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. A new certificate in the existing Agriculture, Business and Management Technology Program in Precision Agriculture will be available. A list of courses for the GIST and Precision Agriculture Certificates were reviewed. The first classes for the certificates will be offered the Fall of 2014. A majority of the classes will be online with some face-to-face labs on the Milford Campus.

**Improving Coordinate Accuracy** - Michael Munson (NDOR). There are currently 15,380 bridges in the State of Nebraska NDOR inventory (which includes all bridges and culverts over 20 feet). Upon review of the coordinates and attributes data for the bridges, it was clear that many of the coordinates did not match up with the actual ground locations on current maps/aerials in GIS. Mike started with a review of all of the State Bridges, which included 3,616 bridges. Mike discussed the processes he used to review and update the coordinates for each of the state bridges. The next step will be to review all of the local bridges, which includes 11,764 bridges. Mike would like to see an ArcGIS online application developed to extend the capabilities of updating coordinates and bridge information and to help share the duties with others.

**Managing Energy Saving Trees with GIS** - Mike Schwab (Beehive). The main mission of Arbor Day Foundation is promoting planting of trees. Utilities companies sometimes have to remove trees for utilities and need a PR Boost with replacement of trees. The Arbor Day Foundation created an Energy Savings Tree Program and needed a way to track where and how many trees were planted through the program. Beehive created an online application to meet the various goals of both the Arbor Day Foundation and Energy Companies for Energy Saving Tree Program. The application integrates spatial and tabular data and uses analytics to help determine real benefits for placement of trees. Mike gave a demo of the application. The application is currently being used by 13 energy companies this Spring and there is a wait list for additional energy companies that would like to participate in the program.

**National Parcel Summit Overview** - Brent Jones (ESRI). Brent gave a brief historical review of land records in the US. In order to aggregate parcels data to create a national parcels dataset, we need to first start on a state by state basis. There are many uses for a statewide parcels dataset including: Public Health, Emergency Management, Department of Transportation, Natural Resources, Forestry & Agriculture, Commerce and Economic Development, Environmental, etc.

**A word from our sponsors** - Beehive & HDR. Thank you for sponsoring the lunch!

**Shaula Ross: Nebraska GIS/LIS Association Secretary**