

Minutes

2016 WI Presidents Council Annual Meeting

Wednesday, October 12th, 2016
Chula Vista Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI

Attendance

Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials (Gary Bell)
County Surveyors Association (Bryan Meyer)
Department of Administration – Division of Intergovernmental Relations (Jim Giglierano, Peter Herreid)
Department of Transportation – Surveying and Mapping (Rodney Key)
Land Information Association (Emily Champagne, Adam Derringer, Martin Goettl)
Land Information Officers Network (Jodi Helgeson)
Land Title Association (Leigh Rodebaugh, John Sayas)
Real Property Listers Association (Brian Braithwaite, Jean Krumenauer, Krista Paulson)
Register of Deeds Association (Tyson Fettes, Carey Petersilka)
Society of Land Surveyors (Larry Miller, Emily Pierce, Frank Thousand)
State Agency Geospatial Information Committee (Colter Sikora)
State Cartographer's office (Jim Lacy, Howard Veregin)

Call to order

Meeting called to order by Jim Lacy at 1:00 p.m.

Brief Follow-up on October 2015 Meeting

- 1) Last year we discussed the proposal to repeal comprehensive planning. That proposal eventually died, but it re-appears almost every legislative session. Martin indicated the WLIA lobbyist is working to get ahead of the issue this time, in order to avoid the confusion legislators often have about the source of comprehensive planning funding.
- 2) The proposal to consolidate the offices of register of deeds, treasurer, and county clerk ultimately died as well. There was very little support for the idea.

Overview of Next Generation 911 and the Role of Land Information

- 1) Gary Bell gave the group a detailed overview on the history of 911 in Wisconsin.
- 2) WI is one of only two states in nation that doesn't have a plan in place for implementing NG911. Missouri is the other state.
- 3) Current 911 systems are based on 1940's and 50's technology.
- 4) Telecommunications companies want to get rid of these old technologies by 2020, because they are costly to maintain.
- 5) There are many things to accomplish in next few years before NG911 is operational in Wisconsin.
- 6) Going from 15 statewide routers to four, could do it with two.
- 7) Two pathways for implementation
 - a) Purchase network services from a vendor for \$0.18 per capita. ATT - large communities subsidize small communities.
 - b) State CIO: do it on BadgerNet, trying to figure out what the cost would be.

- 8) Home rule state, locals have responsibility to develop. Indiana is “state strong”, took 4-5 years to develop.
- 9) Republican agenda - spending the last six years educating legislators.
- 10) Funding source? Segregated fund, sunsetted around 2007
 - a) was used to fix a budget gap
 - b) money goes to the general fund
 - c) Can’t go after the \$54 million collected for the “Police and Fire Protection Fee.” NENA and APCO have been told it’s a non-starter.
 - d) Estimates suggest it will cost \$12.5M per year for infrastructure
- 11) Land Information - no longer just matching an address to a database. NG911 is very much data centric approach to emergency dispatch.
- 12) Next generation 911 working group
 - a) Chris Diller (Military Affairs) , Jim Giglierano (DOA), and April Schoolcraft (Jackson County) participate in this group
 - b) Justin Conner also participates on behalf of WLIA.

Land Information Integration in Racine County – Tyson Fettes

- Tyson gave an update on land information modernization progress in Racine Co.
- Land records date back to 1836 in the county
- He is the head of several different land information-related business areas in the county, therefore integration is easy... no departmental barriers.

Statewide Parcel Project Update – Howard Veregin & Peter Herreid

- 1) State-funded project to build statewide parcel database
 - a) Statewide parcel dataset is required by law, Act 20
 - b) DOA is the lead, working closely with SCO for technical support.
 - c) V2 parcel map was released on schedule, and a new online, searchable app is coming soon.
 - d) V2 project report available on SCO site.
- 2) V2 data also includes 5 zoning layers, available online.
- 3) V2 focus was on sustainability and efficiency, and creating less manually intensive procedures. This included developing tools for address parsing, DOR XML formatting
- 4) Project team provided written feedback to counties so future data submissions will go more smoothly in the future.
- 5) Future efforts (V3 & V4) will continue work on making the integration process easier, more automated to the extent possible.
- 6) Work continues on strategic initiative grants and benchmarks related to parcels
 - a) Submitting parcels with Act 20 attributes
 - b) extended attribute set
 - c) completing parcel fabric
 - d) Improved PLSS data
- 7) WLIP grant applications where just recently released

Organization Reports

Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials (APCO)

- a) Nothing to add beyond the earlier discussion on Next Gen 911.

Wisconsin County Surveyors Association (WCSA)

- WCSA was asked by DOA to better define the meaning of “survey grade” coordinates. The organization recently took another look at the definitions previously proposed, and decided to stick with those: Survey grade (2cm), sub-meter (1m), approximate (5m)
- WCSA participating in a PLSS Workgroup, which is designed to educate policy-makers on the importance of good-quality PLSS. This included publishing a position paper, and publishing articles in WCA magazine. Have received good feedback from county board members on those educational efforts.
- Bryan noted that not all surveyors are necessarily qualified to do PLSS remonumentation. A great deal of historic research is involved. WCSA is working on recommend qualifications. Counties should be wary of looking only at cost when considering remonumentation projects.
- Wisconsin currently has 62 county surveyors, 31 part time, 31 full time; 4 elected.
- WCSA wrote a letter to DOT voicing opposition to proposed fee structure for accessing WisCORS network.
- Cemetery plats, no longer need to be approved by town or county.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT)

- 1) Transportation Project Plats (TPPs) – Recordable R/W Plats
 - Nearly 6200 have been recorded in 70 counties since 1998.
 - TPPs are based on the PLSS system and are “survey accurate”.
 - DOT is very much in favor of the work being done by the PLSS workgroup.
 - Over 1600 TPPs have been amended, which is 26% of the total.
- 2) E-Recorded TPPs
 - Over 1000 TPPs have been recorded electronically in 16 Counties since Oct, 2010.
 - Counties E-Recording are: Brown, Columbia, Dane, Jefferson, La Crosse, Marquette, Outagamie, Portage, Racine, Rock, Sheboygan, St. Croix, Washington, Wood, Waupaca and Winnebago.
 - 10 other Counties are on the waiting list for e-recording.
 - WisDOT signed a contract with Simplifile in 2015 so more counties are able to e-record TPPs.
- 3) HAMS – Highway Access Management System
 - HAMS is based on an ARC GIS System which uses Oracle as the database to keep track of existing r/w, new r/w, driveway permits, etc.
 - As of August 1st, we began requiring consultants to submit their C3D dwg files in a specific format so HAMS could import certain layers from these files into their Arc GIS System.
 - HAMS System has geo-referencing capabilities.
 - There is a possibility that DOT could work with DOA and SCO to tie all of the new R/W boundaries into the statewide parcel mapping project. Contact Mitch Moline.
- 4) WisCORS (Wisconsin Continuing Operating Reference Stations)
 - 84 Stations operating within the WISCORS Network (Handout).
 - Five new WISCORS stations are currently being constructed in the Portage, Reedsburg, Mauston, Oxford and De Pere areas and will be incorporated into the network in 2017.
 - Currently there are approximately 2500 registered users for the network with 575 being able to use the network at any one time.

- CORS stations in Minnesota will be incorporated into the network in Oct, 2016 and CORS stations in Iowa and Michigan will be incorporated into the network in 2017 once testing has been completed.
 - Currently \$350k/yr maintenance cost to run WisCORS network. WisDOT management is currently in discussion with the Secretaries office regarding a yearly user based fee to maintain the system. There will be a public hearing pertaining to this during the 2017 Spring Legislative Session.
 - Geodetic Surveys Unit is planning a pilot project(s) using solar power on a new CORS station(s) to be incorporated into the network in 2017. It costs approximately \$25/yr in electricity costs to run a CORS station.
- 5) Wisconsin Geodetic Survey Control Network (Height Modernization Program)
- Over 9000 Passive Monuments Statewide
 - Phase 8D (Handout) – Leveling and GPS work in Phase 8D was completed in 2014. Phase 8D tentatively scheduled to be published by NGS in late Fall/Winter 2016.
 - Phase 8E – Leveling and GPS work completed in 2015, tentatively scheduled to be published by NGS in Fall/Winter 2016.
 - Over 100 monuments have been destroyed because of highway projects. Due to recent additions to FDM/CMM, with permission from the Project Manager, we can now charge back the cost of replacing destroyed stations to the WisDOT project that destroyed them. Depending on the station it costs between \$8k – \$25k to replace a station.
 - With Initial Development efforts coming to an end, Mark Maintenance activities are ongoing.

See DOT handouts at the end of these minutes.

Wisconsin DOA Division of Intergovernmental Relations (DIR)

- DOA is being guided by new WLIP program plan, which received extensive public input.
- The plan is based on 80+ pages of written comments. The plan will guide the program over the next five years, but will be updated in the next three years.
- Strategic initiative funds will be evenly divided between 72 counties.
- The plan sets priorities based on benchmarks, work is beginning on new benchmarks for 2018 grants. (open data, LiDAR, aerial imagery)
- Work on the new benchmarks, which were presented as draft concepts in the program plan, need to be defined by the early summer of 2017
- As with the program plan, the community will have extensive input into the parameters of the new benchmarks.

Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA)

- Regional conference in Trego coming up next week.
- Adam Derringer was a keynote speaker at Michigan GIS conference, where he talked about the history of WLIA and the Wisconsin Land Information Program.
- WLIA is continuing to reach out to municipal users, working to better support that audience.
- WLIA maintains a professional networking directory called “ProNet.” With a lot of new people coming in to the industry, they want to help members network with each other.
- Participating in the PLSS workgroup.

- The Technical committee is seeking to help with developing WLIP benchmarks, in particular the open data benchmark.
- Legislative activity: WLIA developing a series of legislative priorities, each of which will be described by “one-pagers.” These priorities will be used by the WLIA lobbyist to educate legislators as the new session begins.

Land Information Officers Network (LION)

- LION meets next week in Trego during the WLIA conference
- Jodi attended a joint meeting of the Property Records Industry Association and URISA/CAMA in Savannah in February. They had a joint GIS session.
- She also gave a GIS presentation at the Property Records Industry Association in Dubuque in August. Wisconsin seems to be the envy of other states as we have a robust program and funding.
- Concern with lack of GIS representation on the State and Local Finance Roundtable discussing the e-return data.
- Some WLIP county funds were spent on e-recording modules to meet the TRID requirements for mortgage recordings.

Wisconsin Land Title Association (WLTA)

- TRID. We saw the significant and industry changing federal regulations for TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosures take effect. With several years of preparation work, and industry wide collaboration with several trade organizations and lending institutions, we were able to keep the closing process in a reasonable timeframe for most consumers without any major shutdown or disruption of closing services. Nevertheless, several questions and issues still remain surrounding the federal regulations. Currently before the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is a proposed amendment that is intended to address some ongoing concerns with privacy issues and fee disclosures, but has not been finalized. Needless to say, this will continue to be an area of attention for our organization over the next few years.
- Adverse Possession. This is a legal doctrine that has been around for hundreds of years. This concept is codified under Chapter 893 of the Wisconsin Statutes to permit a person who believes that they have occupied property legally belonging to another record owner, and to obtain ownership of that land. Wis. Stat. 893.305 now provides for a statutory method to prevent adverse possession by filing an Affidavit of Interruption with the Register of Deeds office.
- Increased Industry Fraud. Our industry and organization have seen a significant increase in recent fraudulent activity pertaining to real estate transactions, particularly in the wire fraud arena. Although fraud is not new to our industry, the frequency and complexity of these new fraud cases is certainly noteworthy for anyone in the real estate industry.

Wisconsin Real Property Listers Association (WRPLA)

- Just held their annual conference.
- Many new faces: 27 new listers in the state, many have GIS background. A lot of listers have retired due to Act 10, and/or moved to the private sector.

Wisconsin Register of Deeds Association (WRDA)

- The Register of Deeds Association is working on legislation to mandate Sheriff's Deeds be brought directly to the Register of Deeds office for recording from the Clerk of Courts at time of sale. This is similar to legislation passed for Milwaukee County last year. Under this proposal, there would still be a sheriff sale, and the sheriff would still provide a sheriff deed to the court. The court would confirm the sale; but rather than the sheriff deed being given to the buyer with the hope that the buyer might record the deed, the sheriff deed instead will go from the sheriff, to the clerk of court, directly to the register of deeds for recording.
- It has come to our attention that there are companies out there charging exorbitant fees for vital records. We are working on possible legislation to ensure that our constituents are not being taken advantage of when needing their personal records.
- As mentioned last year, the Jt Alpha group which consists of the Wisconsin Real Property Listers Assoc, Wisconsin Register of Deeds Assoc, Wisconsin Land Title Association, and the Wisconsin State Bar – Real Property Probate & Trust Section are still looking at the Transfer by Affidavit and the HT110 & TOD 110 forms for revisions.
- State Wide Issuance of Vital records will begin 1/1/2017. This is a win/win for all involved. If the record is electronically available, we will be able to issue out of the county records, saving our constituents a great deal of time and money. There will be different dates for different records; however birth records will all be available. If it isn't in the system we will contact the state and they will enter it that same day, making it no longer a need to drive across the state or to another nearby county. We will be able to serve you in our county. Also starting January 1, 2017, we will offer divorce certificates at the county level, previously only available from the state.

Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors (WSLS)

- WSLS has been involved in the PLSS Workgroup mentioned by others. They feel PLSS needs to be considered a critical component for all geospatial applications.
- PLSS remonumentation should not be handed out to the lowest bidder. Need to look at qualifications of the surveyor. Not everyone is qualified to take on this work.
- There is a national push for surveyors to have a four year degree. Currently there are no four-year programs in Wisconsin.
- DSPS (agency that regulates surveyors) is experiencing possible budget cuts, looking at eliminating continuing education audits. Unknown if the proposed cuts will stick in the final state budget.
- WSLS is working on improving outreach to younger surveyors, getting them more involved in the organization.
- Everyone needs to be aware of a new datum (name TBD) coming out in 2022. Coordinate shifts will be more significant than recent datum shifts.
- A local chapter of WSLS is looking to correctly monument the "tourist attraction" at 90W, 45N. Current marker is at the side of the road, not in correct location... correct location is in the middle of a field. Goal is to have the work complete by September 2017 in time for a major ginseng festival.

State Cartographer's Office (SCO)

- As with the entire UW system, the SCO is experiencing significant budget cuts that will affect services.
- Under more pressure to generate revenue to fill the funding gaps. Considering new activities, such as offering workshops and smaller service projects.

- Wisland 2 statewide land cover project wrapped up at the end of August.
- Statewide parcel project continues, as described earlier.
- Working on projects to improve access to historical data, such as Bordner Survey, General Land Office monument trees.
- Working on new versions of popular online applications including: WHAIFinder, ControlFinder, PLSSFinder, Airphoto Catalog. All of these projects involve students; great learning opportunity for them.
- Continue to facilitate and support the PLSS workgroup.
- Working on a new training program. Looking at offering a LiDAR workshop in early spring, other topics TBD.

Wisconsin State Agency Geospatial Information Committee (SAGIC)

- 1) Data Sharing & Exchange – Integration of geospatial data from all levels of government is vital to supporting business needs. This affects innumerable spatial data layers.
 - SAGIC Membership Activities on Issue
 - Three submissions of comments by SAGIC for WLIP. SAGIC will support WLIP efforts by planning to participate in efforts to define standards & best practices (open data, parcel attributes, portal, etc.)
 - DMA-led mapping efforts for emergency situations (flood events in July and September 2016) and need for improved collaboration and data sharing among agencies, especially with tribal nations.
 - Statewide Layers – Statewide and standardized spatial data allow for controlled and equitable access to geographic knowledge for various business needs. Some layers of interest, including parcels and imagery, are foundational to state agency business processes. SAGIC advocates developing statewide layers in a fashion that reduces costs and improves efficiencies for all.
- 2) SAGIC Membership Activities on Issue
 - SAGIC is pleased with the ongoing progress of the statewide parcel layer, but more work needs to be done.
 - Other top statewide layers of interest include imagery (statewide, single-year), addresses, and elevation.
 - LTSB-led statewide data collection of municipalities, wards, and supervisory districts).
- 3) Improve Working Processes – With the goal of expanding the abilities and of making work more efficient for state agency GIS staff, SAGIC members collaborate to learn more about and work with emerging GIS technologies.
 - SAGIC Membership Activities on Issue
 - Implementation of ArcGIS Online across state agencies (includes previous training and need for staffers to be prepared for DMA emergency mapping purposes).
 - Need to standardize use of geocoding and address SVG tools.

Misc Update

- Howard made the group aware of a new UAS/UAV advisory committee that is now operating in Wisconsin.

Summary of Action Items

- 1) Gary Bell will work to make sure land information issues are considered and represented as the implementation of NG911 moves forward in Wisconsin.
- 2) WRDA will share Sheriffs Deeds information with the group.
- 3) Please send any bullet points you may have from today's meeting to Jim for inclusion in the minutes.
- 4) Jim will work with WSLS to potentially host the 2017 meeting at the Kalahari.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be in October 2017, specific date and place to be determined.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Post-Meeting Action

At their request, the Wisconsin Association of Assessing Officers asked to be added to our mailing list. No objections from the group. Therefore, they will receive future meeting notices and communications.