

**National States Geographic Information Council
Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 26, 2010**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Will Craig (MN), President; Jon Gottsegen (CO), President-Elect; Learnon Dalby (AR), Past President; Bert Granberg (UT); Tim De Troye (SC); Ian Von Essen (WA); Danielle Ayan (GA); Barney Krucoff (DC), Secretary; and Ivan Weichert (KS), Treasurer.

Staff and Others: David Brotzman (VT); Tony Spicci (MO); Mike Mahaffie (DE); Bill Burgess; Bruce Oswald; Fred Stringfellow (KSG) and Amy Chetelat (KSG).

I. Call to Order

W. Craig called the meeting to order at 1:05pm.

II. Changes to Agenda

GASB Grant letter was added to New Business

III. Consent Items

Moved, seconded and carried to approve the consent items, including the:

- Minutes from April 27
- Membership Report

IV. Treasurer's Report

The fund balance for the month ending April 30, 2010 was \$365,509.

Moved, seconded and carried to approve the financial statement for the period ending April 30, 2010.

Weichert reviewed the minutes of the May 13 Financial Group Working Group call. The Working Group reviewed NSGIC's investment policy in great detail and is recommending no changes to the policy.

V. New Business

A. Communications Plan – Mahaffie discussed a proposed communications plan that, conceptually, would be funded through federal grants. Corbley is the consultant who has been proposed for this activity. The Communications Committee is recommending that we proceed with this in gathering information on financial obligations and capacity. It was agreed that NSGIC should not commit any NSGIC funds to this. There was general consensus among the board to proceed in investigating this proposal further.

B. GASB Proposal – Ayan reported that GASB does not recognize geospatial assets/practitioners. Ayan is submitting a proposal through GTRI, requesting that GASB begin accounting for geospatial resources. Ayan suggested that NSGIC consider sending a letter of support, attached to the proposal as an appendix, and offering an authoritative definition of geospatial resources. Action: Ayan to distribute proposal and draft letter to the Board for consideration. The Board agreed conceptually to sending the letter. The Board was asked to send comments to Will Craig, who will be signing the letter on behalf of NSGIC if/once approved.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Review of Action List – Updates were provided.

B. Lobbying Status – Burgess reviewed the process that had been undertaken with Olsson Frank Weeda (OFW) to request an opinion about NSGIC’s lobbying status. Stringfellow and Burgess met with OFW in Washington to explain NSGIC’s activities and answer their questions. OFW has provided a letter offering their opinions and potential remedies.

Individual contacts with directors of Federal agencies and letter-writing were two areas that OFW cautioned us on, in order to avoid being considered a lobbyist. Burgess was charged with researching specifics on our current grants/federal contracts further and to provide an opinion on how our activities would be perceived in this regard.

C. CLC – Gottsegen reported on the recent CLC conference call where it was agreed to eliminate table tops/booths at upcoming Midyear Conference; and to offer some type of alternative face-to-face opportunity such as roundtables, “speed-dating,” etc. Additionally, the sponsors/CLC agreed to make an exception to our non-sponsoring corporate policy to permit contractors for federal agencies to attend as representatives of that agency. Spicci reported that the CLC has agreed to abandon the traditional “CLC panel sessions” in exchange for “Ignite” sessions at the Annual Conference.

VII. Reports

A. Washington Liaison – B. Burgess has been engaged in the following activities since the last Board Meeting that are either 1) activities that required significant time or 2) represent issues that should be reported to the Board.

Board Activities

- Worked with Tim De Troye, Jon Gottsegen, Will Craig and Ed Arabas to develop a relatively “clean” version of the GIS Chapter for the

NASCIO CIO Handbook. Circulated it for review by the State Caucus list with an online comment form. Plan to coordinate a committee review of the comments and forward to NASCIO NLT June 11.

- Drafted the Advocacy Evaluation Document pursuant to approval by the Board at its April meeting. Stringfellow and Burgess met with Olson, Frank & Weeda in person to discuss each of NSGIC's advocacy activities and to answer their questions. Followed-up with OFW to discuss and receive the letter for Board review today.
- Hosted two President's calls to keep leadership engaged in current issues. Notes were issued for each call.
- Attended the NASCIO Conference in Baltimore with Jon Gottsegen to meet with CIOs and other attendees in two ½ hour sessions to discuss the potential synergies between NSGIC and NASCIO.

For the Nation Activities

- Reviewed an article on NAIP written by Kevin Corbley to ensure it was accurate with regard to IFTN.
- Met with Jim Lacy and Tim Ruhren prior to the NDOP Committee meeting to discuss our issues. Prepared a quick brief on NSGIC's activities for Jim Lacy to present at the NDOP meeting.

Fifty States Initiative

- Provided detailed information on the 2009 State Summaries to Lynda Wayne for incorporation into FGDC reports.
- Met with AppGeo and FGDC to finalize the survey on the CAP grants that will begin next week.

GIS Inventory/State Summaries

- No significant activities this month, although some user support was provided.

Digital Coast

- Met with NOAA staff with regard to our effort to focus Digital Coast on the Administration's place based initiatives under the term "Healthy Coast." They appear to be ready to discuss a modified version of this proposal with the Partners during our June meeting.
- Reviewed and commented on a new version of the Digital Coast web page.
- Met with NOAA staff on the Land Cover Viewer to suggest ways that it could be incorporated into the County Snapshot Features to make the information more useful to local government executives.
- Worked with Mississippi DEQ staff to execute the second year of our contract for work on Digital Coast. It is retroactively effective to February 1, 2010, and the total budget is \$30,000.

Homeland Security

- Worked with Bruce Oswald, Ted Koch and Chris Diller to finish drafting the HSIP Workshop Report which DHS was delivered to DHS and the Board members. It is pending review by DHS.
- We were issued a good performance rating by DHS during a review of our contract.
- Briefed the Federal HSIP Interagency Coordination Teams (ICTs) on the initial findings and recommendations from the HSIP Workshop. The purpose of this briefing was to help the teams identify priority tasks that they should be working on in the coming year.
- Continued to work on the waiver requests for HSIP Partnership data with BAH and to follow-up with states to get additional waivers submitted. This is a good case for the Board to consider with regard to the “effectiveness” of NSGIC. We have a relatively poor response rate on these waivers which begs the question – “What is NSGIC’s value to the Federal agencies?” We should consider getting all leadership involved to contact the states that have not yet signed these waivers.
- Attended the Homeland Security Working Group meeting to discuss the new charter for the HSWG.

Other Activities

- Attended two meetings of the Conference Committee.
 - Attended one meeting of the Outreach Committee.
 - Attended one meeting of the Geospatial Preparedness Committee.
 - Attended one meeting of the Geospatial Maturity Assessment Working Group.
 - Attended the May FGDC Coordination Group Meeting.
- B. President’s Call** – Craig reported that the NSGIC Blog has been a useful tool to communicate issues that are discussed on the Prez calls; and commented on the breadth of organizations that NSGIC has reached out to within the past year (AAG, NASCIO, ASHO/GIS-T, NDOP, MAGIC, ESRI, etc.).
- C. Conference** – Spicci reported on the options that exist for future meeting sites for the 2012 Midyear; and 2013 Annual. The Conference Committee is recommending the following:
- 2012 Midyear Conference, Loews Annapolis Hotel, February 26-29, 2012. Moved, seconded and carried to approve the Loews Annapolis Hotel for the 2012 Midyear.
 - 2013 Annual Conference, Westin Crown Center Kansas City, October 27-31, 2013. Spicci cautioned that the October dates will fall over Halloween. Moved, seconded and carried to approve the Westin Kansas City for the 2013 Annual, with the caveat that the program end by 10am on October 31 to allow attendees to travel home for Halloween.

D. Sponsorship – Stringfellow reported that we have confirmed \$166,050 in Annual Conference sponsorships (compared to a budget of \$222,000). Gottsegen reported that the Committee is also pursuing some of the “cloud” companies as potential sponsors.

E. Communications – Mahaffie reported that the new State Caucus listserv (expanded State Rep list) is up-and-running. Mahaffie and Stringfellow cautioned the group on the cost of the new listserv, i.e. additional users and increased message frequency will be an added expense to NSGIC.

F. Geospatial Preparedness – Oswald discussed the status of the recent reports and his recent visit to the fusion center in Arizona. Oswald and Burgess are requesting clearance from DHS to distribute the report. Oswald reported on the importance of viewing this as a National program and not a Federal program.

G. Technical Issues –

Geospatial Maturity Assessment WG – Ayan reported that the WG is making progress on the report; and should be ready to distribute to NSGIC for public comment in June/July. There might be an opportunity to present to NGAC in June. Action: Ayan will circulate the proposed presentation to the NSGIC Board prior to bringing to NGAC. M. Ouimet will be making the presentation to NGAC.

The Broadband WG – Brotzman reported that the Broadband page has been created on the NSGIC website, and is being “populated” with relevant materials.

TFTN WG – No report.

H. Outreach – Dalby reported that the Committee has been discussing Clear 30, Broadband, TFTN and Midyear/Hill Activities. Dalby reported that a “call for advocacy agenda items” has been sent out. Only one response has been received to date.

I. Membership – No report.

VIII. Adjournment

Craig adjourned the meeting at 2:45pm.