



Facilitating the sharing and coordinated use of spatially referenced data in Delaware

**Meeting Minutes
DGDC Meeting
9:00 a.m., March 25, 2010
Room 220
Kent County Admin. Building
555 Bay Road
Dover, DE**

Attendance List:

Mike Mahaffie OSPC
Doyle Tiller OMB/DFM
Renee Dixon OMB
Barbara Gladders DHSS
George Yocher DHSS
Lillian Wang DGS
Dick Sacher UD/RDMS
Kim Cloud DTI
Boskey Kamboj DTI
Mary Harper HCA
Carl Yetter DNREC
Deborah Sullivan DNREC
Doug Rambo DNREC
Terry Whitham DSHS
Matt Laick DeIDOT
Joshua Thomas DeIDOT Planning
Peggy Bacon DeIDOT Survey
Mike Ward Kent Co.
Danielle Lamborn Kent Co.
Patrick Susi New Castle Co.
Jim Galvin Dover/Kent MPO
Mark Nowak City of Dover
Roger Barlow USGS
Steve Elliott ESRI
Erica Rhoades McCrone
Michael Hanna Tidewater Utilities
Christine Smack Tidewater Utilities
Brianna Jordan Delmarva Power
Katrina Shand Rowan University

Welcome and Introductions

Mike Mahaffie began the meeting at approximately 9:05 a.m. with a round of introductions. (Note: The slideshow that was used to organize the meeting content was created at, and hosted on, prez.com: <http://prezi.com/x04za-rhyetk/>)

Approval of December 3, 2009 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Patrick Susi, seconded by Roger Barlow, to accept the minutes of the December 3, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Subcommittee and Working Group Reports

Conference Planning Subcommittee

Mike Mahaffie gave a brief update on plans for the [2010 Delaware GIS Conference](#), which was rescheduled from February 9 and 10, 2010 to March 29 and 30 because of the snowstorms of February.

GeoEducation in Delaware

There was no one from this subcommittee available to report.

GIS Day Subcommittee

There was no one from this subcommittee available to report.

Technical Infrastructure Subcommittee

Kim Cloud gave an update on work on the Delaware Geospatial Data Exchange project. She noted that she expects the site to be live in early May. The next subcommittee meeting will focus on next steps and phases of the project.

Data Standards Subcommittee

Patrick Susi reported that a state standard for parcel data is almost ready. The last piece will be to finish the glossary of terms, which will be worked on at each meeting.

He reported that work on the update of the Kent/New Castle boundary is almost complete, though several points will need to be surveyed. He estimated that only three points will need to be surveyed.

Pat reported that Bernie Gilbert, at DeIDOT, is working on an updated approach to maintaining a statewide centerline/transportation data set and that he will offer a report at the next meeting.

Sandy Schenck asked if the DGDC as a group was going to formally accept the data standards. Mike Mahaffie stated that when the subcommittee completes its work, he would like to have that group present its findings to the DGDC as a whole, and have the DGDC vote to send it along with to the Executive Council for approval. From there, it would go to DTI.

There was a discussion of how points along the county boundaries might be surveyed. Pat noted that Bill Stevens, who is a private engineer and surveyor, and a member of the subcommittee, has offered to help out. Pat is not in favor of that offer, kind as it is, he explained, because of how it might look among other private surveyors.

There was some discussion of state survey crews at DNREC and DeIDOT. Pat noted that the DeIDOT crew has the ability to add points to the federal governments "Blue Book." There was some question whether that would be possible with the DNREC crew.

Pat Susi also reported that that at the subcommittee's April meeting (4/15/10) a list of things that need standards will be compiled. He said he will be looking for participation for those items from among the DGDC group.

Mike Mahaffie noted that URISA has proposed a national addressing standard to the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC). He has sent information that proposal to Patrick for review.

Terry Whitham asked about the status of the TeleAtlas road data, which, he noted, has proved unreliable for e911 work.

Matt Laick reported that TeleAtlas is not releasing the data layers that state agencies have used and that that is part of the reason that DeIDOT staff are working with the data Standards Subcommittee to develop a new approach for transportation data. The approach will be to combine county data with DeIDOT data into a statewide transportation data set. For more information on this project, contact Bernie Gilbert (bernie.gilbert@state.de.us) or Bruce Allen (bruce.allen@state.de.us), at DeIDOT.

There was a brief discussion of what parts of the TeleAtlas data will still be available to the public. Matt Laick reported that data that has been received from TeleAtlas that is now publicly available should remain publicly available. As a new statewide data set is developed, the data will all be public, moving away from some of the attribute restrictions that the TeleAtlas deal had included.

Kim Cloud suggested that the Data Standards Subcommittee's Transportation Working Group and the Technical Infrastructure Subcommittee should discuss shared approaches to data sharing. Mike Mahaffie noted that the leaders of the several subcommittees should probably come together to meet on a regular basis as well.

Updates and Reports

USGS Update

Roger Barlow reported that aerial photography has been collected over New Castle Co. as part of the larger ortho project led by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission. He noted that there are concerns about standing water causing reflections and other problems.

There was a brief discussion of possible federal funds for aerial imagery collection for Kent and Sussex Counties in 2011. The funds are part of a Broadband Mapping grant to DTI. A working group under the Executive Council is looking into possible project.

Roger also reported that the USGS Fiscal Year 2011 budget proposal includes significant cuts, including 3.5 million cut from the partnership program and 13 liaison positions cut. He noted that this will make it difficult for USGS to plan for next year and to provide funding for joint projects with the states.

Roger also noted that Jim Hoff, of Dover AFB, has some funds for a project to collect LiDAR elevation data for approaches to the base's runways. Mike noted this may cover some marsh areas in Kent County and suggested that Jim contact Carl Yetter and staff at Delaware Coastal Programs.

Mike also noted that the USGS budget situation is being looked at nationally and is a subset of a larger national problem. He also noted that the cut to the partnerships budget is of serious concern.

National Issues/NSGIC Updates

Mike Mahaffie gave an overview of some of the issues being discussed at the national level, based on the recent NSGIC Mid-Year Conference (www.nsgic.org/events/2010_midyear.cfm).

The state of Maryland has been attracting a lot of attention for its use of GIS in government management via "StateStat." Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley has been using GIS maps in his cabinet meetings, which is a good thing. It also has meant lots of work and some added stress for the Maryland GIS Coordination group.

Imagery for the Nation (IFTN) continues to be discussed by the federal government. Mike noted that the National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) is something of a focal point for IFTN. The President of NSGIC was recently invited to testify before a congressional subcommittee on the subject.

Roger Barlow noted that while NAIP does have a value, it is leaf-on and not really a substitute for the sort of statewide orthos needed by most in Delaware.

There was a discussion of the value of NAIP as an inter-ortho project update. Sandy Schenck added that the 2006 NAIP on DataMIL complements the 2007 Delaware orthos and adds temporal depth. He asked if the group would like the DataMIL team to pursue posting the 2009 NAIP imagery as well.

There was a general discussion of the several years of vintage orthos that are now available on DataMIL.

Mike reported that there is some talk among some federal agencies of a deal with Digital Globe to buy satellite imagery in a program generally known as "Clear View." There was a general discussion of this proposal, which is for licensing of ½ meter satellite data.

Mike reported on federal efforts to enhance broadband mapping, including an invitation to "test your speed" at www.broadband.gov.

Mike also showed some materials from vendors at the NSGIC conference related to a new offering of Mobile LiDAR, in which a sensor is mounted on a van, which is driven through an area and collects 3D data from street level.

Mike spoke briefly about a session at NSGIC which featured three federal agency Geospatial Information officers (GIOs). There is an increase in geospatial cooperation and outreach from and among federal agencies. That led to the suggestion that the local FEMA representative be invited to attend DGDC meetings.

Terry Whitham asked if Virtual USA was covered at the NSGIC meeting. Mike responded that it was and explained that Virtual USA is a data-coordination effort spearheaded by the Federal Department of Homeland Security. It is less about maps and more about information-sharing for emergency response.

Kim Cloud noted that the update of the Enterprise License Agreement (ELA) has been finalized with some revised pricing. Application builder is now included. She also asked for recommendations for a next class from ESRI.

Old Business

Strategic Planning Project

Mike Mahaffie gave an update on work on the Delaware GIS Strategic Plan. The DGDC Executive Council had recently met for an in-depth discussion of a recent draft of the plan and developed a set of high-level strategic goals:

- True GIS coordination
- Complete & Sustained SSDI
- Improved Data Quality
- Continuity

They also started to identify some strategies to meet those goals, including:

- Creation of a GIS Office, with a GIO to head it
- Establishing an autonomous DGDC
- Creating a GIS Budget
- Enforceable and Centralized Policies and Standards

Jim Galvin commented on the discussion at the executive council meeting centering on the GIO being responsible for everything. Jim noted that a bunch of people have no legal affiliation with the State so there needs to be a solid relationship that is on-going.

Broadband Mapping

Kim introduced Baljinder (Boskey) Kamboj, of DTI, who has joined the broadband project as a program manager. Boskey gave a brief presentation on the project and what the future steps will be. The final product will be a National Broadband Map with the State of Delaware information included.

Sandy Schenck noted that the Federal Communication Commission has a widget (part of the broadband site noted above). Mike Mahaffie added that the FCC is trying to make that widget available for integration into state web sites.

New Business

2010 Census

Mike Mahaffie asked for a show of hands on who had mailed in their Census forms and encouraged everyone to respond to the Census. He added that some areas didn't receive forms by mail and will be visited by a Census enumerator.

Mike reported that the Census bureau now offers an on-line map interface to show response rates by state, county place and tract:

<http://2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map/>

2011 Ortho Planning Group

Mike gave a quick update on an effort to craft a 2011 ortho project for Kent and Sussex Counties to complement the New Castle County project reported on by Roger Barlow. Some funds are available as part of the Broadband Mapping grant being managed by DTI.

A working group set up by the Executive Council has established that the project will collect ¼ meter imagery, in four bands, leaf-off and using the kilometer-by-kilometer grid already established for the Delaware orthos.

Call for Nominations: DGDC Representatives to the Executive Council

Mike announced the call for nominations for a vote at the June 24, 2010 DGDC meeting for three DGDC representatives to the Council. Mike is asking for nominations for representatives in the three following areas: municipalities, the academic sector, and the DGDC at-large. Please send nomination to mike via e-mail:

mike.mahaffie@state.de.us.

Open Comment Period

Steve Elliot, representing ESRI, discussed the change of pronunciation from E-S-R-I to EZ-ree. He added that ESRI is working on a community map program and requests Delaware to add data. Mike stated he would discuss this request with the DGDC Executive Council and the Governor's Office and report back to ESRI.

Steve announced that information on ArcGIS 10 rollout seminars is available on the website. He added that ESRI has a free version download of State Stat

There was a discussion on adding vendor presentations to future meetings. Most members seemed interested as long as there was a set time frame. Terry Whitham suggested the business meeting take place first and then time be made available for vendor presentations.

Sandy Schenck cautioned that he didn't want to hear a sales pitch

Jim Galvin suggested asking vendor to talk about application of their products in Delaware as a way to keep focus.

Sandy Schenck noted that Broadband Mapping and the 2011 Orthos would be good topics for next meeting.

Jim Galvin suggested a best-practices presentation.

The Resource Management and Asset Tracking (RMAT) project now being developed by DTI and DSHS was suggested as a presentation topic.

Other suggestions discussed were the Maryland use of StateStat, uses of CloudComputing in GIS, and WeatherBug.

The meeting ended on a motion to adjourn, seconded, and approved, at 11:25 a.m.