MetroGIS Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 21, 2013 [Minutes Approved: June 20, 2013]

1:00 PM – 3:30 PM, Metro Counties Government Center, 2099 University Avenue, St Paul

Meeting Attendance:

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee:

David Bitner, *dbSpatial, (Chair)*   Dave Brandt, *Washington County, (Vice Chair)*
Bill Brown, *Hennepin County*   Jim Bunning, *Scott County*
Dick Carlstrom, *TIES*   Rick Gelbmann, *Metropolitan Council*
Francis Harvey, *University of Minnesota*   Randy Knippel, *Dakota County*
Mark Kotz, *Metropolitan Council*   Matt Koukol, *Ramsey County*
Mark Maloney, *City of Shoreview/Metro Cities*   Jeff Matson, *CURA/University of Minnesota*
Bob O'Neill, *City of Bloomington/Metro Cities* Chad Riley, *Carver County*
Nancy Read, *Metropolitan Mosquito Control Board* Dan Ross, *MnGeo*
Ben Verbick, *LOGIS*   Ron Wencl, *USGS*
Joella Givens, *MnDOT*   Tim Loesch, *MNDNR*

Guests:

Dave Hinricks, *Metropolitan Council*   Alan Palazzolo, *Code For America*
Michelle Trager, *Rice County*   Eric Haugen, *Resource Data, Inc.*

Staff:

Geoff Maas, *MetroGIS Coordinator*   Paul Peterson, *MetroGIS Project Manager*

1) Call to Order:

Chair Bitner called the meeting to order at 1:06 PM

2) Approve Meeting Agenda:

Chair Bitner recommended three revisions to the agenda:
> The addition of Alan Palazzolo presentation (becomes Agenda Item 5c)
> Inverting the order of agenda items 8a and 8b;
> Dan Ross to speak about the Enterprise License Agreement (becomes Agenda Item 9b)
Motion to approve: Givens; Second: Harvey, agenda approved;

3) Approve Meeting Summary from December 20, 2012

Motion to approve: Verbick; Second: Maloney, agenda approved;

4) Acknowledgement of Rick Gelbmann's contributions to MetroGIS and upcoming retirement from the Metropolitan Council in April 2013

Rick described the highlights of his tenure with the Metropolitan Council and MetroGIS, thanked the members of the Committee for their continued work, dedication and commitment to geospatial data collaboration. On behalf of the Coordinating Committee, Coordinator Maas presented Rick with an engraved cornerstone dually symbolizing Rick's abiding interest in architecture and celebrating his foundational role in creating the MetroGIS collaborative.

5a) Roundtable Updates

Bitner: Updated the group on the upcoming FOSS4GIS North American Conference in May in Minneapolis; preliminary program is up, deadline for the 'early bird' special to register is April 1.

Read: Described her role in FOSS4GIS preparations; indicated that any organization that is interesting in sponsoring the event can get their logo up on their website; updated wetlands data should be up on the DataFinder within the month;

Kotz: Reminded the group of the upcoming retirement party for Rick Gelbmann on April 5 at Champ's, His updates on address points would be cover later in the agenda;

Peterson: Indicated his continued participation in the Centerline Initiative and development of the MetroGIS Collaborative tool

Carlstrom: Just finished analysis of Burnsville school district; before and after the housing boom of the late 2000s; number of students living in single family homes decreased from 80% to 70%; corresponding to an increase in students in multi-family homes by 10%; significant in that housing stability is tied to student performance;

Givens: Indicated that she is stepping down as the MnDOT representative to the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee, has enjoyed her tenure and has recommended Ben Butzow of MnDOT/MNIT Services to assume her seat on the Committee;

Knippel: Described his involvement in preparing a US National Grid Implementation Guide; funded with Department of Homeland Security grant;

O'Neill: City of Bloomington is moving from the SmallWorld to the ESRI environment;

Wencl: USGS is revising the 7.5 minute quad map series; updated the group on the Federal budget sequestration and its impact on his work;

Matson: Updated the group on the upcoming Hack-a-thon (May 25) just after the FOSS4GIS and National Neighborhoods conferences; indicated there may be requests for data from the agencies and organizations at the table above what is currently readily available (crime data, energy data, etc.);

Harvey: Discussed the training courses available from U-Spatial, waitlist for the introductory courses which are very popular and will include more courses on working with LiDAR; Harvey is also working on a 2nd Edition GIS primer book, and is looking for evocative examples of GIS usage to share with students;

Maloney: Mentioned how a rising need for stormsewer data may be tied to chloride reduction projects and other projects working with the MPCA; local governments will be looking for a tool to assist with that work as well as groundwater/surface water interactions; Maloney has been monitoring and testifying during the Legislative session and there may be GIS implications of many of those issues;

Koukol: Current issues will be covered later in the agenda;

Slusarczyk: Anoka County is working with Houston Engineering, rolling out new mobile applications as well as significant amounts of mapping and analysis of crashes in the US Highway 10 Corridor through the City of Ramsey;

Ross: Provided and update on the process and progress of SF 1298 at the Legislature, and expressed his desire to hear from the group on the issue (freeing up government-to-government data sharing of all kinds); despite the criticism and debate, he remains committed that this is the right thing to do; MnGeo has been partnering with DNR to make more LiDAR available; Ortho flights in central Minnesota (large 9 county buy up, excellent cost sharing mechanism), continued work on the National Hydrography dataset as well as telephone exchange boundaries/working with the Department of Commerce on that issue as well as HSEM mapping (~1200 maps);

Riley: Working on collaboration with Carver County Fire Departments, web mapping application for updated building data access;

Verbick: LOGIS is reviewing its business model for its member cities; reviewing RFPs for new public safety system; distribution of county imagery among participants; mentioned upcoming MNGISLIS workshops;

Trager: Southeast Minnesota GIS users group are presently working on an agreement to share data within the 11 county area; Rice County has finished up a new address signage initiative and review of its addressing system, contractor has nearly finished installing all the new signage; mentioned the MN GIS/LIS workshops, registration is open and MN GIS LIS is working in conjunction with FOSS4GIS conference;

Bunning: <no updates/pass>

Gelbmann: Retiring from the Metropolitan Council on April 4; brought to light two key initiatives:

(1) Met Council land records management system, the Metropolitan Council presently maintains over 8000 different land records tied to 20,000 to 30,000 pages of related documentation; this system is now internal to the Council's business needs but sees the potential for external uses of the resource; other organizations (DNR, county governments, etc.) may have a similar need for a comparable product; he invited anyone interested to visit the Council for a demo;

(2) Census geometry alignment: The Council performed this 10 years ago after the Census geography was released: alignment of TIGER data with the NCompass data based on parcel info; this met an

internal need of the Council so centerline based address points would fall into the correct Census geometry; these data are in constant need of topological maintenance; areas of non-physical/non-visible boundaries; moving forward it would be good to have many agencies using, sharing and contributing to a consistent set of corrected data; savings of time and redundant effort and the knowledge that the best data is available to all;

Swenson: Involved with several topics to be covered later on the agenda; Hennepin County is deep into its address standardization project;

Brown: The department has finished the COGO for the parcels outside the City of Minneapolis; stated goal of achieving 95% accuracy; summer of 2013 will see the statistical analysis of vertices, points and polygons that have been surveyed and collected over the last 30 years, many points to analyze and collect, very hopeful they will hit their accuracy goal;

Brandt: Washington County has enabled the Amazon Web Services for GIS, indicated that it is working well at a cost of $115-$125 per month, cheaper than what the county has been paying for previously; still working out aspects of the data updates, happy to share the details on that if anyone wishes to know more; the county is moving to a new CAD/RMS for 911 public safety which relies heavily on GIS data; the software implementation is taking a bit longer than originally anticipated;

Loesch: Working with the state LIDAR acquisition project, scheduled to be finished by June 30; working closely with the USGS, MnGeo and counties; data viewer and a download application should be ready to go by May 1;

Maas: Maas with Gordy Chinander met with Allina Medical Services and did a cursory white-board 'GIS 101' with them; they are keenly interested in products like the Address Points to be able to deliver better service with emergency response; 2013 round of parcel payments will commence shortly; will set up meetings with county GIS managers and supervisors in the coming month; Maas will be providing a report on the past 12 months of 'old' parcel downloads from DataFinder;

5b) Data Producer Work Group Update

Knippel: We are examining the differing approaches to IT and GIS in each of the eight (Seven Metropolitan Counties + Olmsted County) counties to determine areas of collaboration and cost savings, identify opportunities to take these issues to county administration; GIS is not always treated consistently in the 8 counties; working toward some uniformity;

Recent example of collaboration: Data acquisition, specifically shared RFP for purchasing ortho photography, Dakota and Scott counties working together (same RFP, separate contracts with a single vendor); pleasantly surprised at the bids, of the 13 respondents, 11 were within 10% of one another, competitive price, 5-25% reduction in cost for Scott and Dakota Counties to work together

Bunning: After Dakota and Scott began the process, Carver join us as well;

Knippel: Also, we are currently collaborating to develop a 'white paper' research document (to be discussed further in Agenda Item 8a);

5c) Alan Palazzolo: Code for America Presentation

Palazzolo: Expressed his respect for the MetroGIS collaborative and all the data they make available and make possible to acquire; tremendous resource; many people out there utilize it.

Palazzolo gave a short presentation on several open source initiatives he is involved in:

(1) 'Adopt-A-Hydrant';
This project is involved in cataloging hydrants for which private citizens agree to keep clear in winter months; while 'unofficial' were able to acquire official hydrant data from the cities; developed an application for tracking the ~18,000 hydrants in the cities of Minneapolis and St Paul; the 'Open Twin Cities' is interested in continuing this kind of work;

(2) "All My Governments/Who Governs Me" Project;
A citizen/user by using their address be able to collect a list of all relevant jurisdictions that govern or impact their location; example shown, one site in St Paul had over 1000 different jurisdictions/agencies to which they were subject, city, county, councils, districts, boards, commissions, service areas, etc; Application of the tool; improve citizen information about how to be an informed citizen, better linkage to services;

He proposed and discussed the idea of collaborating to create a databases and develop applications for finding service centers (police, library, medical care, parks, etc.), this is above the present ability to determine what district or service area a user is in.

Read: A lot of emphasis to make government data available as web mapping services so that applications like this could to attach to live data, not just static/dated data, individual shapefiles that are quickly outdated.

Palazzolo: Agree that map services are the best way to move forward, in reality the end user doesn't know or particularly care where their data is coming from, but for applications development, building it this way (using active services) would be incredibly helpful and result in a stronger end result and a better product;

6) Brief on Recent Policy Board Activity
Coordinator Maas provided a brief update on recent Policy Board activity, the most significant changes include:

The quarterly Policy Board meetings will remain scheduled and used only as needed; they will be cancelled if no policy or fiscal issues are on hand to discuss;

The MetroGIS Coordinator has been tasked with engaging in a more formal outreach program, this includes presentations to the relevant stakeholder bodies represented in MetroGIS, notably county governments, Metro Cities and Metropolitan Council committees and sub-committees; Coordinator Maas will be working with these groups to find times and venues to conduct MetroGIS presentations;

The MetroGIS Work Plan has been transferred as an official duty of the Policy Board to the responsibility of the Coordinating Committee; the Committee is responsible for the preparation and approval of an

annual Work Group. Efforts will be made to coordinate the MetroGIS plan with MnGeo's plan and other state geospatial initiatives to avoid duplicative effort and maximize efficiencies;

The Policy Board has tasked the Data Producers Work Group with developing a 'white paper' on the benefits, drawbacks and issues surrounding public data/geospatial data sharing; the paper and its findings will be presented to the Policy Board at their next meeting on April 24, 2013.

7) Action and Discussion Items

7a) Approval of 2013 Work Plan
Coordinator Maas quickly reviewed the main points of the Draft Work Plan to the group and asked for group approval; Motion to Approve: Gelbmann; second: Brandt, motion carried, plan approved;

7b) Method for Adding Membership to the Coordinating Committee
Coordinator Maas has reviewed (in depth) the existing language in the Operational Guidelines and Procedures for MetroGIS. He found the language containing insufficient detail and processes for a transparent process to fill current vacancies at the Committee level and no clear provision for adding new seats to reflect potential agency and input needs; Maas proposed an outline of steps for pursued and self-identifying candidates for the consideration and critique of the group;

After some discussion, it was agreed that this was a good direction but more information was needed; Vice Chair Brandt and Givens agreed to review the proposed language additions to the Operating Guidelines and that a short-term work group was desirable to flesh out the issue; additional work is to be conducted by Coordinator Maas and a report back on progress at the June Committee meeting;

8) Discussion Items and Administrative Updates

8a) 'White Paper' on Data Sharing for the MetroGIS Policy Board

At its January 23 meeting the Policy Board tasked the Data Producers Work Group with developing a 'white paper' on the benefits, drawbacks and issues surrounding public data/geospatial data sharing in order to work toward developing some draft resolution language in support of 'freeing up the data'.

Knippel: At the last (Jan 23, 2013) Policy Board meeting, Commissioner Kordiak (Anoka County) indicated his support for making the parcel data freely available and that the body should develop a resolution in support of this, put this resolution before the counties so they could support it or reject it; Commissioner Reinhardt (Ramsey County) stressed that she wanted to more fully explore the issue, particularly the liability aspect of making data freely available. The discussion summary from that meeting is captured in the Policy Board minutes, available on the MetroGIS website.

The 8 County Collaborative/Data Producers Work Group was already in the process of documenting our various counties approaches to how we handle the issue, not just with parcel data, but with all data. At the request of the Policy Board we have taken the info we have gathered so far to develop this requested 'white paper' resource document.

Koukol: In Ramsey County, we have taken the initiative to push the idea of freely available data as the processing of requests, sending out paper billing and collecting money uses a significant amount of staff

time that could be better spent elsewhere; with the ease of having a service available where customers and consumers could get the data within minimal hassle; we feel this provides better public service.

Our 8 county group is continually exploring this issue; understanding all these inconsistencies between the counties, it would be so much better if we could get some alignment there and not just on the parcel data but on all the data; bottom line is that we need uniformity.

Knippel: As we track SF 1298 [HF1390] it may also come into play; so for the next Policy Board meeting we are preparing three things: the white paper, a single-page summary resource and offering some draft resolution language; after our discussion the Policy Board members can then take this back to their respective bodies; one of our challenges remains is that at the last meeting, only two county commissioners were in attendance (Kordiak and Reinhardt), with the exception of (Board Chair/Mayor of Minnetonka) Terry Schneider, all other members at the table were alternates; we need to have our elected officials around the table for this.

Knippel presented the Committee his PowerPoint presentation on the content of the forthcoming white paper, including description of existing conditions of data availability, an understanding that the benefits of making data more available are both direct and indirect (there is not always a clearly evident, direct or immediate return-on-investment), a list of some of the challenges (revenue loss, liability, control of data), need for a larger enterprise approach to data, accountability, making sure the authoritative source is one available and in use most widely; another challenge is that data is often developed with a specific purpose in mind however would be very useful to many external users as well;

Knippel cited the need to demonstrate local examples, county examples and state examples and that there is federal movement in this direction as well; he referenced the NSGIC Guidelines for Best Practices document 'three myths' as another useful starting point for describing the issue to policy makers; the NSGIC document recommends changing policies that inhibit geospatial open data sharing.

Knippel: We will have the April 24 Policy Board meeting set up as a kind of workshop to engage them in a dialogue, provide them with the resources to take back to their county boards;

Ross: This is good work, I wish to commend the group on this effort; In my recent efforts of working on SF 1298 I have developed a list of at least sixteen items of relevance that I have encountered, I am happy to share with the Data Producers Work Group; the can add to the substance of the discussion.

Knippel: We'd be grateful to have that list, Dan. Thank you.

8b) Is there interest in having a "Public-Private Data Provider Summit" in 2013?

Maas: One of the topics I have encountered in the body of literature of MetroGIS, at various meetings and in one-on-one discussions is the knowledge that both the private and public sectors desire greater access for one-another's data; in my view, keeping this discussion in motion is of benefit to the issues we have just heard described by Randy [Knippel] regarding more open data from the county perspective and indeed all geospatial data.

My question to the group is: 'Is there interest in having a formal summit of private and public data producers?' I am not advocating that we must, I am simply throwing it out to the group to gauge the interest and get your ideas. MetroGIS is certainly willing to sponsor the event and do the needed organizational work to get an event like this together.

Givens: Haven't we had something like this occur already? I think we have, what was the follow up to those earlier meetings?

Gelbmann: We have, since the earliest days of MetroGIS, been working to engage the private sector. For this we would need to select the big data producers we want at the table; take care in identifying who is best suited to represent their interest. There has been a general rise in sophistication in all areas of the geospatial world, we many now be better positioned to get more done and learn more from the private sector.

Knippel: In light of we are trying to do with the white paper and with SF 1298 in process, we should wait until we've got things finished and have a clearer picture of where we stand; let the dust settle.

Read: Also, getting the Utilities seat filled here on the Coordinating Committee filled first, would be helpful. We should also engage providers beyond utilities and include NAVTEQ.

Brief group discussion on 'what is the focus' and 'what/who would gain' by having this summit; general agreement that this is desirable but the timing for 2013 is not yet 'ripe' for such an event; a work group to plan the event was seen as desirable; issue is to be discussed further with an event more likely in 2014.

9) MetroGIS Project Updates

9a) Centerline Initiative
Dan Ross, Paul Peterson, Matt Koukol and Geoff Maas gave a brief update on the progress and current state of the Centerlines Initiative.

Key points:
Half Day Technical Session, with good input from many metro cities was conducted in January 2013; Contract between ESRI and MnDOT was signed in February 2013;

Since February, project managers from MnDOT, MnGeo and MetroGIS have been meeting regularly to shepherd the project along;

Pilot project will be kicking off with six participants (Ramsey, Carver, Mahnomen, Stearns, Benton Counties and the White Earth Nation) in Spring-Early Summer 2013; MnDOT will commence ingesting local data;

Primary consideration at present is the conversion of MnDOT's TIS (Transportation Information System) to an LRS (Linear Reference System) and getting the initial tools developed;

NextGen911 also has a list of attributes will enter the database at some point, we are working to 'cross-pollinate' with the work already being done on the Address Points.

At the upcoming April ESRI Session, we will work to demonstrate the tools to the pilot project partners the tools, work through the list of core and desired attributes and determine what the pilot participants need to get out of the pilot project.

9b) Enterprise License Agreement Update

Ross: The present agreement has expired and has been amended up to 4 or 5 times (state is no longer willing to amend the contract); we have asked them to take out all professional services and managed services language from the agreement; primarily because ESRI can't provide the needed the security requirements; moving forward, we (any entity with a state contract) will be getting better pricing than in the past

9c) Address Point Project Update

Kotz: Editor Tool: Version 1 is complete and available to any/all government entities in the state from the MetroGIS website. Tool has been acquired by Anoka, Carver, Ramsey, Scott and is in deployment by Dakota County, including the cities of Burnsville, Eagan and Farmington;

Editor Tool: Version 2 will address needed enhancements; a steering team to develop an RFP has been formed including Mark Kotz (Metropolitan Council), Joe Sapletal (Dakota County), John Slusarczyk (Anoka County), Josh Gumm (Scott County) and Nate Christ (Carver County). Enhancements identified include domain controls, multi-editing functions and ability to upload preliminary plats.

Ross: How does this align with Gordy's [Gordon Chinander, MESB] work with the NextGen911 initiatives?

Kotz: As of right now, I don't know;

Ross: We will have a need to integrate with the 911 community; it is a huge job; but provides an opportunity for MetroGIS and is something we need;

Kotz: Our stated goals for 2013 regarding the Editor Tool are as follows:

Anoka County:	Deploy the Editing Tool + 4 Cities
Carver County:	Deploy the Editing Tool + 3 Cities
Ramsey County:	Deploy the Editing Tool + 3 Cities
Scott County:	Deploy the Editing Tool
Washington County:	Deploy the Editing Tool & 1 City

Hennepin County is moving forward on their own initiative and Dakota County is leading the charge being ready for Editing Tool V2 (50% of Cities, All Mobile Homes, 50% of Apartment Complex Addresses and a Workshop for the Addressing Committee);

9d) Geospatial Commons Update

Still discussion on moving toward this portal platform, many issues, some are not quite ripe for action;

Bitner: The geo-commons style of "thinking" is really a global movement, driven in the European Union by the INSPIRE LAWS;

Read: From my past work (Lake Superior project) you do encounter as many cultural issues as functional issues with data sharing, collaboration, moving forward; good to keep that in mind;

9e) Collaborative Tools Update

Peterson: Provided an update on the deployment of a new eShare solution for MetroGIS's collaborative tool needs.

Improvements and modifications from the last version, however, if the Metropolitan Council is going to manage and fund the tool it will need to be eShare in the SharePoint environment unless another agency wishes to fund and host a collaborative tool solution. Among its benefits are strong version control and security

Kotz: We are all aware of the challenges to using the SharePoint environment, we also examined BaseCamp, but the Metropolitan Council IS Department does not want to start granting lots of individual exceptions, which is a reasonable decision, too much to manage.

Bitner: If we do want to make it more open, provide easier and ad hoc access the user name/password a and access difficulty remain a sticking point;

9f) Metro Region Storm Sewer Project Investigation

Coordinator Maas provided an update on his individual meetings with a broad range of stakeholder interests on the potential for a pilot project and movement on developing a regional stormsewer dataset and finalization of the existing provisional data standard.

He indicated there is significant interest at the state, county agency and watershed district level on having access to standardized stormsewer data.

Several entities have provided letters of support and/or verbal support for moving forward. It is anticipated that a work group to finalize the standard and a second pilot project are on deck for 2014.

9g) MetroGIS Website Update

Coordinator Maas provided an update on the status of the forthcoming new MetroGIS website resource. Current work includes:
- Distilling existing content, some for use, some for archiving
- Archiving the existing site so it remains a viable research resource for those who need it
- Goal of having an RFP to web development firms by May 1, 2013
- Desire for a 'sprint team' review of the user interface experience through Summer 2013
- Goal of having the new site up on October 1 with 75% of the content in place.

10) Next Meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2013

11) Adjournment
Chair Bitner adjourned the meeting at 3:29 PM

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 20, 2013, 1:00-3:30 PM [DRAFT]
Metro Counties Government Center, 2099 University Avenue, St Paul

Meeting Attendance:

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee:

David Bitner (Chair), *db Spatial*

Matt Baker, *Metropolitan Airports Commission*

Peter Henschel, *Carver County*

Ben Butzow, *MnDOT*

Nancy Read, *Metropolitan Mosquito Control District*

Mark Maloney, *City of Shoreview/Metro Cities*

Dan Ross, *MnGeo*

Charlie Teff, *Anoka County*

Randy Knippel, *Dakota County*

James Fritz, *Xcel Energy*

Brad Henry, *University of Minnesota*

Derek Lorbiecki, *Hennepin County*

Jim Bunning, *Scott County*

Matt Koukol, *Ramsey County*

Len Kne, *University of Minnesota*

Ron Wencl, *U. S. Geological Survey*

Erik Dahl, *MN Assoc. of Watershed Districts*

Mark Kotz, *Metropolitan Council*

Eric Haugen, *Resource Data, Inc.*

Guests:

Dan Falbo, ESRI

Bill Bushey, *Minnesota E-Democracy*

Staff:

Geoff Maas, *MetroGIS Coordinator*

1) Call to Order:
Chair Bitner called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM

2) Approval of Meeting Agenda:
Motion: Kotz, Second: Read; Motion carried.

3) Approval of March 21, 2013 Meeting Minute:
 Motion: Maloney; Second: Wencl, Motion carried.

4) Welcome New Members:
Chair Bitner introduced the new public sector seat representatives and welcomed them to the Coordinating Committee; new members appointed by their respective agencies include **Matt Baker** (MAC); **Ben Butzow** (MnDOT); **Erik Dahl** (MN Association of Watershed Districts) and **Mark Kotz** (Metropolitan Council).

5) Election of Sector Representatives

Chair Bitner had candidates **Eric Haugen** of Resource Data, Inc. (*candidate for the **GIS Consultant** seat*) and **James (Jim) Fritz** of Xcel Energy (*candidate for the **Utilities** seat*) describe their positions, their experience and explain their interest in participating in MetroGIS. The candidates then fielded questions from the Committee. As per the Operating Guidelines and Procedures, the Committee had a brief closed door deliberation during which both candidates were approved; Chair Bitner welcomed the candidates to the Committee.

Brad Henry suggested to Jim Fritz that he bring back to the Coordinating Committee (at its next meeting) some indication of what the utilities industry is expecting from the public sector in terms of data or communication.

6) Roundtable/Lightning Round Update

Bitner: Provided a wrap-up of the FOSS4G conference, by all accounts a success: with almost 400 attendees from 34 states and 8 countries; very positive responses to the event.

Knippel: Talked about his continued participation in the National Alliance for Public Safety GIS Foundation (NAPSG Foundation) and informed the group of an upcoming webinar (July 18) on the US National Grid;

Kotz: Updates covered later in the agenda;

Bushey: Works with E-Democracy and Open Twin Cities participant in the recent two large hack-a-thon events concurrent with the FOSS4G conference.

Ross: Updated the group on the many activities in progress at MnGeo; discussed the impact of recent Legislation (SF1298/HF1390) and next steps for MnGeo on the issue;
Spring ortho-photos are complete, most of the northern portion of the state has been flown; quality control of the images is underway and they should be available soon;
LIDAR is complete for the state, this is a large milestone, and will be going live soon.
Terms for Statewide Geospatial Advisory Council representatives are up; new candidates need to go through the Secretary of State process to be eligible for consideration;
Due to the new statute language, the State Gov Council will sunset, final meeting will be on July 8.
Geospatial Technology Advisory Group will replace the State Gov Council.

Wencl: US Topographic Maps cycling into production; data is being staged for production
The Federal sequestration remains in force, however, it will not impact map production
USGS is promoting the National Map Corps as a means of crowd sourcing data into the National Map resource; Landsat 5 has been decommissioned, however Landsat 8 is up and running.

Maloney: Involved with local government transportation research topics emphasizing better communication and integration about projects and data needs across jurisdictions; strong need for better integration and communication at all levels of government;
Surface water management also came out of the same 'think tank'; transportation discussion always winds up with some discussion of surface water;

Shoreview is a positive site for occurrence of the Emerald Ash Borer, we need to deploy GIS tools to help contain and control it, and assist our city and other cities respond to DNR for urban forestry applications and tracking;

Kne: U of M in looking to hire a training coordinator for internal use of GIS;

Read: Was heavily involved with the preparation and execution of the FOSS4G conference, worked with Len Kne on a panel on geospatial portals working to get at the question of ***"how do real GIS users get a hold or real data with a spatial component, how do they actually find, get to and acquire the data?"*** Also from the conference, very exciting to hear what local governments are doing with open source resources; Portland (Oregon) requires an open source component. Pierce County (State of Washington), has switched to an open source solution: their programmers (non GIS programmers) were more comfortable with the open source environment, found it effective for getting more done. The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) is now up on the Data Deli for the metro area; SharedGeo still advancing US National Grid projects, meeting with Google Maps for crisis situation mapping.

Lorbiecki: Hennepin County is having positive results from the County Attorney's Office working toward more free and open data; (*much to the approval and delight of the group*)

Koukol: Working with free and open data materials for the Data Producers Work Group/E8-County Collaborative, Ramsey County is actively working on address points; I am involved directly with the Centerlines Initiative and we are working on our parcel fabric; using ArcGIS online for playground inspection tools;

Butzow: As a new member to the group, he gave a bit of background of his work and education: Received an MGIS from the U of M, has worked at MnDOT for 6 years, GIS Specialist in the Geodetic Unit. Moved in Aug 2012 into Joella Givens' group and is excited to be participating in MetroGIS; MnDOT Metro Office makes use of an internal open source web mapping application called Georilla and have seen that database increase in use and size over past couple of months, also supporting Rochester district with their Georilla work, working toward becoming a statewide application for MnDOT.

Bunning: Looking to fill the Senior GIS Analyst position recently vacated by Josh Gumm;

Henschel: Actively using the new address point editor, just put up a new water monitoring application with live data and using the ESRI storytelling template about water quality;

Baker: As a new member to the group, he gave a bit of background of his work and education, originally from New Zealand, studied at the University of Canterbury, worked at New Zealand Department of Conservation and City of Shoreview prior to the MAC. Very new to position at MAC, excited to be part of MetroGIS.

Henry: Stressed the importance of bridging the gap between GIS and engineering, lowering the time and costs of projects, stresses this in the coursework he teaches at the University of Minnesota;

Dahl: Actively developing tools for interactive mapping for watershed field staff to collect water quality data; excited at the prospect of better stormsewer data being available eventually;

Teff: No major updates from Anoka County;

7) Policy Board Activity Brief

Coordinator Maas provided an update on recent action of the Policy Board, the most recent meeting of which was on April 24, 2013. As per their request of January 23, the Data Producers Work Group/8-County Collaborative developed a 'white paper' resource and a single-page summary sheet to help focus the discussion to the core issues around Free and Open Data. Dakota County GIS Manager and Data Producers Work Group Chair Randy Knippel provided an excellent presentation and facilitated the discussion of what Free and Open Data could mean in terms of benefit to county governments. The key issue remaining to be fully explored is that of liability of counties for making data public. The meeting was well attended with the full discussion documented in the Policy Board meeting minutes available on metrogis.org under the Policy Board section. Next meeting of the Policy Board is scheduled for July 24, 2013, the focus of which will be the liability issue.

8) Action Items:

8a) Reapportionment $11,000 from the Centerlines Initiative to the Address Points Editor Project
Coordinator Maas suggested the re-apportionment of $11,000 originally targeted for the Statewide Centerlines Initiative for the Address Points Editor and Dataset Initiative. The Centerlines Initiative remains in progress, however, the $11,000 earmarked would not meet the existing project need for vendor services from MetroGIS' perspective. Mark Kotz provided background on why this was a suitable transfer of budget funds citing the current momentum and activity of the Address Points Project is favorable and the enhanced ability for the Metropolitan Council to secure a sole-source contract with the vendor who provided version 1.0 of the tool.

Motion to re-apportion the $11,000 to the Address Points Project;
Motion: Knippel, Second: Henry; Motion carried.

9) MetroGIS Project Updates

9a) New MetroGIS Website Update;
Coordinator Maas, project lead, indicated to the group that the procurement process has begun through the Metropolitan Council, the scope of work is nearly ready and the content for the new site remains in assembly. Maas' vision for the new site is 'less is more', simplicity and emphasis on intuitive interface and attractive design and graphics.

9b) Statewide Centerline Initiative Update;
Ross, Koukol and Maas updated the group on the current status and progress of the Initiative, including the pilot partners kick-off in Baxter, Minnesota (May 13), the input from pilot participants Maas indicated the need for a clear project plan and charter language and that will be in development shortly.

9c) Geospatial Commons Update;
Ross provided an update on the project; the majority of the focus is on the back-end at the moment, including the configuration of the CKAN portal tool;

Read: When will we begin to see some deliverables on the Commons?

Ross: Hopefully by fall (2013), we are ensuring the back-end is up first; we will show it when we have it ready. The GDRS will be a key piece of the backbone with this as well; other nodes to put their data in,

local governments will be asked if this is a worthwhile means for them to distribute their data as well. Right now we are letting the techs do their work.

Kotz: We have collected a wealth of user stories that govern the desired and needs to be served by the resource;

Read: Some folks around the table are setting up portals as well, we'd like to be informed and in the loop as well, we've got an interest and a stake in how it is being built.

Ross: We understand that, we certainly want to work toward what the best method of communication is. We're early in the process and really involved in the technical end right now and things are still being shaped.

9d) Collaborative Tool Deployment
Maas indicated that if the Metropolitan Council would provide a collaborative tool, it would have to be eShare though SharePoint as per Council rules; this resource is already in existence but not presently in use (no immediate need at the moment for MetroGIS purposes or initiatives).

Each member of the Policy Board and Coordinating Committee has access to the resource (contact Paul Peterson, Metropolitan Council Project Manager for log in and password: (paul.peterson@metc.state.mn.us)

MetroGIS projects are presently making use of other agencies collaborative sites: Dakota County is providing a SharePoint site for the Data Producers Work Group/8-County Collaborative and MnGeo is providing this resource for the Centerlines Imitative. This model of the sponsoring agency providing resources for collaboration may be a solution moving forward.

9e) Address Point Editor Tools and Dataset
Kotz indicated that V1.0 of the Editing tool is complete and in production and use in Dakota County and being evaluated in other metro counties as well. The Scope of Work for V2.0 is finalized and is scheduled to being in late June with completion by late fall.

9f) Leadership Succession and Operational Procedures
Maas informed the group that the draft revisions are complete with reviews (*gratefully*) provided by Gelbmann (retired), Kotz and Brandt. Document is on offer to Coordinating Committee to review at their pleasure.

Next steps: Recommended changes will be advanced to the Policy Board for review and potential approval at the July 24, 2013 meeting;

9g) Metro Stormsewer Dataset Project Investigation
Maas provided an update on his on-going work in investigating the 'ripeness' of developing a metro regional stormsewer dataset; there is significant interest from many different stakeholders and sectors on the issue, many recent discussions at the legislative level and interest from willing partners such as ESRI, the Science Museum of Minnesota and the University of Minnesota in contributing to the understanding and development of it. Maas indicated that the Metropolitan Council is positioned to be potentially a lead/champion organization for the initiative. This presents an opportunity for the geospatial community to get out ahead of the stormwater issue and assist other sectors with their work.

Maloney: Anything that would make our reporting easier would be welcome and helpful; it is staggering to deal with the many over-lapping interests and agencies that have to deal with water, and specifically the stormwater issue.

Maas: I will be presenting the concept to a variety of audiences in the coming weeks and months to raise awareness and gather additional concerns, comments and ideas.

10) Discussion and Administrative Updates

10a) SF1298/HF1390: Legislative Update

Ross provided an update on the recent legislation (which goes into effect on August 1, 2013); he articulated there were aspects of the originally proposed in the language that would have helped facilitate more data out to the public, but were left out of the final language, these include:

> ***Proposed:***
> *'Non-governmental requestor shall be directed to the original authoritative source for data received pursuant to this subdivision' (This statement was removed from the final language)*

> ***Proposed:***
> *'Government entities and agencies sharing and receiving electronic geospatial data under this subdivision are immune from civil liability arising out of any use of the shared electronic geospatial data by government entities and non-government entities, including specifically the public. This subdivision does not authorize the release of data that are not public data or any data purchased from a vendor that is classified as trade secret or copyrighted as part of a written licenses agreement.'*

> ***Final language as it appeared in the legislation:***
> *'Government entities and agencies sharing and receiving electronic geospatial data under this subdivision are immune from civil liability arising out of the use of shared electronic geospatial data. This subdivision does not authorize the release of data that are not public data.'*

Ross asked the group where we need to go next with this language and what is needed. He recommended that members take it back to their agencies and governments and ask them if they are comfortable with it. If revisions are needed or need to be developed, they need to occur **this summer**, as they need to be proposed in October for the next legislative session.

Ross proposed starting a Data Sharing Work Group to further develop the idea and assess the need for more language and to understand how we actually share the data. We should be focused on "avoiding the spider web" of continual incremental cross-jurisdictional sharing and proliferation of derivative datasets (referred to Maas' diagram of stormsewer data producers and consumers reference in 9g above.

Ross indicated he will be meeting with the Association of Minnesota Counties soon and is willing to help Local Government units facilitate the discussion as well; open to and looking for ideas on how to do this.

Knippel: Do you think that the 'must' language could be interpreted as an extrmem, that the state cannot do cost sharing with a county?

Ross: No; intent was not one of 'force', it was intended in the spirit of collaboration. Could look for a fee as post-collaboration

Knippel: Could the state pay the cost differential if it wanted to, in other words, pay money voluntarily to facilitate data transfer?

Ross: Certainly, there is nothing that prevents that.

Maloney: Is there a consistent interpretation of what 'government entity' means?

Ross: This is defined in state statute. The bottom line is, if data is generated by the government, it must be shared among governments;

Kotz: However, there is a distinction between '*government-created/owned*' and '*government-leased data*' (such as the NCompass road dataset); we have a contract to use/lease this data, but we (Metropolitan Council and contract-obligated users) do not own the data.

Ross: Also, pictometry is considered trade secret data, cannot be shared, this has already gone to the Supreme Court; we have a clear idea of what public data is; it is already well defined in state statute; the new language does not affect any of the rules in Chapter 13 of the statutes. The heart of this topic as we've discussed is that information created with taxpayer dollars should be available; government-to-government sharing should be without barriers or impediments. Data that is public created and sensitive or not-for-public release is defined in statute. Some legislators asked why just geospatial data and not all data? I indicated to them that because the strong sense of volunteerism in the geospatial community, we can be an example to the rest of the state.

Group Discussion: Can this be dealt with in the context of a Common License Agreement?

Ross: We do need to develop a Common License Agreement we can work with and use, it is in the attorney's hands right now; the attorneys need to sit down with a diverse/broader group of folks (beginning with Ramsey and Hennepin counties)

Likely we need three agreements:
  (i)   one for open and public data;
  (ii)   one for data that has significant commercial value and;
  (iii)   one for public data that is not intended for public consumption (data that is shared based on need; is public, but protected)

Now that we have legislation behind it, it will simply help us share data better.

10b) Free and Open Data Discussion
Knippel took the group through the presentation he gave to the Policy Board on April 24.
The presentation slides are available here:
Data Policy Presentation (**http://www.metrogis.org/teams/pb/meetings/13_04_24/index.shtml**)

Key aspects of the presentation included how we arrived at the current state of affairs *(Chapter 13.03 Access to government data; Sub.3 (d) providing the initial impetus to charge for data),* and a need to

revise laws which are outdated to stay current with present technological practices. Knippel worked the group through the changes in technology, declining cost of GIS deployment, increasing computational power and number of users of the technology.

In the discussion of the Policy Board on April 24, the last remaining key issues are that of avoiding potential litigation (intentional torts) against data producers and the liability aspect.

Henry: So based on this, what is the objective? Do we need categories for deciding what is sensitive and what isn't?

Kotz: No, what we are working toward a draft resolution that a local government could adopt, counties or cities could take it back to their governing bodies to modify if needed and adopt.

Ross: Sample disclaimer language and cite the laws that already exist to protect Local Governments; we don't want to administer a license, want to have the legal disclaimer language in place.

Group Discussion/Wrap Up/Clarification on the key points of the prior discussion;

Maas: At the next Policy Board meeting (July 24), this (liability) will be the central topic of discussion, the Data Producers Work Group will share the materials we prepare for that meeting with everyone.

11) Next Meeting
The Coordinating Committee is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, September 19, 2013, 1 PM.

12) Adjournment
Chair Bitner adjourned the meeting @ 3:36 PM

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee

Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2013, 1:00-3:30 PM
Metro Counties Government Center 2099 University Avenue, St Paul

Attendees:

Jim Fritz, Xcel Energy
Teresa Leiste, Benton County
Brad Henry, University of Minnesota
William Brown, Hennepin County
Chris Mavis, Hennepin County
Eric Haugen, Resource Data, Inc.
Randy Knippel, Dakota County
Ron Wencl, US Geological Survey
Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council
Nancy Read, Metropolitan Mosquito Control District
David Bitner, db Spatial, Coordinating Committee Chair
David Brandt, Washington County, Coordinating Committee Vice-Chair

John Slusarczyk, Anoka County
Chad Martini, Stearns County
James Bunning, Scott County
Derek Lorbiecki, Hennepin County
Peter Henschel, Carver County
Bob O'Neill, City of Bloomington
Francis Harvey, University of Minnesota
Erik Dahl, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Dan Ross, MN Geospatial Information Office

Staff:

Paul Peterson, MetroGIS/Metropolitan Council Project Manager
Geoff Maas, MetroGIS Coordinator

1) Call To Order
Chair Bitner called the meeting to order at 1:09 PM

2) Approval of Agenda
Motion, Harvey, Second: Wencl, motion carried;

3) Approval of Meeting Summary from June 20, 2013:
Motion, Kotz; Second, Wencl, motion carried;

4) Roundtable Update

Maas: Welcomed the guests and visitors the meeting; announced that Adam Fisher would be stepping down from the Real Estate seat on the Committee; additional updates are couched in the agenda items;

Fritz: Responding to the earlier request of what the needs are of the utilities from the public sector, he indicated key desired features include vegetation cover , rights of way, land management and ownership information; looking to make use of the available LIDAR data for trees, buildings, topography and other features;

Slusarczyk: No update from Anoka County;

Leiste & Martini: Thanked the Committee for the invitation to participate and observe;

Henry: Announced to the group that Minnesota was making a bid for the 2023 World Fair, and this has huge developmental implications for the region;

Bunning: No update from Scott County;

Lorbiecki: Presented a summary about the legal position/opinion on Section 16E (*government to government data sharing made law in the 2013 Legislative session*) received from the Hennepin County Attorney's Office; *(full position is provided as an appendix at the end of these minutes)*

Brown: Announced that Hennepin County is in the process of consolidating the ArcInfo software license throughout the County. At present, there are several points of contact between ESRI and various departments of the county using ArcGIS software; looking to balance the practices of departmental use with an enterprise integration solution for the County. Hennepin County is also looking to adopt an enterprise solution for ArcGIS On-Line and working toward better documentation and understanding the variety of GIS business needs and practices at the County.

Mavis: Introduced himself as the new staff working with Bill Brown at Hennepin County; described his involvement with the county's re-examination of its coordinate geometry; developing an idea of how accurate Hennepin's parcel data are compared to the actual survey irons in place on the landscape. Working with data points from as far back as the 1970s and reviewing the results of over 17,000 locations. This analysis revealed a 95% confidence level of accuracy of within 2.3 feet (or better) across the entire county (save for areas within the City of Minneapolis, which will be conducted later on).

Brandt: Announced the findings of his solar capacity modeling research for the City of Stillwater using LIDAR data; the LIDAR datasets that are readily available are suitable for conducing this kind of solar capacity modeling and a grant is being written to expand this work statewide;

Henschel: MetroGIS Address Editor is up and running in Carver County;

Haugen: First meeting as a full member of the Committee; re-iterated his interest in offering what he can as a resource or researcher to the group;

O'Neill: City of Bloomington conversion of city's GIS from SmallWorld to ESRI;

Knippel: Announced the forthcoming availability of an implementation guide for the US National Grid (USNG) from the National Alliance for Public Safety GIS Foundation (NAPSG); this represents a significant step forward for the USNG initiative. At present there is no Minnesota chapter of NAPSG, most activity is concentrated on the coasts of the US, however, there is a great opportunity to begin something in Minnesota; also announced that Dakota County is looking to fill a GIS Technician position and had 100+ applicants respond to the posting;

Harvey: Planning for a symposium for October 21 at the University of Minnesota, more details to follow;

Wencl: Announced the availability of the new statewide coverage of the 1:24000 topographic series maps, which includes the National Grid, structures and hillshading; updates will be available on a three-year cycle; as of September 19, 2013, a new fact sheet on 3D digital data is available; key goals include

improved vertical accuracy and increased data consistency; $9,000,000 has been earmarked for fiscal 2014, however the federal government remains under sequestration so work might not commence until 2015;

Dahl: Minnehaha Creek Watershed District has rolled out its ArcGIS On-Line;

Read: Mosquito Control staff put out the request for anyone who has the 2013 imagery available, particularly outside of the 2012 USGS coverage areas; this is the time of year that Mosquito Control staff needs to examine imagery for wetlands; also from SharedGeo: Steve Swazee and Bob Basques attended the Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers annual meeting to promote the use of US National Grid and USNG Trail Markers.

Kotz: The Metropolitan Council is performing improvements and updates to its transit interactive map; additionally, the Council has just completed a dataset contain major cartographic features along the three major rivers of the Metro area; taken from DNR boating guides and other sources; also, the Council is working to fill a vacancy in its GIS department, currently in the second round of interviews;

Peterson: Involved with managing the Council's river way cartographic features project; mainly involved with the Statewide Centerlines Initiative (details of which are in Project Updates);

Ross: Plans on delivering a brief 'state of the state' address at MN GIS/LIS; this year's theme is collaboration, soliciting input on the collaborative projects happening around the state to highlight them; please email notes, maps, graphics, slides they can be included;

5) Policy Board Activity Brief

Coordinator Maas indicated that the scheduled July 24 meeting was cancelled due to the absence of key participants and to provide the members of the Data Producers Workgroup/8 County Collaborative ample time to compile research materials for discussion on October 23.

MnGeo and the MetroGIS Data Producers Work Group developed a set of ten questions to be answered by the Department of Administration's Information Policy Analysis Division (DOA/IPAD) on various issues of liability. The results of which will be presented to the Policy Board on October 23. The significance of the forthcoming position/opinion from DOA/IPAD is that it would be referred to and deferred to by local attorneys and judges as tool for informing their decisions and actions.

Ross: The attorneys at DOA/IPAD will be reshaping our initial questions into their preferred language for attorney clarification prior to the responses.

Lorbiecki: The Hennepin County Attorney has finished and offered a legal position on the 2013 Minn. Laws Ch. 95, Sec. 3-4 (to codified by the Revisor at Minn. Stat. Sec. 16E.30);

Knippel: We are curious to know that whatever legal protection is offered to the state and regional governments can be applied as well to municipal and county governments to protect them from liability. State and regional entities have been publishing data for many years without restriction, what is it that protects them from liability and how can cities and counties use the same model?

Ross: We anticipate having these answers and more with the response from DOA/IPAD;

6) Project Updates

6a) MetroGIS Website
Geoff Maas indicated three qualified vendors have submitted bids which are under review. The new site will be hosted by the Metropolitan Council on its servers and will be built in the Kentico CMS.
A signed contract and website production is to begin in late October, with user experience testing available late this fall for MetroGIS members. Coordinator Maas thanked the group for their patience with the new site going live.

6b) Statewide Centerline Initiative
Paul Peterson indicated that a draft pilot plan for the project has been submitted to the pilot partners for review and comment. Peterson is in the process of meeting with pilot partner governments to better understand and document their business practices; key immediate tasks include aligning MnDOTs internal schedule of work with the proposed and anticipated work of Statewide Centerline Initiative and the completion of MnDOT's TIS to LRS conversion.

6c) Geospatial Commons
Dan Ross indicated that June 30, 2014 is a key target date for the Commons. State agencies will need to migrate their published data by that date. MNDOT, PCA, DNR and MNGEO will need to consolidate their clearing houses into the Commons by June 30 of next year.

Ross: Release 1.0 (internal release and including one county) has just been finished. Ross recommended a *demonstration to the Coordinating Committee at its next meeting on December 12, 2013* and that it will be demonstrated at the next Geospatial Advisory Committee meeting on September 24. The basic shell of the Commons is up as well as the themes and categories, there will also be three levels of metadata (general, intermediate and detailed) and the Commons is set to harvest directed from the MNDNR GDRS.

Kotz: As an original champion of the Commons, it is gratifying to see this coming together and very pleased that the GDRS on the backend will facilitate the easy updating and ease of use.
Talented group of folks working on it; very pleased, GDRS as backend that will facilitate the easy updating and ease of use and participation;

Ross: So please know we will be coming to you for your data, so that we can serve it up. Also the other thing we need is funding, it will be cheaper if we are all able to contribute.

6d) Address Points Editor Tool 2.0
Mark Kotz provided an update on the Address Point Editor (version 2.0). This entails improvements to the existing Editor Tool. New functions are to support copy/paste functionality, support multi-point editing, support address authority specific 'pick lists', support use of preliminary plats, allow use of multiple-services and make parcel PIN attribute name configurable; Kotz listed the project team:

Jesse Adams and Carolyn Adams, North Point Geographic Solutions (Contractor)
John Slusarczyk, Anoka County   Nate Christ, Carver County
Joe Sapletal, Dakota County   Matt Koukol, Ramsey County
Tanya Mayer, Met Council (Contract Manager)
Mark Kotz MetCouncil (Project Owner)

Accomplishments in the last three months on the project include:
- Scope of Work Completed & Contract signed
- Kick-off meeting, tasks scheduled based on priority defined by group
- First 2-week 'sprint' meeting to discuss project progress

Estimated completion date is the end of the year (December 31, 2013)

Ross: It would be beneficial to leverage this effort statewide, particularly, we want to work with the E911 community; we don't want them doing a separate effort, better if we mesh together on this effort.

Knippel: Can you clarify the position of the E911 sector on this? At an earlier meeting Gordy (Chinander) made a comment that they will likely purchase their own data and find their own solutions. One of the main justifications for doing the Address Point project as county and city governments this was to support E911 services.

Ross: One of their key issues is that E911 has a different approach to GIS; E911 does not make use of GIS in the same way. Some of their operations are run by the Radio Board, they understand the architecture and physical aspect of making calls go to a center. They are not thinking about GIS in the same way as many of us and may not have a need to leverage GIS in their current operation. NextGen 9-1-1 will require GIS so we will need to present the options and open up our data plans to them. I'd very much like to get them to the table.

6e) Address Points Aggregation Project
Mark Kotz provided an update on the Address Point Aggregation Project; the purpose of the project is to develop a workflow and technical solution for gathering, aggregating and distributing a publicly-accessible address point dataset; Kotz listed the project team:

Matt Koukol, Ramsey County	Dave Brandt, Washington County
Joe Sapletal, Dakota County	Peter Henschel, Carver County
Derek Lorbiecki, Hennepin County	Jon Hoekenga, MetCouncil (Project Manager)
Mark Kotz, MetCouncil (Project Owner)	

Accomplishments in the last 3 months include:
- Project Plan Developed and Kick-Off Meeting
- Geospatial Data Resource Site (GDRS) chosen as technological solution
- Began testing GDRS

Key actions in the upcoming work breakdown structure include:
- Completion of GDRS testing;
- Develop automated tasks for merge/package/distribute address
- Points to GDRS and DataFinder;
- Configure GDRS to distribute aggregated dataset;
- Develop GDRS 'how to' documentation for non-test counties;
- Develop metadata;

6f) Stormsewer Data Investigation
Geoff Maas described the progress in the on-going investigation of the potential for a stormsewer data project. After meeting with watershed district, USGS and MnGeo representatives on August 22, the following actions are next:

- Maas and Carrie Magnuson (GIS Specialist with Ramsey-Washington-Metro Watershed District) will approach and secure permission to re-use the stormsewer data assembled from the ***Battle Creek Sub-Watershed Study Area*** study of 2010 already in the Draft Standard Format; this data will be eventually shared among selected user groups to test the efficacy of the standard;

- The USGS will prepare a set of its desired criteria for inclusion of major/key storm sewer features in the National Hydrographic Dataset;

- Maas will work with Metropolitan Council staff to formalize their interest and resource commitment to the project and begin assembling research on consistent data policy for handling stormsewer assets and connect with Coordinating Committee member Erik Dahl (Minnehaha Creek Watershed District) to formulate a draft plan.

- Maas will re-contact/re-assemble/re-activate a project team; *(focused on the individuals from the MetroGIS/Ramsey-Washington-Metro Watershed District 2010 pilot project)* to comment on, revise and add to the draft project plan in late 20132/early 2014;

Formal inclusion of a Metro stormsewer data initiative into MetroGIS Work Plan program is expected sometime in 2014;

7) Action Items
Geoff Maas presented a new logo design to the Coordinating Committee for both MetroGIS and the DataFinder. He described the symbolic rather geographic approach of the MetroGIS new design and the need for a stronger graphic identity for the DataFinder. Maas indicated that these graphic tools would assist him in explaining and marketing the work of the collaborative to new stakeholders, policy makers and funders of the collaborative.

Motion to approve new logo for MetroGIS:
Motion: Knippel, Second, Read;
Unanimous vote in favor, motion carried;

Motion to approve new logo identity for DataFinder
Motion: Kotz, Second, Henry
Unanimous vote in favor, motion carried;

8) 2014 Work Plan Development

8a) 2014 Work Plan Survey Results
Geoff Maas provided a brief overview of the on-line survey provided to Coordinating Committee members prior to the meeting. Responses show solid support for existing initiatives as relevant to stakeholder business needs. Full results can be found in **Appendix A** of this document (pp. 9-13).

8b) 2014 Project Priority Ranking

Mark Kotz led the group in a ranking exercise in rating the fitness of proposed, shelved and inactive projects into the 2014 MetroGIS Work Plan. The plan is intended to shape how MetroGIS will allot its human and fiscal resources in the coming year. Key considerations for suggested projects include:

- *Does it meet a stakeholder business need?*
- *Is there a project champion? A project team? A project owner?*
- *If funding is needed, is it available?*
- *What is the level of effort?*
- *What is the likelihood of success?*

Based upon the ranking exercise and input from Committee participants, the following projects were identified for inclusion in the 2014 MetroGIS Work Plan:

Rank	Project Name
1	*Address Points Aggregation*
2	*Continued Free & Open Data Research*
3	*Support for the Geospatial Commons*
4	*Address Points Editor Tool 2.x (Enhancements if needed)*
5	*Support for the Centerlines Initiative*
6	*Increased Engagement and Relationship Building Outside with partners outside the Metro*
7	*Increased Data Exchange Between Private and Public Sectors*
8	*Private/Public Sector Data Summit*
9	*Metro Regional Stormsewer Dataset Development*

Note: Projects 6, 7 and 8 have the potential to be wrapped into one larger over-arching project initiative.

The following project proposals lacked sufficient minimum criteria for inclusion into the 2014 MetroGIS Work Plan

Project Name
Increased frequency of Parcel Data Updates
Creation of Regional Basemap Services
Quantifying Public Value (QPV) Follow-On Study
Regional Building Footprint Data
High Resolution Impervious Surface Data

Next steps for 2014 MetroGIS Work Plan development:

- Maas, Peterson and Kotz will develop an Initial Draft Plan based on the above list and make suggestions as to levels of budget for appropriately funding and resourcing the list of projects;

- Initial Draft Plan will be made available to Committee members and stakeholders for review and comment;

- Comments received from Committee members and stakeholders will be integrated into the plan and a **Final Draft** and will be presented to the Coordinating Committee for final revisions and approval on **December 12, 2013;**

9) Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Coordinating Committee will be Thursday, December 12, 2013

10) Adjournment

Chair Bitner adjourned the meeting at 3:33 PM

Appendix A:

STAKEHOLDER SURVEY RESULTS, FALL 2013
2014 METROGIS WORK PLAN PREPARATION

Introduction: The MetroGIS collaborative wishes to understand the shared needs of its stakeholder community. In order to plan for its upcoming year of project and to plan for its next years' budget a brief stakeholder survey is sent out to participating agencies representatives. The following are the results of the Fall 2013 survey in preparation of the 2014 Work Plan cycle.

Question 1: The following are the active projects and initiatives that will continue into 2014. How great is your organization's business need for the results of the following active projects?
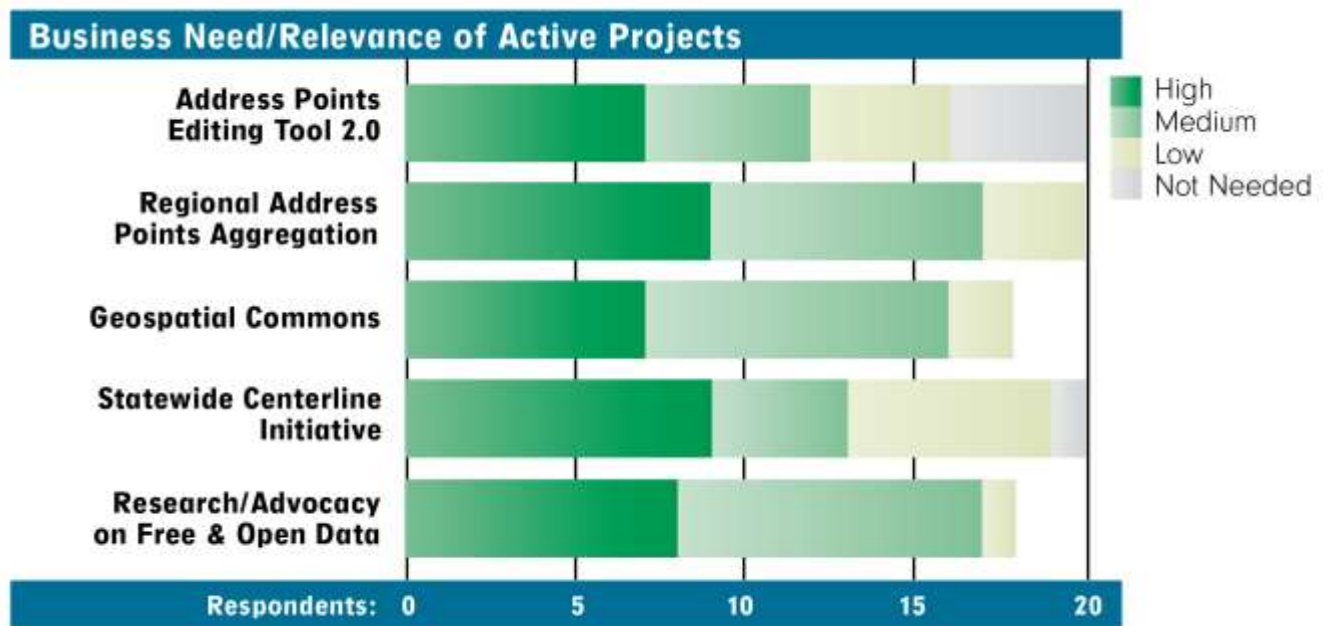
Question 2: Please provide any commentary or feedback on these active/in-progress projects you feel is relevant

Statewide Centerlines Initiative:
Options for counties that do not have their own centerline
Copy of NCompass; which counties will maintain and utilize as their own?

The local benefits for Statewide Centerlines project is not very clear;

As long as I can get a good metro set from NCompass or whatever, I'm ok, but don't know how long that arrangement will last?

Address Points & Geocoding:
While we don't directly use the address points editing tool, if it helps get the regional address points assembled, then it is important to us;

*Look to extend Address Points systems statewide if possible!*

Geospatial Commons:
As long as DataFinder is working, this isn't super-urgent, but it's still important.

Data Aggregation:
Any data aggregation work can be a significant time saver and help avoid irregular data access/pricing issues from local sources;

Of the projects listed above my agency would benefit from all, mostly due to lack of high quality and well maintained data as well as the ability to geocode through ArcGIS Desktop. Sensitive data does not allow my agency to geocode through third party applications including ArcGIS Online and Bing.

Question 3: How great is your organization's business need for the results of the following potential project ideas?
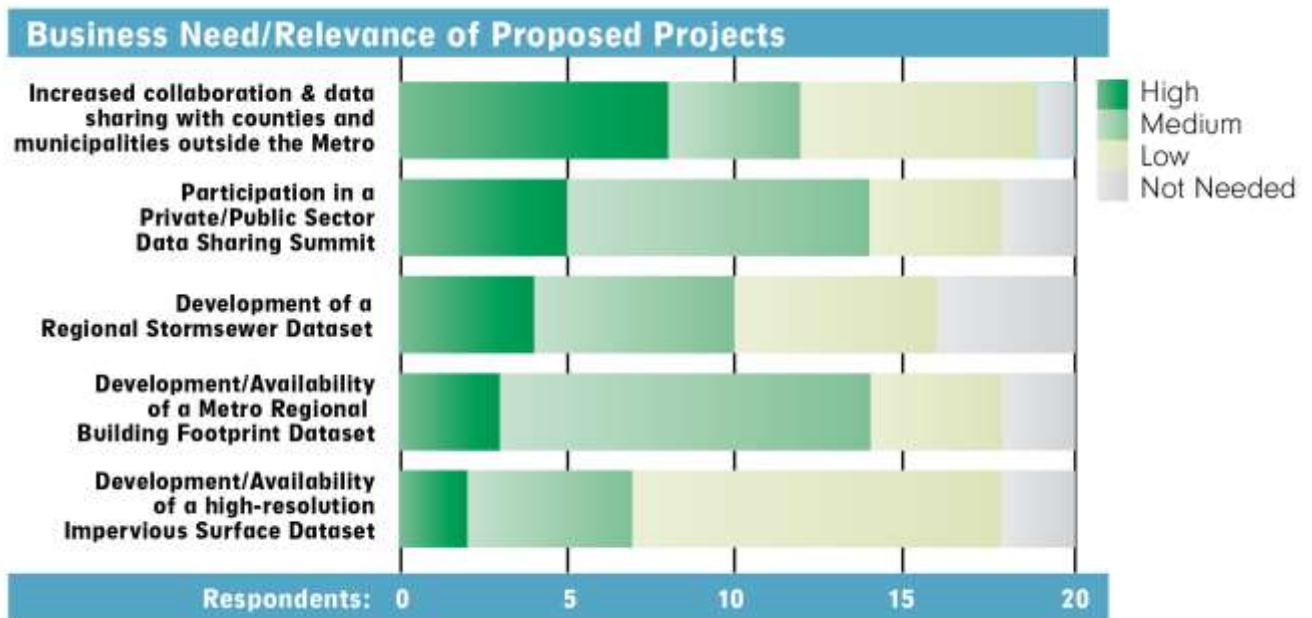
Question 4: Please add any comments related to the above Potential Project list:

General comments:
While I did mark some projects as "Medium" they are only marked as such since other projects are of higher need and demand than others. That does not mean an item

marked as medium should not be carried out but only that I foresee a greater need for other projects.

I'm stretching my organization's level of "business need", but use "relative importance" to reference priority.

### *Private/Public Data Interaction and Sharing:*
Private/public would be important if it helps create/maintain other important datasets or functions, like addresses and geocoding;

Bringing more non-metro counties "into the fold" would benefit us tremendously. We regulate hundreds of facilities in that "exurban ring".

Web Applications / Data Maintenance:
Infrastructure needed for web apps data maintenance

Question 5: How great is your organization's business need for the results of the following projects that are presently "shelved" or inactive?
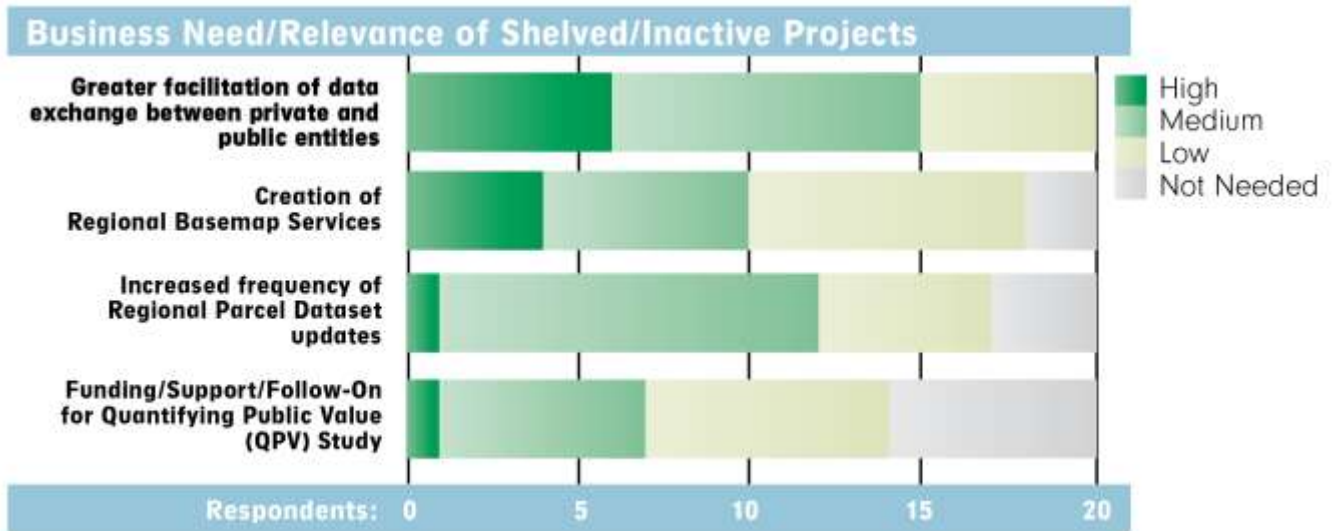
Question 6: Please add any comments you feel are relevant relating to the inactive/'shelved' project list.

Regional Basemap Services:
I do believe one of the lacking qualities of geospatial data in Minnesota is regional basemap services. This could be carried out by requested those with GIS resources to create a standardized basemap (layer symbology) that can be integrated together; for those that do not have the resources [it] can be added in over time. Many other states with fewer resources have carried out this task over five years ago.

I have a statewide basemap that cuts the mustard, but pales in comparison to the MetCouncil's. It would be cool to see the in-depth cartography applied statewide. No need for regional basemap services;

Quantifying Public Value Study:
Again, re QPV - if it makes it easier to get funding and maintenance for other datasets, then it would be more important than it looks;

No need for the QPV study;

Question 7: In December 2013, MetroGIS will issue a brief annual report document. Please indicate the relevance of the following metrics to your business interest.
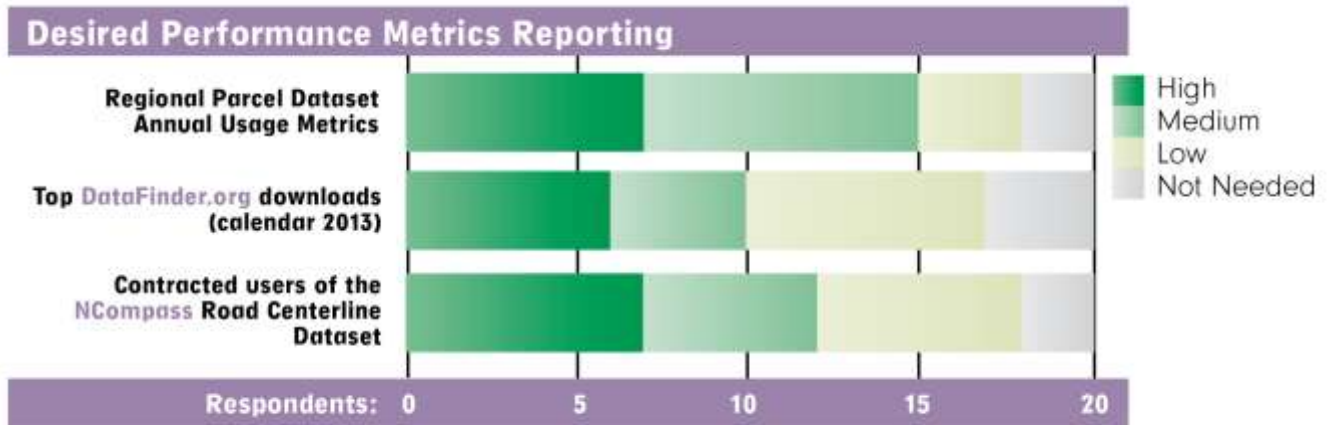
Question 8: Please indicate any other progress reports, data usage reports or other metrics you would like MetroGIS to track and report on:

[Need for reporting on] progress on initiatives;

It would be helpful to publish monthly summary data;

I have a dataset on DataFinder; [I] would like to get metrics on that [and] maybe compare to other datasets. [It is] always good to hear about new data on DataFinder, plus some stories about how folks are using it;

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee
Meeting Minutes (Approved 03.27.14)
January 9, 2014, 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Metro Counties Government Center
2099 University Avenue, St Paul, MN, 55104

Attendees:

David Bitner, dbSpatial (Chair)

David Brandt, Washington County (Vice Chair)

Jon Hoekenga, Metropolitan Council

Ben Verbick, LOGIS

Gary Swenson, Hennepin County

John Slusarczyk, Anoka County

Jim Fritz, Xcel Energy/Utilities

Len Kne, U-Spatial, University of Minnesota

Dan Ross, MnGeo

Ben Butzow, MnDOT

Tiffany Dagon, MnDOT

Brad Henry, University of Minnesota

Eric Haugen, Resource Data, Inc.

Joella Givens, MnDOT

Gordon Chinander, MESB

Randy Knippel, Dakota County

Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council

Pete Henschel, Carver County

Jesse Reinhardt, Hennepin County

Jeff Matson, CURA/University of Minnesota

Jim Bunning, Scott County

Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview/Metro Cities

Ron Wencl, U. S. Geological Survey

Mike Reynolds, MnDOT

William Brown, Hennepin County

Erik Dahl, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

Sally Wakefield, SharedGeo/Non-Profits

Staff:

Geoff Maas, MetroGIS Coordinator

1) Chair Bitner called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM

2) Approval of Meeting Agenda:
Motion: Knippel, Second: Kotz, motion carried.

3) Approval of Minutes from September 19, 2013
Motion: Kotz, Second: Brandt, motion carried.

4) Election of Officers for 2014-2016
Motion to approve candidate Erik Dahl as new Committee Chair and approve David Brandt in a second term as Vice Chair: *Motion: Read, Second: Henry, motion carried.*

5) Presentation of Leadership Service Award to David Bitner
David served a two-year term (2011-2013) as Chair of the Coordinating Committee. Coordinator Maas presented David with the Leadership Service Award and expressed his gratitude for David's assistance and guidance of MetroGIS and his steady presence with the collaborative during the transition of the Coordinator position.

6) General Committee Business

6a) Re-instatement of Sally Wakefield as Non-Profit representative
Former member and Committee Chair Sally Wakefield gave a brief statement about her new position as Development Director for SharedGeo, her on-going connections to the Minnesota Council of Non-Profits and her experiences during her last tenure on the Coordinating Committee. As per Article III, Section 2(e) of the Operating Procedures and Guidelines, a motion and second was required for her re-instatement. *Motion: Read, Second: Wencl, motion carried.*

6b) MetroGIS Social Media Discussion.
MetroGIS currently maintains a LinkedIn site (active) and a Twitter feed (inactive). In an effort to reduce duplication of social media presence; a recommendation was advanced to 'sunset' the MetroGIS LinkedIn page and direct its traffic to the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium LinkedIn site instead. The Consortium's social media presence would be capturing the same audience as that of MetroGIS. The MetroGIS Twitter feed is to remain dormant until suitable circumstances arise to activate it.
Motion: Brandt, Second, Read, motion carried.

6c) Discussion of moving meeting times from existing time of 1 pm
Several members had informally mentioned the possibility of moving the Coordinating Committee meeting start time from the existing 1 PM to 2 PM, after a brief discussion, general group consensus was to **retain existing meeting start time at 1 PM**. *No formal motion required.*

7) Roundtable Update

Brandt: No major updates from Washington County.

Knippel: Discussions continue with the Eight County Collaborative/Data Producers Work Group on the potential for inter-county shared servers and various issues.

Kotz: The Metropolitan Council is finding that using UTM coordinates is problematic for its base map services, and will be looking modifying the coordinate system to match other web services around the world. Kotz encouraged anyone with questions to contact Matt McGuire (Metropolitan Council GIS Staff)

Hoekenga: Attending the meeting to provide an update on Address Point Aggregation later in the agenda.

Read: Participating on the MnGeo Emergency Preparedness committee, working on lining more speakers and webinars related to emergency preparedness, possibly including Google on web mapping and crisis web mapping.

Verbick: Revealed that the GIS/LIS Consortium has released its new website (http://www.mngislis.org/) design and encouraged the group to visit the site.

Swenson: Introduced GIS Staff Jesse Reinhardt, encouraged him to cover updates at Hennepin County

Reinhardt: Provided a brief overview of GIS business services at Hennepin County including their efforts to deploy ArcGIS online to collaborate with other county departments and to build capacity within the

county for using the technology. Hennepin County is embedding GIS Coordinators within various county lines of business to increase efficiency.

Slusarczyk: Described how Anoka County 911 is working with TriTech for its Computer Aided Dispatch system and is prepping its data (response zones, address points, centerlines) for that system and is looking for collaborating and insight from other counties and agencies using TriTech.

Matson: Indicated that he is on the Steering Committee for the Census American Community Survey (ACS)Data Users Group, there will be an on-line user forum and series of webinars for the ACS; provided handouts and is looking for members to join the group.

Fritz: Announced that Xcel Energy is ramping up its use and deployment of ArcGIS OnLine.

Bunning: Announced a GIS position opening with Scott County.

Kne: Indicated that he has student help available through the course he teaches and is looking for potential projects for his students.

Maloney: Reiterated the growing need for consistent and reliable inter-agency data, specifically stormsewer data as cities need to meet the MS4/NPDES permit process requirements.

Ross: Indicated that 2013 aerial image collection for the state is complete and the results are quite good. The LIDAR viewer and download tool will be ready by the end of the month. Next major project will be development of a single hydrography dataset, this will be ramping up in the next six months. A statewide parcel collection is planned for Summer 2014; MnGeo is partnering with the Department of Revenue ramping in several stages to 2016; approximately forty (40) counties have indicated their willingness to share parcel data so far.

Wencl: Reiterated that the Minnesota 1:24K topographic series is complete and available from USGS. Provided timeline summary of the of the federal budget sequestration and indicated that the NGIA (1 foot imagery available every 2 years) would be coming to an end, with lack of funding identified as they key issue to its closure.

Butzow: Introduced and welcomed Mike Reynolds and Tiffany Dagon and their presentation on traffic impact management.

Henry: Reminded the group that the Minnesota Technology conference was coming up in two months; this is to be a 3 day event with many valuable presentations, encouraged the members to participate. Stressed the increased need for awareness of the value of asset management, increasing its profile in the state, everything from roads, bridges to subsurface features. Encouraged members of the Committee to contact him with info about jurisdictions and agencies engaged in asset management.

Dahl: Indicated that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District has rolled out its interactive ArcGIS OnLine maps; widely in use by staff.

Haugen: Reminded the group of the incoming Minnesota High Tech Association Conference coming up (May 6) and that there was a notable lack of GIS last year, putting out call for programs, educations sessions, program: get out and maybe collaborate with Feb 28 dead MEGH site and collect more info.

Givens: Indicated she was glad to be back here as a 'guest' to catch up with the group.

Chinander: Indicated that the MESB is working on reconciling 911 GIS databases with local addressing authorities, working to find and repair discrepancies, will be working with MetroGIS and the Statewide Centerline group to reduce redundant effort. Looking to send around findings, get approval from the group and determine how to best line up with Department of Public Safety work.

Koukol: Described how Ramsey County was continuing to work its parcel fabric, that it also is working to line up its data for use in the TriTech system for E911 response. Indicated that he is active with continuing to advance the Statewide Centerline Initiative and that Ramsey County continues to roll out more mobile work and applications.

8) MnDOT Special Presentation

Mike Reynolds and Tiffany Dagon of MnDOT's Metro Office gave a presentation of their developing Traffic Impact Analysis tools and data. MnDOT see's MetroGIS' Address Point tool as a potential model for how many agencies that have road construction and event impact data could contribute and share so conflicts and impacts could be better anticipated, detected and mitigated.

Key goals for a potential initiative would be the shared data and common services which could arise and be utilized as well as significant benefit to the counties and cities with enhanced ability to glance at the next year's upcoming events and construction for scheduling or re-scheduling of maintenance or projects.

Emphasis is not on 'control', rather, on connecting the right people at each agencies and having reliable centralized data available to all; heightened awareness of the activity of other agencies for anticipatory planning and a more deliberate inter-agency planning process.

The presentation given by Reynolds and Dagon is available at the Agenda link for the January 9, 2014 meeting on the MetroGIS Website in PDF format. Please contact Geoff Maas for a copy of the presentation in PowerPoint format.

This project arose at MnDOT three years ago as MnDOT was seeking to better coordinate its work internally, minimize conflicts and redundancy by developing a systematized method for finding projects.

As MnDOT is seeking external partners, it may be better to develop and deploy a tool and resource not centralized at MnDOT (to avoid firewall issues).

Questions for MNDOT from the Group:

Henry: Have your reached out to the cities and counties already for this project?

Dagon: Our Area Managers have begun to talk with the counties, taking this in steps rather than trying to do everything at once At present, the most frequent and largest conflicts are between MnDOT projects and county projects on the road network of the Metro.

Henry: This kind of work needs to take place at the municipal level as well, very interesting tool, very useful for detecting other agencies projects.

Maloney: I can certainly see future uses for this tool for to a wider range of stakeholders interests especially private utility companies, this could be critical for the timing of projects., the early inclusion of cities would be very helpful.

Dagon: A MnDOT-City-County collaboration would be ideal, MnDOT wants to contribute not be the main controlling interest; everyone needs to enter in, contribute their data, monitor and report issues as they arise, all parties would be getting the same benefit and intelligence from the tool.

Chinander: Has there been thought about the impact to evacuation routes, I would hate to see those missing, they are part of the transportation management plans, might be good to include the point of contact that is mobilized for evacuation Impact system: currently looking evacuation routes fromt eh cities.

Knippel: I would hope this is not a duplication of effort of the existing Road Mapping Application. We (counties) would hate to have to submit information twice or duplicate effort on our end.

Reynolds: Not a duplication of the existing application, would replace it. Hoping ArcGIS online would be the platform to work on this in.

Givens: We know we need to modernize or retire the existing road closure application; this would be a means to do that. One of the good features is the ability to reuse data for known events, like a place where annual flooding or a parade is known and repeats; can reuse that data from year to year.

Brown: Given the public's ability to consume the information this would improve the way government can communicate what is being done.

Reynolds: Yes, significant benefit to have agencies use the same end point rather than an separate application for everyone; we don't want people checking a city, then a county, then MnDOT; has the ability to go to one place.

Swenson: This is good, and that you are seeking assistance on this. We (counties) need to know what to set up on the 'back end' to support this, so you can have many applications drawing off the same core dataset.; we would be interested in seeking what contacts you already have inside our organizations. County staff will need to know who the area managers are, directing them to come to the county's appropriate staff.

Dagon: Our area managers likely don't want to act as 'go-betweens', rather, we need to make this as smooth as possible. We agree getting the right contacts at the outset is essential.

Kotz: It is obvious this is a great idea, makes a lot of sense and there is real value to all involved, and partnering through MetroGIS may be the way to go. Let me give you a better understanding of MetroGIS, we are a voluntary group with limited funding, a particular organization will take the lead and invite others to join, if the Coordinating Committee decides this is a priority then it gets added to our work plan and we assess what available resources (funding, part of Geoff's time, roles of participating stakeholders) can be allocated.

Maas: Thanks to Mike and Tiffany for preparing and presenting to the group, we can follow up further in the coming weeks.

9) Policy Board Activity Brief
A brief summary of the recent activity of the Policy Board from their last meeting on October 23, 2013, this included:

Adoption of a Resolution of Support for Free and Open Data;
Direction of a Letter of Support to metro county Board Chairs and Administrators for county governments to adopt policies to make public their 'public geospatial data'; outreach to city and other agencies to follow through 2014.

Next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2014; this will only be convened if there is a *clear need* or *relevant policy matter* for consideration, otherwise the Coordinator will direct a summary update notice email to the Policy Board members in lieu of a meeting.

10) Existing Project Updates

10a) MetroGIS Website
Contract with vendor (High Monkey, Roseville, MN) signed in December,
Production on new site began on Dec 18
Target dates for User Experience Testing: Feb 24 through March 7, 2014
Target date for site launch: April 1, 2014

10b) Statewide Centerlines Initiative
Pilot Plan Phase 1: Collection and documentation of MnDOT Business Requirements
MnGeo setting up an instance of ESRI's Roads and Highways Module for testing

10c) Address Point Editing Tool Version 2.0
User acceptance testing in January
Expected completion in February

10d) Address Point Aggregation Project
Successfully tested aggregating data from Dakota County using DNR GDRS technology
Working toward aggregation test with Carver County

11) 2014 Work Plan Review and Approval
Maas walked the Committee through the items on the proposed Work Plan and the anticipated funding levels available from the Metropolitan Council.

Key points included:
Need for a Work Group and Champion for the Public/Private Data Sharing work and possible summit.

Beyond the Metro outreach would be primarily concerned with building awareness and relationships and not focused on a particular set of work in 2014.

Stormsewer Dataset work will be focused on continued research, development of business needs to be served and outreach; not focused on technology or tools yet.

Maas reiterated that the MetroGIS Work Plan is a living document and open to continual review and revision at each meeting through the recommendation of any stakeholder and approval of the Committee.

Motion to approve the 2014 Work Plan: Motion, Kotz, Second, Chinander, motion carried.
Adopted 2014 Work Plan document is to be publicly available on the MetroGIS website.

12) Minnesota Geospatial Commons Release 1.0 (Internal)

Dan Ross presented the first iteration of the forthcoming Geospatial Commons to the Committee, demonstrating the overall view, functionality and features to be part of the Commons.

The Commons will be a single place to get shared geospatial data, resources and web services, applications and to exchange knowledge and ideas. The commons will essentially replace the major state agency sites. Ross stressed that the success of the Commons will depend on the entire geospatial community

Group: A group discussion about the GDRS (Geospatial Resource Site) technology behind the Commons including concerns the ability of the GDRS to serve the variety of stakeholder needs to populate and provide data to the Commons. Ross made the distinction between the GDRS technology and an instance of the GDRS applied to a specific use. Ross also indicated that a non-GDRS solution of web-enabled folders will be available. If a publisher's data is in a standard format, it can be pushed to the Commons.

In developing the Commons concept, over several years MnGeo has reached out to the community to get information about what is desired and collected a significant list of items and user stories about what the community wants to see. As we started to build it, we re-examined those priorities again.

At present the Commons is developed with CKAN, open source and written in Python (familiar to a large share of the GIS community) and has a strong user group out there in this environment (driven by the Federal usage of CKAN);

We anticipate opening it up in early July, each agency will have its own site and will control of their own data; we will support more than just geospatial data if that is desired by the community. As you dive into each dataset there will be stronger descriptor language and metadata available. Metadata is a must; we cannot include data without accompanying metadata. We will deploy 'geo-broker' tools to put administrators on the data coming in; we want to make it easy for your agency to get data in.

We have not incorporated a 'clip and ship' feature as this wasn't originally requested; if this is important to you please let us know. There will also be available the place to post comments, discuss the data, provide ratings and discussions.

The site is available, however, it is not formally or openly public yet, we will be working on branding and logos as well shortly to 'pretty it up'. I would encourage members of this group to check the progress of

the site over the coming weeks and months. By the [GIS/LIS] conference this fall, we should be well populated, up and running.

Bitner: When searching for data, will it be tagged or distinct?

Ross: Good question, data will appear in multiple categories; make it easy for you to find things, searchable by category. Again, watch the URL, send us comments, tell us what you like, tell us what is missing, that needs to be built in the future. Geospatial Commons URL: **gisdata.mn.gov**

13) Next Meeting
Scheduled for **Thursday, March 27, 2014**

14) Adjourn
Chair Bitner adjourned the meeting at 3:26 PM

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Agenda Minutes

Thursday, March 27, 2014, 1 PM - 3:30 PM
Metro Counties Government Center, 2099 University Avenue, St Paul
Minutes Approved: June 26, 2014

Members Attending:

Matt Baker, Metropolitan Airports Commission	David Brandt, Washington County (Vice Chair)
William Brown, Hennepin County	Nancy Read, Metro Mosquito Control
Ben Butzow, MnDOT	Gordon Chinander, MESB
Erik Dahl, EQB (Chair-Elect)	Jim Fritz, Xcel Energy
Francis Harvey, U of M (alternate)	Eric Haugen, Resource Data, Inc.
Brad Henry, University of Minnesota	Peter Henschel, Carver County
Randy Knippel, Dakota County	Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council
Matt Koukol, Ramsey County	Hal Watson, MnDNR
Dan Ross, MnGeo	Donovan Koxvold, Hennepin County (alternate)
Ron Wencl, USGS	

Members Absent:

John Slusarczyk, Anoka County	Ben Verbick, LOGIS
James Bunning, Scott County	Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview/Metro Cities
Hal Busch, City of Bloomington/Metro Cities	David Bitner, db Spatial LLC
Len Kne, University of Minnesota (sent alternate)	Jeff Matson, CURA/University of Minnesota
Gary Swenson, Hennepin County (sent alternate)	Sally Wakefield, Non-Profit Representative

Guests:

Carrie Magnuson, Ramsey-Washington-Metro Watershed District	Jon Hoekenga, Metropolitan Council
Curtis Carlson, North Star MLS	Matt McGuire, Metropolitan Council
Will Craig, University of Minnesota	Chris Mavis, Hennepin County Survey Department
Joe Sapletal, Dakota County	

Staff:

Geoff Maas, MetroGIS Coordinator	Paul Peterson, MetroGIS Project Manager

1) Call to Order
Chair Dahl called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm

2) Approval of Meeting Agenda
Motion: Kotz, Second: Read, motion carried, agenda approved.

3) Approve Meeting Minutes from January 9, 2014
Motion: Brandt, Second: Butzow, motion carried, agenda approved.

4) Acknowledgement of William (Bill) Brown's contributions to MetroGIS
Coordinator Maas provided a brief overview of Bill's career with Hennepin County and his contributions to the collaborative and presented him with the first-ever MetroGIS 'Benchmark Award' for his decade-plus of work with the group. Bill addressed the group, acknowledging the successes made possible by having been afforded the opportunity to collaborate with partners outside of Hennepin County through MetroGIS.

5) Erik Dahl Committee Eligibility Discussion
Erik Dahl was elected to the chair of the Committee at this meeting on January 9, 2014. Subsequent to his election, he moved from his position with the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District to one with the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board. The Coordinating Committee needed to deliberate and vote on his eligibility to (a) remain an eligible member of the Coordinating Committee and (b) if so, serve in the capacity of Chair, as per his prior election.

Erik presented a brief overview of the function and purpose of the Environmental Quality Board, restated his interest in the collaborative and his desire to continue to serve as Chair should the Committee determine him eligible.

A motion to retain Erik Dahl as a member of the Coordinating Committee in the 'Special Expertise' category was offered by Mark Kotz, seconded by Brady Henry, with unanimous approval.

6) Election of Coordinating Committee Chair:
Vice Chair Brandt asked if any other members were interested in serving as Chair of the Committee. Hearing no other members expressing interest, Mark Kotz motioned to re-elect Erik Dahl to the Chair, seconded by Brad Henry, voting: unanimous approval.

7) Lightning Round Updates

Maas (MetroGIS): Maas thanked the group for their attendance and offered a welcome to the guests visiting the meeting. He indicated that the new MetroGIS website was viewable (in draft form) on the vendor's development site and that a more formal use-experience outreach would be offered in the coming weeks. Launch of the new site is presently planned for April 28. Maas indicated that a 3-page brief of 12 months (November 2012-November 2013) worth of download activity summary was available from the MetroGIS website homepage. Maas and Metropolitan Council GIS Manager Mark Kotz also indicated that the Metropolitan Council is allowing MetroGIS to carry over $45,000 in unspent funds into 2014.

Dahl (Environmental Quality Board): Dahl thanked the group for re-instating him as a member and re-electing him as Chair. He indicated that his most significant present work assignment with the EQB is review and development of regulations on silica sand extraction and that the EQB will be offering a GIS-based environmental projects 'tracker' on line soon. This 'tracker' would enable viewers to see where and what kind of environmental projects are being assessed around the state.

Brandt (Washington County): Brandt indicated there were no major updates from Washington County.

Chinander: Chinander discussed the work progress being made with local addressing and tracking the development and refinement of national standards for Next Gen 9-1-1 such as the forthcoming NENA address standard. He re-iterated the combined focus on a single centerline solution as being a desirable goal, and that the work of the various groups serves that larger goal.

Knippel (Dakota County): Knippel described that Dakota, along with other metro counties are changing their data availability and distribution policies. On March 25, 2014, Dakota County adopted a 'free and open public geospatial data' resolution similar to that of Ramsey and Hennepin counties. He indicated that Dakota County would be addressing the revenue differential (lost revenue from data sales) in its budget cycle for 2015. Dakota County will be making its data available from its own website, and will coordinate with MetroGIS/DataFinder (provide a metadata link) and the Geospatial Commons when it comes on line as appropriate. Dakota County is also working with ArcGIS On Line, however has identified that the cost, with over 200 users anticipated, each requiring a named account would translate into an expense of over $35,000/year. Knippel indicated that there is a strong case for collaborative development of applications in JavaScript for producing similar desirable results. Knippel also introduced Dakota County Senior GIS Specialist Joe Sapletal, the key presenter later in the meeting)

Henschel (Carver County): Henschel indicated that a free and open public geospatial data resolution, similar to that of Dakota, Hennepin and Ramsey, would be voted on before the County on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 and that Carver County has approved and adopted geospatial data disclaimer language that is essentially the same as that developed and adopted by Anoka County.

Harvey (University of Minnesota): Pass; he indicated that he would have more detailed and relevant updates at our next meeting.

Kotz (Metropolitan Council): Kotz indicated that the Metropolitan Council intends to collect imagery for the metropolitan region in 2016 and is looking to coordinate with interested partners. The Council needs a minimum of 2-foot resolution, leaf off and only for the region of the seven metropolitan counties. Additionally, Kotz described a recent request of a Council web services user inquiring about dynamic services, which enable the end user to modify the default symbology. He asked the group if they have been receiving similar requests or if this option is something they'd like to see. Donovan Koxvold (Hennepin County) indicated that they have received similar requests as well.

Watson (Department of Natural Resources): Hal Watson introduced himself as the new representative to MetroGIS from the DNR, replacing Tim Loesch as the former representative to the Committee. Watson indicated that he is the new GIS Section manager for DNR and has been deeply involved in the Geospatial Commons project, with the backend programming and

development. He stated he is also finishing up work on the MnTopo application, which is presently available through the MnGeo site and will offer enhanced tools to view and download LIDAR data and related datasets.

Watson described another initiative which is receiving significant support in DNR leadership: a pilot project for developing a parcel fabric integration solution in Minnesota's Arrowhead Region. Partners in the initiative include the Superior National Forest, Lake County, Cook County and St Louis County. Watson stressed that while this is not a 'metro' effort, it is a significant opportunity to observe and learn from and to eventually develop a state-wide parcel fabric solutions. This type of work is receiving much higher priority from the DNR than in the past and is a good indicated of where things are headed. He closed by stating that the DNR is also focused on increasing its development of mobile data applications.
Finally, we are spending a lot of energy on mobile data applications; large initiative.

Read (Metropolitan Mosquito Control Board): Read stated that the Metro-Area geocode is 'not dead; that Pete Olson is keeping it alive and that it still maintains an average of about 1000 hits a week, with occasional larger hits. We may need to develop a maintenance plan on that so that updated parcel and streets data still enter that system for those that continue to use the tool.

Butzow (Minnesota Department of Transportation): Butzow indicated that there was to be some follow-up on the proposed Traffic Impact Data Project that was presented at the last MetroGIS Coordinating Committee meeting (January 9, 2014). MnDOT's Mike Reynolds is developing a proposal outline that will be delivered to county and city contacts for review, refinement and further discussion. Brad Henry asked if this initiative would integrate with the existing 511 system or utilize Google Map technology, Butzow replied that he was not sure but can carry that question back to Reynolds and the team at MnDOT.

Haugen (Research Data, Inc.): Haugen reminded the Committee that the Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA) spring conference is coming up on May 6, 2014 (http://www.mhta.org/). He indicated the MHTA is not-limited to just private sector interests and that government input and participation are welcome. Also indicated that the conference is a good one, worthy of consideration by members of the group, and it has been 'eerily silent' from the GIS sector of late and a stronger GIS presence would be most welcome.

Fritz (Xcel Energy): No major updates from the utilities sector; Fritz indicated he is interested in the possible public/private data sharing discussion and would reserve his comments for that agenda item.

Wencl (U.S. Geological Survey): Wencl indicated that spring is 'flood season' and that stream gauge monitoring application and data would be receiving attention; he made note of the new national web map application for hazards mapping, a link to which was on the MnGeo EPC website; Wencl also took the opportunity to thank Bill Brown for his service and contributions to the GIS community and that working with Bill provided the USGS with the ability to work effectively with Hennepin County.

Baker (Metropolitan Airports Commissioner): Baker indicated that the MAC is looking for a paid undergraduate GIS student to fill an upcoming project position.

Koxvold (Hennepin County GIS): Koxvold reminded the group that on February 11, 2014, Hennepin County adopted a free and open geospatial data policy resolution and his department has been working with others in the county on a task force to evaluate which data are public and effective methods of distribution. Data will be available through an FTP site off of the county's website, with several datasets being the 'first wave' to be released these include: address points, county centerlines, municipal boundaries, the county boundary, commissioner boundaries, 2-foot contours and the 2012 county aerials images as a WMS service. Hennepin is working to pro-actively meet the public demand for the data. In Hennepin County's GIS office they are upgrading to Arc 10.2 Server and on task by June 2014 to have this completed and then upgrading all desktops to 10.2 as well. Koxvold also stressed there is a 'big push' to deploy ArcGIS online, and GIS is working with Survey and Public Works to handle the administration of it.

Mavis (Hennepin County Survey Department): Mavis indicated that the survey department is still working with the city of Minneapolis to complete its corrections and monuments. Survey is adopting ArcGIS as a method for not only distribution of its information but also for collection of information and streamlining its workflow including implementation of corner monument maintenance, inspection of monuments, changes in attribution, inclusion of photos as well as mobile and external work.

Brown (Hennepin County Survey Department): Brown reported that he is pretty much here just to "fill in if either Chris (Mavis) or Donovan (Koxvold) ran out of things to say" and did not provide further updates.

Craig (University of Minnesota): Craig indicated that at the most-recent NSGIC conference in Washington DC, the federal General Accounting Office has been approaching the FGDC and are interested in the better integration of address data, reduction of redundancy on that issue and a smarter move toward better coordination at all levels to perform that work more suitably. Craig mentioned that the Census Bureau is will to host a collaborative site to post and share outside of their Title XIII (non-sharable) data resources. Craig mentioned that moving forward in a coordinated way from local, county, state and federal levels on the address issue is rising in importance.

Henry (University of Minnesota, Special Expertise): Henry indicated his mind disappointment that the members of the Committee did not respond to his request from the last meeting about how their agencies are integrating infrastructure asset management or who to contact about the topic. He stressed that many agencies and jurisdictions have little idea about the full investment that have and maintain in infrastructure and that awareness, inventory, tracking, maintenance and reporting through GIS of these assets is essential.

Henry stressed the presence of MN2050, an initiative to increase the awareness of our infrastructure, it condition and its value to the function of our economy and institutions. An important component of MN2050 will be to get policy makers better aware of this investment and how it needs to be better understood and funded. Henry indicated there will be and education and outreach component of MN 2050, as well as an assessment management survey of which agencies are engaged in digital asset management. He stressed his desire to link this effort back to MetroGIS so we can avoid 're-inventing the wheel', he will reach out again to this group to help determine 'who is doing what' in your various agencies. In response Randy Knippel indicated that Dakota County was in process to acquire an asset management system, that there are multiple off-the-shelf systems to choose from and that, unfortunately, GIS was not a major consideration as these are primarily work order tracking and management systems for specific purposes needed by public works and related departments. Matt Koukol volunteered that Ramsey County is also early in its RFP development process and is currently determining 'who is doing what' and confirmed that there may not be sufficient overlap and communication between the GIS and engineering professionals to ensure the full set of questions are being asked; the two fields have different values and approaches to the issue which poses a challenge.

Koukol (Ramsey County): Koukol reminded the group that on February 11, 2014 (just hours before Hennepin County) the Ramsey County Board of Directors adopted a resolution in support of free and open geospatial data. He indicated that some data is already available from Ramsey County's website. Koukol indicated that there is a technical governance group at work in Ramsey County that has assembled a 'skeleton' plan where almost all FOIA-able (Freedom Of Information Act) data could be released, they are working on resources for the sheriffs' office to lay some ground work on what to do and how to do it. Additionally, Koukol indicated that he remains engaged with the Statewide Centerlines Initiative and a conflation project to share data more effectively with MnDOT. Finally he mentioned a joint project with Washington County using ArcGIS to track recycling in the eastern metro region is underway.

8) Policy Board Update
Maas reminded the group that no meeting was convened of the Policy Board on January 22, and asked the members if there were significant fiscal or policy issues that they were facing that could appropriately be brought before the policy body.
N. Read suggested that the Policy Board be convened as a 'check in' and given an update on the progress being made on the free and open data initiative around the metro. A brief discussion took place where it was decided that waiting until he majority of the county GIS data was actually available and downloadable with some indication of impact to county operations would be more appropriate. Coordinator Maas was directed by the Committee to not convene the Policy Board for its next meeting date of April 23, 2014, providing an email update in lieu of that meeting.

(The Committee recessed for a 10 minute break)

9) Address Points Development

9a) Revisiting the Original Vision for a Regional Address Point Solution
Mark Kotz gave a brief presentation on the shared and approved original vision, mission and need for a shared address point solution. He stressed the goal of having and maintaining one authoritative source, the efficiency gained and benefit of having a single place to validate the data and the many needs that can be met by this resource.

MetroGIS' vision for address points is for the recording and availability of each point location of every official address as defined by the appropriate address authority, updated daily or weekly, in a standard format for the entire region updated in a way that is both long-term and sustainable, with the data originating from the authoritative source.

Out of scope issues: Kotz indicated that there are some issues that were deemed 'out-of-scope' for the project. Primary among these included the 'how' of address creation; so long as the authoritative source creates the address, 'how' they determine the address (i.e. which city department makes the determination, their process working with developers, their unique naming conventions, etc.) is not within the ambit of the project.

Kotz summarized the overall address point process through the roles of the participants.
- An official address authority: creates and assigns the address to its location point;
- Counties can partner with cities to aggregate these points to a county level;
- Regional and state agencies can provide further aggregation and distribution of the data, contribute support through funding for the process and refinement of the editing and aggregation applications.

Chinander: We have talked about the city being a single source as the authoritative source, but *which* department within each city?

Kotz: While important, this consideration is out of scope for us, the city needs to determine that on its own. We can look to the Dakota County Joint Powers Agreement model for some guidance.It states that each city task a specific staff for the county to work with.

Harvey: Does the model deal with unofficial/inofficial addresses? Examples might include an intersection description or landmark.

Kotz: These are also considered out of scope for the project. The data standard and the editor tool give the authoritative source the ability to load in what they want.

Fritz: How far along is this process?

Kotz: Officially, there are none presently ready (0 of 7 counties, 0 of 150+ address authorities) however, we will be hearing from each of the county managers in the next agenda item on their current status.

9b) County Address Point Status

Knippel: Dakota County is between 95-99% finished, we will have our data up on our site shortly.

Koxvold: Hennepin County will be putting up what they have once their data assessment team clears it. Hennepin County began its own address project over a year and a half ago, defined its own standard that meets a broad number of needs. We will be assessing the MetroGIS tool to determine if it meets our needs or can be enhanced as a 'Version 3.0' to do so.

Koukol: In Ramsey County, we have four municipalities actively using the tool and the rest is augmented with parcel (centroid) points, so we have a county-wide coverage but as per the quality of the suggestion solution.

Henschel: In Carver, we are presently testing the tool; the point development process is in the works.

Brandt: At present, we have none available in Washington County. We will be working with our cities to get them together.

Chinander: How difficult is it to add and modify the attributes?

Kotz: That is a data standard/specification question. We may want to revise our specifications once the NENA standard is finalized.

Sapletal: The tool itself is dependent only on a few attributes: PIN, latitude and longitude, the user/address authority then adds the rest in; simple interface as Joe (Sapletal) is about to show us, to add more attributes as they see fit.

Chinander: We should contemplate checking the address points as they are developed against the centerlines so we can assure that they are working together. We will be getting a mix of actual and interpolated locations, want to be able to get one definitive 'hit' if we can and have higher confidence in the data.

9c) Address Editor Tool 2.0 Presentation: Joe Sapletal, Dakota county

Sapletal provided an overview of the address point process, touching on many of the same key overall points as Mark Kotz' presentation: cities/address authorities create the data and pour it into the 'funnel' of the county where it gets aggregated at the regional and state level.

Sapletal touched on the following specifics of the tool in his presentation, these included:
- Overall technical function of the tool
- Upgrades available in Version 2.0 of the tool: Copy and paste, multi-point editor, default attributes
- Basemap options and settings
- Control of points in the area of one's authority/jurisdiction (can't edit outside your jurisdiction)
- Unique IDs ticking back to the user table
- Find tool, layering tool, ID tool (finding info about underlying parcel)
- Search features
- Log In Table
- Core tool functions: fence selection, exporting options and print out options
- Geo-referencing tool (ability to overlay plats and other documents for reference)

Sapletal ran through an example of creating a point, demonstrated the general function of many of the tools in the Address Point Editor and offered to answer questions.

(Sapletal's PowerPoint presentation is available as an appendix to these minutes)

Carlson: Is there a formal validation process with this tool?

Sapletal: We have several verification scripts, but there is at this time no built-in verification routine.

Chinander: Is a (globally) unique ID a possibility? Does the MetroGIS data standard cover the regional, city or county 'code'?

Sapletal/Kotz: Code is unique to the address authority; it is possible that there could be duplicates when aggregate. By adding the GNIS ID on the front of the number generated by the authority effectively removes this issue.

Knippel: Originally, the city and county processes for approval of the plat and assigning an address were not totally synced up in terms of their work flow, such as approval of an address prior to the approval of a plat. EMS needs the address before work even begins as there will be workers and equipment on that site (at its address) before anything is actually built. With the tool you can effectively 'drop a dot' to get things started with, however, the county will still need to do some final checks to ensure it is in the right spot as the development fills in. The ability to bring in the preliminary plats is very helpful with this tool. This can potentially help eliminate the usual 'round robin' of notifications.

Chinander: There was a time in Scott County when over 20 different developments were going in at once and it is impossible for a deputy or EMS to know where these are all at.

Read: Can the end user see the history of changes made the points and the database?

Knippel/Sapletal: We do generate and log change reports. We compare the feature classes between databases and can track what kinds of changes have taken place. Todd (Lusk) in our office generates these with indications of CHANGED or MOVED, we keep them for our own tracking, but this would not be evident to the final user. We do version and archive them internally.

Read: When will they be pooled (aggregated)? How good are they now? Do we have to wait for every county to be perfect before we can start using them?

Kotz: When they are published by the counties, we can then aggregate them and make them available.

10) Work Plan Updates

10a) Address Points Aggregation Project
Jon Hoekenga (Metropolitan Council) indicated that tools are being developed by the DNR that will help data providers publish data (including address points) to the **GDRS**. The Metropolitan Council is willing to aggregate address points **monthly** and make them available on DataFinder until such time that the **GDRS** and **Geospatial Commons** are ready.

10b) Free and Open Public Geospatial Data;
Maas provided a recap of updates from previously in the meeting:
- Ramsey and Hennepin Counties adopted supporting resolutions on February 11, 2014
- Dakota County adopted a supporting resolution on March 25, 2014
- The issue was up for a vote before the Carver County Board on April 1, 2014.
- Anoka County has developed a disclaimer and at last notice is not planning to adopt a resolution, just to simply make their data available.
- The status of the issue at Scott County and Washington County as to adoption of a resolution was unknown.

10c) Support for the Minnesota Geospatial Commons;
Dan Ross provided an update on the development work of and features of Release 2.0 of the Commons (gisdata.mn.gov)

The website and 'GeoBroker' will offer **targeted search capabilities** (using key words to find datasets), **notification services and collaboration support capabilities** (the ability to comment on datasets/receive notices if changes occur to datasets), **enhanced account administration** and **automated updates** through the GDRS and GeoBroker. Users will also be able to use key words to find datasets and the ability to comment on datasets and receive notices if changes occur.

Ross also indicated that a Preliminary Operations Plan is in development and shared the anticipated staffing plan to support the Commons. Anticipated staff resources include a 0.5 FTE Content Manager, a 0.5 FTE Supervisor, 1.0 FTE Geospatial Services Administrator, 1.0 FTE Database Administrator, 1.0 Commons/GDRS/GeoBroker Administrator and 1.0 FTE Applications Developer.

10d) Address Points Editor Tool Version 2.1 – Enhancements;
Kotz re-iterated that the Council has carried over funding from MetroGIS's 2013 budget and enhancements and upgrades to the Address Point Editor tool (as 2.1 or 3.0) are possible if desired by the user community.

10e) Support for the Statewide Centerlines Initiative;
Maas gave a cursory update that a MnDOT Business Rules Workshop was conducted on January 27, 2014 at Arden Hills and the next key event of the project will be a toll testing session hosted by ESRI at their Eagan offices in Spring 2014.

10d) Increased Sharing Beyond the Metro;
Maas indicated that this initiative is intended to be a simple offering of outreach and relationship building with the counties surrounding the Metro (including Wisconsin) to share our research on free and open data, share our work plan and determine if areas of shared need or interest can be advanced further in coming months. Action on this item will not begin formally until MetroGIS' new website has been fully deployed and launched.

10e) Private/Public Data Sharing Summit;
Maas indicated that while interest remains in enhancing public/private data flow, this initiative lacks many key pre-requisites such as owner, champion, plan and work team before it can begin work.

10f) Stormsewer Project Research

Maas described the project as still in fact-finding and research mode. He updated the group with a graphic of the various permitting and enforcement authorities which govern stormwater in Minnesota and stated that the next logical step for the project would be for stakeholder agencies to create a 'business need' document relevant to stormsewer network data.

11) Next Coordinating Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 26, 2014
12) Adjournment: Chair Dahl thanked the attendees and adjourned the meeting at 3:33 pm

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 26, 2014, 1:00 PM
Metro Counties Government Center, 2099 University Avenue, St Paul
Approved, September 25, 2014

Members Attending:

John Slusarczyk, Anoka County	David Brandt, Washington County (Vice Chair)
Nancy Read, Metro Mosquito Control	Ben Verbick, LOGIS
Gordon Chinander, MESB	Jim Fritz, Xcel Energy
Erik Dahl, EQB (Chair)	Peter Henschel, Carver County
Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council	Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview/Metro Cities
James Bunning, Scott County	Hal Watson, MnDNR
Matt Koukol, Ramsey County	Hal Busch, City of Bloomington/Metro Cities
Dan Ross, MnGeo	Gary Swenson, Hennepin County
Len Kne, University of Minnesota (alternate)	David Bitner, db Spatial LLC
Curt Carlson, Real Estate Representative	

Members Absent:

Matt Baker, Metropolitan Airports Commission	Eric Haugen, Resource Data, Inc.
Ben Butzow, MnDOT	Francis Harvey, University of Minnesota
Ron Wencl, USGS	Brad Henry, University of Minnesota
Jeff Matson, CURA/University of Minnesota	Sally Wakefield, Non-Profit Representative
Randy Knippel, Dakota County	

Guests:

Marty Millhayer, Intern, Xcel Energy	Jon Hoekenga, Metropolitan Council

Staff:
Geoff Maas, MetroGIS Coordinator

1) Call to Order
Chair Dahl called the meeting to order at 1:11 pm

2) Approval of Meeting Agenda
Motion: Chinander, Second: Koukol, motion carried, agenda approved.

3) Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2014
Motion: Kotz, Second: Bitner, motion carried, minutes approved.

4) Appointment of Curtis Carlson to the Real Estate Seat
Curtis Carlson, GIS Coordinator at NorthStar MLS submitted a letter to MetroGIS in April 2014 expressing interest in filling the real estate seat vacancy. The letter was circulated to the Committee members who were encouraged to contact Curtis if they so desired. Curtis gave a summary of his career to date, his work at Northstar MLS and reiterated his interest in becoming a member of the group.

Motion to approve: Bitner, Second: Chinander, approved unanimously by vote, motion carried.

Chair Dahl welcomed Mr. Carlson to the MetroGIS Coordinating Committee.

5) Lightning Round

Dahl (Environmental Quality Board): The Environmental Quality Board is presently developing a new website, to be launched soon.

Brandt (Washington County): Several projects in the works in Washington County, including a project with summer interns collecting ADA ramps for a ramp assessment study as well as a park inventory. Washington County is still engaged with Ramsey County on a joint recycling project as well.

Swenson (Hennepin County): We have a great deal of activity centered on open data. To date, we have released nine (9) datasets to the public on our website as of the end of April, and we have prioritized a list of twenty to twenty-five additional datasets for review for release; we should be able to move through that process by August of this year. Hennepin County has developed an internal process for reviewing the data among departments. Public release of the data has raised some concerns about exposing current maintenance procedures and routines. Stewards of the data within the various departments have the opportunity to respond within the review process and we also have the county attorney involved in review. We have received some good feedback from the public about serving up the data and we are taking into consideration the requests for data identified by the public. One key issue for us with releasing data to the public is the Safe At Home law, this is a significant discussion topic internally as to how we will handle it.

Another issue we are discussing internally is determining a clear definition of what is GIS data. The desired to add geospatial functions to other data is blurring that line. We are working toward a clearer definition of what we determine to be GIS data and what is not.

Bunning (Scott County): No updates at this time.

Henschel (Carver County): No updates at this time.

Bitner (db Spatial LLC): I will mention that the FOSS4G conference will be in Portland, Oregon this year, September 8-13, 2014.

Verbick (LOGIS/GIS-LIS Consortium): Through LOGIS we are working with public safety to increase their awareness of the data including addressing, address points, addressable centerlines and the address point editor.

Slusarczyk (Anoka County): Our main focus right now is public safety data system implementation; we've been working to get our centerlines data prepared.

Read (Metro Mosquito Control): I'm happy to mention that the good old MetroGIS geocoder is still getting around 1000 hits per day, not all of these are Mosquito Control. Additionally, Mosquito Control is seeking locations of beehives being kept in the metro. Is there anyone in the group working with beekeepers?

Carlson (Northstar MLS): Nancy, I believe that both Minneapolis and St Paul have a beehive registry program, there is likely a permit issued for beekeeping that could help you track those.

Kotz (Metropolitan Council): As you can see from the window, we've been busy, the Council formally opened the Green Line June 14th. We've also launched the a new Transit website, with increased GIS capacity including the Trip Planner and revamped our geocoder to support them, we are seeing 15,000 to 20,000 hits per day on that. Several other issues as well, the recent sinkhole on Phalen Avenue and the impacts of recent rain events to the sewer system. Specific to GIS, our present contract with NCompass will end in 2015 and they have approached us to offer to sell the rights to that data. The interest of the Council is to have a source of continually updated data, not in having the rights to data and being responsible for upgrading it. If you are interested in purchasing that data, please contact me.

Also, we have supported a socio economic data resource website within DataFinder, this had been maintained by Will Craig at the University of Minnesota. We are considering ending our support for it as the Metropolitan Council no longer has a business need for it and its use is limited; recent tracking indicated it is receiving approximately 100 uses per year.

Hoekenga (Metropolitan Council): I will provide updates relevant to the Address Points later in the agenda.

Kne (U-Spatial, University of Minnesota)**:** We have a number of University of Minnesota masters students looking at solar potential, working from David Brandt's work and using LIDAR to produce a 1 meter resolution of solar potential for the entire state. We are focusing on quality assurance of the data this summer, the data needs some work, but we are making progress.
We are looking at the thousands of solar installations and analyzing modeled vs. actual potential for solar capacity. This work has resulting in a number of derivative projects as well including a 1-meter resolution service model. We also went through the processing work in dealing with solar models statewide, putting up on GitHub calling it our "pleasingly parallel" process, able to port ArcGIS Server, run it on their core and load the Python modules.

Maloney (City of Shoreview/Metro Cities): While I am the city engineer for Shoreview, I am involved with a large amount of interagency work specifically the Northeast Metro Groundwater Management and Metropolitan Council Water Supply. What I see in these groups in the continual need for consistent data of all types, we do see a "siloed" approach to mapping resources and data; agency turf issues, being protective of their data and information, especially regarding groundwater resources. For us to address these issues in a practical way we need to refer to the same datasets. Water supply issues will be going on for a long time, it is so much more than the lake levels of White Bear Lake, that is the 'media level topic', but there are many issues and details that water supply providers will be facing in coming years. Again from a city engineer perspective it really appears like things are siloed between agencies.

Ross (Minnesota Geospatial Information Office): Mark, I'd mention that the Legislature has earmarked two million dollars for groundwater data.

Maloney: That's a great start, we'll need it.

Carlson (Northstar MLS): Working since 2007 in the real estate industry since GIS, at Northstar MLS we process real approximately 350 to 400 new listings and a similar number of sales in nearly 60 counties across Minnesota and Wisconsin every day. Northstar MLS focuses primarily on residential real estate. We use a three-stage geocoder, making use of MetroGIS' geocoder, the US Postal Service API and Texas A & M geocoder; a 3 stage system that is SQL based. I'm glad to be here and part of the group.

Chinander (Metro Emergency Services Board): We are working closely with the data producers of the region to get the 911 database in sync with GIS database; we are working with the Statewide Centerline collaborative and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to figure out data issues for 911 call routing, location validation of 911. Recently there was some media attention about 911 calls from Minneapolis routed to Queens, New York. We are researching exactly what happened; appears to be an issue with T-Mobile which doesn't work with every phone. The issue made news in the United Kingdom, but it appears that the media really blew the story out of proportion.

Koukol (Ramsey County): Our recent efforts have focused on TriTech system integration. A little over a month ago, we got our parcel fabric fully implemented, the data is ready, we've established the work flow for property records and work now working with public works; ensuring we have good workflow with those departments.

Ross (Minnesota Geospatial Information Office): I'll mention the Statewide Geocoder first. It is not public, its going to be used by agencies working with private data, notably the MN Department of Health and others that have sensitive data. It will have a nine-level cascading geocoder; we may open it up eventually for broader use for seven of nine of those layers. I'll have full updates on Centerlines and Geospatial Commons later in the agenda.

Busch (City of Bloomington/Metro Cities): We are in the midst of switching our GIS system from Small World to ESRI, and we are taking that transition as an opportunity to move from the status quo and innovate, move away from silos and integrate departments range from Financial to Public Works.

Watson (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources): We contributing steadily to the Commons effort.
At the DNR we are ramping up our recreational data mapping effort, this ties together several internal divisions, trying to extend that and break down some silos internal to the DNR.

Millhayer (Xcel Energy/Summer Intern): I am an intern in Jim's [Fritz] department at Xcel and a student at St. Cloud State, just here as an observer today.

Fritz (Xcel Energy): As he mentioned, Marty is our intern for the summer, we've recently lost some staff to other departments; he is assisting with core day-to-day tasks. At present, if you are interested in acquiring transmission line data, you can revisit published USGS maps. When Xcel gets a line permitted by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commissioner, line work is submitted to the Department of Commerce through Norm Anderson (MnGeo) at the state, Department of Commerce maintains all utility line data in the Minnesota, please contact him:

Norman Anderson, Senior Research Analyst
Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo)
658 Cedar Street, Room 300, St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: 651-201-2483
Email: gisinfo.mngeo@state.mn.us

Another issue I'll mention is the need for 911 addresses for our Xcel substations throughout the state. This is something we'll need to take on and we are wondering if municipalities and counties are interested in having that for their systems, we'd like to get the ball rolling.

Maas (MetroGIS): I'll mention quickly that the new MetroGIS website is ready for launch. We are waiting for the final security checks at the MetCouncil to approve it. Not every page is complete, but we'll see it evolve with the spaced filled in over the remainder of the year. As it takes shape, your ideas and suggestions are welcome

6) Policy Board Update

Maas: The Policy Board was not convened at its last scheduled meeting data of April 23, 2014 as no issues of policy or fiscal import were identified by the Coordinating Committee or members of the MetroGIS stakeholder community. I provided the Policy Board members with a brief update of recent activity of MetroGIS including updates on Free and Open data advancements. The next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2014. Are there any issues of policy or fiscal import this body [Coordinating Committee] would like to have advanced for discussion or consideration at the Policy Board level? (No responses). Hearing none, I will update the Policy Board with our recent activity and not convene the July 23 meeting, thank you.

7) Current Work Plan Items

7a) Address Points Aggregation Project

Hoekenga: Dakota County has completed their dataset and it is now available in the DataFinder. I will be performing the manual assembly of the datasets as they come in and are in the address standard. We are working closely with Hal [Watson] at DNR with the GDRS to automate the aggregation work flow process.

Koukol: Just to add, we are putting the final touches on our data, getting it into the format with the required fields. We should have something very soon.

7b) Free and Open Data Update

Maas: I'm pleased to announce that since our last meeting Carver County and Anoka County Boards have adopted free and open data resolutions in April, bringing the total to five counties in the metro. Our understanding is that the concept is under consideration in Scott and Washington Counties. Interestingly, the bordering counties in Wisconsin are no longer licensing the data, charging only nominal duplication fees, and Polk County as of January 2014 is allowing their data out without fee or license. I will continue to monitor the issue and report back as events warrant.

7c) Support for the Minnesota Geospatial Commons [gisdata.mn.gov]

Ross: We will be ready to go live with the site very soon. We will offer a variety of search options, depending on how you want to look for data. At present, we have fifty-eight (58) data layers available with more being added all the time as well as applications.

Chinander: Is there an official state boundary file available?

Watson: The DNR is presently the custodian of a state boundary file. We've maintained that for some time, I am not sure if it is officially available on the Commons yet.

Ross: To access the Commons, there is a standard login where you create an account, choose options to participate in the RSS feed and notifications. You can follow an organization, you can follow an individual dataset, and it allows you to put in comments, create date stamps and track the newest updates. I am encouraging the group to put things into the Commons. At present, our primary focus is public data, not private or sensitive data. Agencies putting up sensitive data can manage its availability through the GDRS Broker.

Watson: We are focused primarily on state agencies right now that are actively participating. We are working directed with Jim Gonsoski, a developer at the Met Council to develop an ArcGIS add-in to assist a person to publish data into the right format so it can be 'sucked' into the system. Jim has a target of late August for that. Without a tool like that, there would be too much 'futzing' around; we want to make it easy for folks to get data into the system. I will be teaching a workshop at the fall conference, and we are working to bring in more agencies to publish. We will be working with the Met Council and some counties in test mode.

Ross: Our next steps include adding in the data (including the metadata) of up to seven (7) state agencies by late September. We've got a lot of big things to be done between now and September. I encourage you to check back at the site and see how it is changing: (gisdata.mn.gov)

7d) Address Point Editor Tool 3.0 (Enhancements)

Kotz: We are proposing further enhancements to the existing Address Point Editor Tool. I will cover this more thoroughly in Agenda Item 8b when we review project proposals.

7e) Statewide Centerline Initiative

Ross: We met in St. Cloud on June 9 for a re-cap meeting with the project partners, we will be having conference calls every two weeks with the partner group; I will review the topic in greater detail coming up in Agenda Item 8a.

7f) Sharing Beyond The Metro

Maas: This item remains 'on hold', and it can be better addressed when we have our new MetroGIS website up and some definitive findings to share with Greater Minnesota partners from the Metro Centerlines Initiative. This effort to connect with our partners in surrounding counties and see what issues we share with them and if what

we are working on would be of interest and benefit to them. This will likely be pushed out into late in the year or early 2015.

7g) Private/Public Data Sharing

Maas: This item has been part of the MetroGIS discussion for a long time. Until a core of our stakeholders offer a clearly defined business need we really don't have any means to move forward on the issue, unless anyone here has some ideas they want to act on.

Ross: In relation to the Commons regarding issue of private or sensitive data, we are actively working with Minnesota Power *(major utility provider based out of Duluth)*, they are having an internal discussion of what they can and cannot make publicly available, and we want to work with them as to how to best use the Commons and get them into the shared space.

Brandt: In Washington County, we were interested in knowing where Comcast's fiber systems were, but no one at the County was willing to sign the non-disclosure agreement that Comcast required.

Maas: We can keep the idea in the queue. I still like the idea of a summit or gathering of the interests together to meet and discuss it, if we can get people to commit to participating.

7h) Stormsewer Initiative

Maas: This item has been effectively on hold as well, I keep assembling info and research as I have time. I circulated a 3-page initiative brief on what the project could be, which has gained some interest and led to new contacts. There remains interest in the issue from a diverse set of potential data users with interesting and disparate uses for a dataset of this kind. In the near future, I am simply going to be working with the data consumer community to document its business needs and this potential project 'cook' a bit longer.

8) Proposed Projects Review

Formally Proposed Projects—Eligible for Funding

Maas: As a quick reminder the Metropolitan Council has allowed MetroGIS to carry a portion of its unspent funding from 2013 into its 2014 budget, equating to $38,000 being available. At our last meeting (March 27) I encouraged stakeholders to develop and submit project ideas. Four were received, two of which we'll discuss, a third (Dashboard Application) was withdrawn from consideration at the present time and another (Infrastructure Survey) needs a bit of additional information added for full consideration.

8a) Geospatial Commons: First Year Funding

Kotz: As we are aware, the Commons is well into its development and will need to be funded, there are staff costs, development costs and server costs, most of that will be borne by state agencies. MnGeo, on behalf of the Commons has put in a request to MetroGIS for $28,000 to support its first year operations. Of note, the Commons has been identified as the 3rd item on our current work plan. We've already established that this is important. Beyond the immediate funding, the Metropolitan Council has already committed to the project and contributed staff time; working with the DNR on the Commons development. This funding would help supply our share of the collective need to support the Commons.

Ross: State In the future, the Commons could possibly be supported by a portion of the recorders fee. We are looking at what it would take in legislation to redirect funds toward it. Funding will need to be enhanced.

Read: Is this simply a budget for server use?

Ross: We are looking at around $75,000 for the initial server build.

Read: Is there any data preview function or interactive element?

Watson: There is a plug in for doing JSON that could be delivered through the Commons, we are presently "banging our heads" against it. The GeoJSON is a "heavy" format, if you produce in that format, you have to subset it out and we believe it inadequate for standing up services for all the data we will deliver; we simply won't have the resources to host every data dataset as a service that will be published through the Commons. We will build toward an interactive piece, but not likely in the first iteration.

8b) Address Points Editing Tool 3.0 (Enhancement)

Kotz: We currently have a bid of $22,500 for the desired enhancements to the tool; however, as is indicated in the agenda packet (pages 6 and 7) we are requesting $24,000 anticipating a bit more work that needs to be addressed. As the proposal indicates, this is an established project; ranking 4th on our current list of identified project priorities and has a high likelihood of success. This would be the second update of the tool (the 3rd version of the tool) and we essentially have the project lined up and ready to go. If we fund the Commons fully at $28,000 we are then asking for $14,000 more than we have in the 2013 carry-over budget. My question to the group is can we cut back on one or the other project? There are no line items in the Commons proposal; however, there are line items in the Address Tool proposal that we could potentially remove.

Bitner: Is there any apprehension to using MetroGIS tool by the cities and counties?

Swenson: We're certainly open-minded about it [in Hennepin County] and I feel we will find out very soon. We've met with our cities in the pilot program and all of our cities are open-minded about it as well. We haven't implemented anything yet, we waiting for our cities and we are willing to demo the latest version of the MetroGIS tool to see how it fits their uses. As it is able to fit their needs, we feel that the cities will support using the MetroGIS tool.

Bitner: How much stronger is your case if we cut a couple line items from the Address Point Tool proposal? We know the Commons will be there, we have been working toward a resource like that for the state for some time. Given the history of this group we should position ourselves to support it. Contributing funds to the Commons—given the relatively small amount we have currently available would be a symbolic gesture—however; the symbolism is valuable as a show of our support. Perhaps we could advocate for the municipal governments to fund the address tool enhancements to meet their specific needs?

Verbick: I can tell you that the cities like the [Address Point Editor] tool and will see the need for it and will use it if it is enhanced or not. From the municipal perspective, the enhancements are an exceptionally good part of it, a good direction to take. Again, the Commons is great, but it not likely a place where municipal users will go for their day-to-day data needs.

Swenson: The [Address Point Editor] tool will not have as much impact on our larger cities like Bloomington and Minneapolis. It will be much more impactful on the smaller cities, those with less GIS staff or support available.

Chinander: How do we keep the data coming in sync with each other; I would hate to see it go haywire from not being integrated.

Bitner: We've got the work of the Addressing Work Group to handle that; that topic has certainly come up.

Kotz: That will be the next level of integration and we are not there yet, however, this tool will help facilitate that integration.

Bitner: Given our discussion, I would offer a motion that we fully funding the Address Point Editor Tool Enhancements at $24,000, with the remainder [$14,000] of the budget carry over going the Geospatial Commons.

Read: I second.

Dahl: We have a motion and second for $24,000 to be committed to the Address Point Editor Tool Enhancements project and the remainder [$14,000] going to the Commons. Is there any further comments or discussion?

(No discussion or questions were offered)

Dahl: With no further questions or discussion, let's vote:

All in favor: Slusarczyk, Brandt, Read, Verbick, Fritz, Dahl, Henschel, Kotz, Maloney, Bunning, Watson, Koukol, Busch, Swenson, Kne, Bitner, Carlson;

Opposed: Ross;

Dahl: Motion carries.

8c) Desktop Application Proposal

Maas: Randy Knippel [Dakota County] proposed a Dashboard Application project, details of which are found in Appendix B (page 11) of the agenda packet. Randy has vetted the idea through the Data Producers Work Group, and garnered their support. Randy withdrew the proposal from consideration at this time to gather additional information. One of the key areas I believe he wanted to explore further was support from law enforcement and how the tool could serve their needs. I suspect this proposal will reappear in our next Work Plan review cycle. Please contact Randy if you have questions about this proposal.

8d) Infrastructure Survey Proposal

Maas: Brad Henry [University of Minnesota] submitted a proposal for MetroGIS to jointly participate with other agencies in surveying municipalities as to the disposition of the current digital infrastructure management systems. His proposal if found in Appendix B on page 17 of the agenda packet. Brad is actively engaged with the MN2050 project, working to raise awareness of our aging infrastructure and the investments needed to bring it up to par. Our participation in a survey of this kind would facilitate the stormsewer initiative and be a solid point of entry for dialogue and understanding with cities about the completeness, fitness and availability of their other kinds of geospatial data. Brad's proposal is an excellent start but needs a bit of fleshing out. I will be working with Brad to help solidify the proposal for consideration in our next Work Plan cycle.

8e) 2016 Metro Regional Leaf-Off Aerial Imagery Collection

Kotz: The Council collects aerial imagery at every Census year, as well as mid-decade. Our next collect is planned for 2016. We are beginning the planning now and we are actively interested in partnering with other interested agencies early. We have already been in contact with Chris Cialek at MnGeo to help coordinate it. The Council's minimum specs are for half meter resolution for the region; however, we would prefer to have 1' resolution and are interested in finding partners to help fund that. Buy-up options to 6" are possible. The imagery will be color, leaf-off and there was some mention of color-IR (infrared) in the specifications as well. If you are interested please contact me ASAP.

9) Discussion Topic: Centerlines

9a) Statewide Centerlines Overview

Ross: We've discussed the topic before here; in review, we are essentially working to prove out how we can move toward a statewide road data solution. Our focus at present is not trying to built it out, but determine how we can work together and have the right road authorities enter their data into the system. We have a new project manager, Brad Wentz, former county engineer from Becker County now working with North Dakota State University (NDSU).

The goal is the development of a multi-use dataset with both an LRS (linear reference system) and shared centerline system. The LRS aspect is a project that MNDOT has working in parallel to Centerlines for meeting its HPMS federal reporting requirements. The LRS can be thought of as a subset of the Centerline Initiative

We have recently exposed the tools for use, we have a pilot toolset at MnGeo; they center on how a local road authority would enter roads into the system. We are working with related efforts, we know how important it is to integrate with NextGen911 and how our system has to feed into that in the long term.

State Patrol is looking update its CAD (computer aided dispatch) system, they will likely need to be purchasing a centerline solution for that in the short term.

With the statewide effort, there are four (4) sections to our current plan:

In Section 1, we are developing the requirement documentation of the non-state partners, determining how local and non-state road authorities register their data to the LRS. We are examining building a common data model for all non-state partners; the Metro Centerline effort that Gary will be describing shortly will compliment that effort. Additionally in section 1 we'll be examining the limits of the Esri data model and tools and understanding the constraints of the MnDOT model and workflows.

Section 2 is also presently in play, the focuses on the HMPS reporting [federal reporting requirements] which had to go forward in the early stages as well. This was a primary need for MnDOT and needed to be addressed early. We acknowledge that the best and most accurate data comes from the local road authority partners and are working to improve how their data gets to MnDOT for reporting.

In Section 3 we will work to integrate the needs captured in Section 1 and integrate the data from non-state partners (geometry, routes, attributes) and conflate them into the system.

Finally, in Section 4: making the system and its data a multi-use resource and making available back the public. We will be determining which additional tools are needed, how to register the local data to the LRS and exporting the data into 911 routable centerlines and adding attributes and features in MnDOT that are desirable needed by non-state partners.

Section 1 is in progress, we are having on-line meetings every 2 week hoping to have that part complete bby August. Will have individual partner meetings as needed and requested, we acknowledge that there are significant differences between the needs of Metro and Greater Minnesota road authorities.

Maloney: How do you define a non-state partner; would DPS (Department of Public Safety) be considered a non-state partner? I know that we as a city would like to have all crash data in one place with a common reference. One challenge is all users aren't' referencing the same system, you need to go to several to get all the data. As an example, Highway 96, which cuts through Shoreview, I had to fulfill a request to make a report and cobble it together from several sources. Multiple agencies are writing crash data into multiple systems and referring to their own maps.

Ross: That is one of the exact reasons we are working on this issue, working toward one way to hold it all together. We are working toward the state having a crash interface for location and reporting purposes, some meetings on this have been happening in the last six weeks.

9b) Metro Centerlines Overview

Swenson: For background, Hennepin County began working to built out its own centerline, as we did so we observed work at the state level and saw the opportunity to work with other metro partners, the counties, the Council and MESB to document our shared needs. On May 9, we had a 'sticky wall' session and since that time have been collecting and documenting the range of needs of the partners. We will be meeting again on July 1 to determine and document our final requirements. I offer the following diagram as to what we are doing and we are keeping on track for what needs to be done:
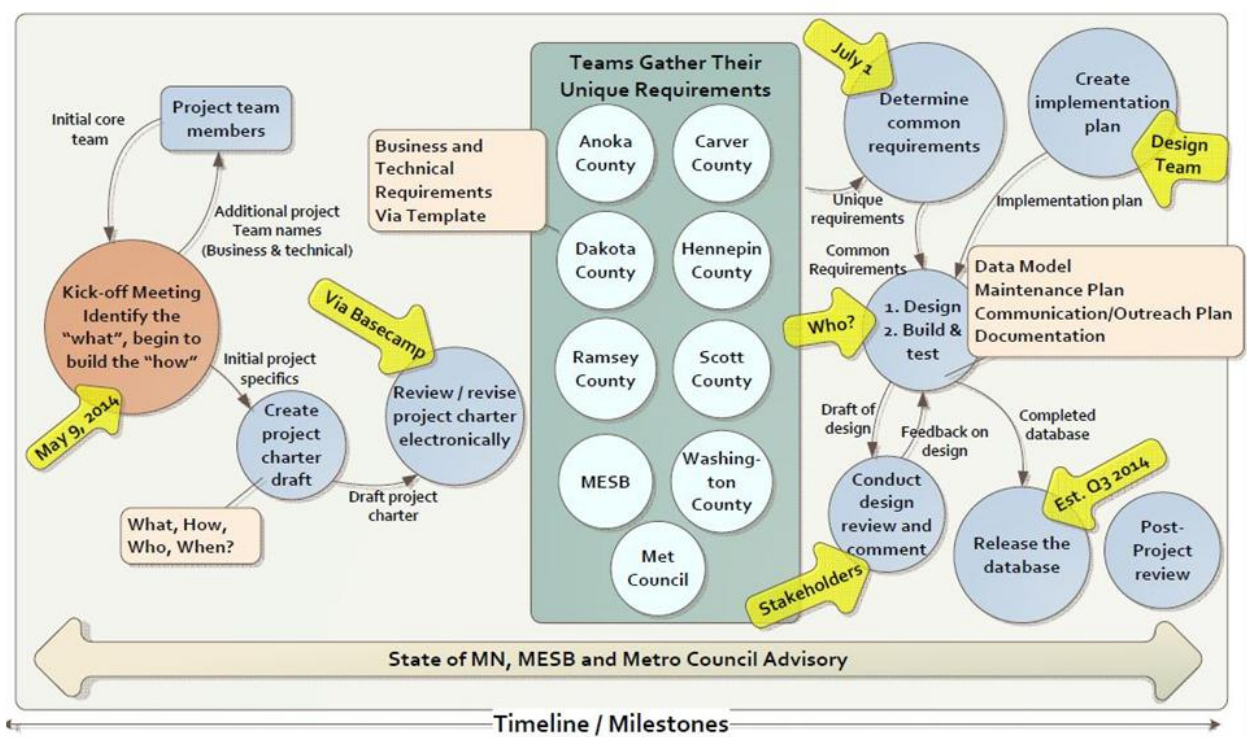
From the May 9 session we gathered a great deal of content and some direction on what we need to do and we've developed a project charter. We are collaborating through BaseCamp; an on-line tool All the participants have contributed their specific requirements from their respective organizations for centerlines, including needs that overlap with the state as Dan has identified such as LRS, routing and meeting 911 requirements.

As we find ourselves with a huge 'laundry list' of specific requirements, our project manager will be compiling those into sections and we'll examine the common ones work our way back through some of the uncommon ones. When we are finished, we will have a list of common core requirements for the project. At our July 1 meeting we will determine and finalize what the common requirements are, and which are the ones we wish to move forward with.

Then we enter 'planning mode'. We will engage our technical team, sit down and build a plan of action, for the design and building of the data model. When we are complete, we will have a well-defined data model. At that point we will be ready for outreach and communications to other counties, the state, the range of MetroGIS

stakeholders to solicit additional feedback and find how what we need relates to others needs. When that is complete we can move toward implementation and populating the data model and work with the state.

Ross: Hats off to the metro counties coming together on this; this will help the state effort.

Swenson: I want to reiterate we are not performing a build of the data, we are beginning documenting what is required in commons.

Chinander: Do you have a way to approach the cities and see what their needs are? Can you get complete buy in from the cities? Are there any deal breakers for them?

Swenson: That will be part of the outreach once we've solidified our needs, we will take it to them for comment and add their input as it comes.

Carlson: This is such good news; we've desired a resource like this for a long time. Having routable network capacity in a centerline data set where we can calculate commute times would assist us greatly.

Read: I wanted to comment about where the NCompass data sits, is someone willing to purchase that data from them?

Kotz: In my opinion, NCompass essentially saw that a public solution would be arising and the long-term value of their product diminishing. It seems like a reasonable business decision for them to propose selling it now.

Ross: One of its drawbacks is that the NCompass data is not a full statewide coverage and does not have consistent updates in all counties.

Brandt: We still continue to make use of the NCompass data as it includes Wisconsin county data.

Kotz: As for the Council's needs, we aren't interested in owning or maintaining the dataset, we aren't an agency that produces or maintains road data. At present we are paying $65,000 a year [for the NCompass data] so we see our contribution to a public solution as kicking in funding rather than maintaining data.

Ross: I'll mention that the State Patrol is considering purchasing a road data system for two years.

10) MetroGIS Re-Calibration Ideas

Maas: Now that I have been with MetroGIS for a little over two years, and I've seen how things operate, I want to ensure the collaborative is meeting the needs of the stakeholders and that we have the right representation at the table. With free and open data emerging, some of the original core functions of MetroGIS will be cleaving off. My main concern is that we continually make good use of your time as members at the table and we make good use of the resources we have at hand, both technical and budgetary to focus on projects and initiatives that meet our stated shared needs. I see our next 'frontier' if you will, as the municipal side, how to leverage the highest use and availability of data produced at the city level. We're fortunate to have Ben (Verbick, LOGIS), Hal (Busch) and Bob (O'Neil, Bloomington) and Mark (Maloney, Shoreview) in attendance, and having a strong city presence would be very useful to understand municipal needs and our needs from them. I'm open to ideas.

What I'd like you to consider is a small work group to meet twice (once in person, once virtually) between now and our next meeting to hash out some of these ideas. Also, I'd like to prepare a project document template to help standardize and streamline the project proposal process.

Kotz: As Geoff mentioned, it may be time to review how we do things and how we operate, we have had significant turnover at the staff level and some at the representation level with our membership; the time might be right for us to act on this.

Read: I'd suggest if we are considering the membership there is potential to tap the "community coders" folks, there are some real opportunities there.

Bitner: They have a lot of interest, there is a lot happening at the grass roots level, hack-a-thons and so on. There are many committed individuals who would make a suitable addition to our group.

Maas: I've attended a number of the hack-a-thons and similar events over the past year or so, there is a tremendous amount of enthusiasm, infectious energy and passion in that community that we should consider tapping into.

Kotz: Essentially, Geoff has asked if anyone would be willing to volunteer for a work group. I'm certainly interested.

(Brandt and Chinander also volunteered)

Maas: I can prepare some modest initial drafts of what I am considering for the group to take a swing at. You have my word it will be easy to participate in and work with.

11) Next Coordinating Committee Meeting:

Dahl: Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2014

12) Adjourn
Chair Dahl thanked the members for attending and adjourned the meeting at 3:24 pm

MetroGIS Coordinating Committee: Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 25, 2015, 1 PM-3:30 PM
Metro Counties Government Center, 2099 University Avenue, St Paul
[Draft Minutes]

Members Attending:

Dave Brandt, Washington County (Vice Chair)	Gary Swenson, Hennepin County
Jim Bunning, Scott County	Pete Henschel, Carver County
Mark Kotz, Metropolitan Council	Len Kne, University of Minnesota
Nancy Read, Metropolitan Mosquito Control District	Mark Maloney, City of Shoreview, Metro Cities
Curt Carlson, Northstar MLS	Erik Menze, Resource Data, Inc. (alternate for Eric Haugen)
Randy Knippel, Dakota County	Ron Wencl, US Geological Survey
Gordy Chinander, Metro Emergency Services Board	Joella Givens, MnDOT (alternate for Ben Butzow)
Brad Henry, University of Minnesota	

Guests:
Jon Hoekenga, Metropolitan Council
Devin Piernot, MGIS Program student, University of Minnesota
Andrew Walz, MGIS Program student, University of Minnesota

Members Absent

John Slusarczyk, Anoka County	Ben Verbick, LOGIS
Jim Fritz, Xcel Energy	Erik Dahl, EQB (Chair)
Hal Watson, MnDNR	Matt Koukol, Ramsey County
Hal Busch, City of Bloomington/Metro Cities	Dan Ross, MnGeo
David Bitner, db Spatial LLC	Matt Baker, Metropolitan Airports Commission
Eric Haugen, Resource Data, Inc.	Ben Butzow, MnDOT
Francis Harvey, University of Minnesota	Jeff Matson, CURA/University of Minnesota
Sally Wakefield, Non-Profit Representative	

Staff:
Geoff Maas, MetroGIS Coordinator

1) Call to Order
Vice Chair Brandt called the meeting to order at 1:07pm

2) Approval of Meeting Agenda
Motion: Kotz, Second: Henry, motion carried, agenda approved.

3) Approval of Minutes from June 26, 2014
Motion: Carlson, Second: Kotz motion carried, minutes approved.

4) Lightning Round

Gary Swenson (Hennepin County): We are conducting on-going research and development for our web app builder and continuing to advance the use of ArcGIS Online. We are also focusing on data governance, the county has appointed a Data Governance Officer; this appointment will be very helpful to us in the long run in GIS as we review which materials we can make public. At Hennepin County we have a lot of data that is not discovered even internally, we have a growing sense of responsibility to manage their data and make it usable both within and beyond the county,

Jim Bunning (Scott County): We are continuing to work toward our upgrade to ArcGIS 10.2.2. Also, I am stepping down from Scott County to become part of MN.IT Services and will be reporting to Dan Ross.

Pete Henschel (Carver County): We have recently opened up the Carver County Open Data Portal (http://data.carver.opendata.arcgis.com/) and continue to work with the Metropolitan Council to provide parcel data and now address points as well.

Mark Kotz (Metropolitan Council): We have a lot going on with GIS at the Council. We are working to meet the demands for mobile inspection tools. We maintain a large number of infrastructure assets such as manholes and features related to waste water infrastructure. We developed a collector application, the business really liked it, and so there is increased demand and an expectation of quick turn-around. Our various businesses needs at the Council include meeting the rising demand for applications development. Since our last [MetroGIS] meeting, we launched a new transit application which integrates transit with Trip Finder. We have more work projects that are part of 24/7 critical applications, a bit stressful to keep it all going, particularly when something related to transit goes down during the State Fair!

Andrew Walz (MGIS Student, University of Minnesota): I am part of the solar energy research team, we will be presenting later in the meeting.

Devin Piernot (MGIS Student, University of Minnesota): Also part of the research team here to present.

Len Kne, (U-Spatial/University of Minnesota): We continue to work on building out a GIS infrastructure for data at the University. We are ESRI-based; we have strong support from our IT folks, library, and university services in continuing to build out our GIS services. We have Oracle on the backend for databases; we are opening things up on the administrative side, linking up with facilities management work, as well as the research and academic side where we are expanding space to create services. We are actively engaged with researchers, trying to teach and train researchers about the importance of metadata. At present we are targeting smaller projects first, coming out in next two months, leveraging ArcGIS Online, we have good use of it across the system and are getting it embedded into classroom use as well.

Nancy Read (Metropolitan Mosquito Control Board): We have been working to track beehive locations and are working with cities in the metro to determine where bees are permitted or not, where permits are required and which cities don't care and don't require a permit. We are also interested available imagery outside of the existing MnGeo imagery server, please let me know if anything is forthcoming. I was able to attend the recent FOSS4G meeting virtually—attending the conference from the comfort of my office! There is so much great stuff available on line at the FOSS4G website, if you are interested, please have a look.

Mark Maloney (City of Shoreview/Metro Cities): As I have mentioned in past meetings, the water supply topic remains a huge deal, and has the potential to gobble up a lot of resources, there remains so much agency involvement around the issue. One of the benefits however, is that the many agencies involved are coming to understand the interrelated nature of the issues at hand. DNR has to consider ground water appropriation permits allocations and their longer term implications, for example. Another topic related to GIS is that Shoreview has been involved with Ramsey County Emergency Services; it has taken us a while to coordinate fire hydrant data and coordinates into the system. This may seem rudimentary to most, that in 2014 we are still working on that at the local government local level, but we are all working to do what we can with limited resources.

Eric Menze (Resource Data, Inc/Private Sector Representative): I'm attending in place of the usual representative Eric Haugen today.

Curt Carlson (Northstar MLS/Real Estate Representative) I am very much looking forward to the GIS/LIS Conference next week. We are working to relate Electronic Certificate of Real Estate Value (eCRV) system tabular data into a standardized format, transitioning from paper real estate transactions statewide moving to the HTML based electronic base product which is distributed weekly. Thirty-four (34) counties have full eCRV, forty-one (41)

counties are testing it and twelve (12) counties are not using it yet. With the data we track all real estate sales that occurred in the previous week; the data then goes live the next week.

Ron Wencl (USGS): The main highlight for 2015 from the USGS is the 3DEP program and that all our LiDAR will be 'taken it up a notch' being provided at higher density and higher resolution. Please note, we will be discontinuing support for GNIS at federal level and only maintaining 10 feature classes for structures information moving forward.

Gordy Chinander (MESB): Working with the metro centerlines project; keeping track of NG911 requirements as things continue to happen at the national level. Try to keep the local workgroup informed and up to date on what is happening with NG911 requirements.

Joella Givens (MnDOT): We are seeing strong participation with our Georilla platform, folks are thinking more about spatial information and how to better leverage it, we will be presenting on it at the conference; things are going well on that front.

Brad Henry (University of Minnesota): I'll be presenting with Joella and Brad Canaday at the Conference next week, expanding on the 'Living Map' idea and that we need to get as much of our data into the electronic realm for all planning and engineering projects to be able to use. I'm involved with the MN2050 project and we are working to get the cost side of this understood as well. Twin Cities Public Television (tpt) has a great video about the value of the infrastructure to modern life available and the MN2050 project is currently trying to get support and get an infrastructure survey assembled to every city, county and agency that maintains infrastructure in Minnesota with questions like: do you know the location, condition and age of your infrastructural assets? Are you using any kind of Asset Management tracking software? Are you aware of the current value of your infrastructural assets and the potential cost of keeping it up? Many agencies don't know the full value of their infrastructure let along the cost of keeping it up.

Randy Knippel (Dakota County): Continuing to work on the U.S. National Grid. In the new master parks plan adopted by Dakota County Board we will have USNG markers and signage added in the park. We worked with a focus group of fire department, sheriff's department, and park patrol and dispatch center as well as with park visitors service and park maintenance staff to develop supporting materials; we are circulating a brochure to the public to describe what the markers mean as well. [Randy brought examples of the brochure to the meeting for the Committee to review]. Prior to coming here, I attended a staff lunch for the park opening, and we've got some good discussions about making this happen elsewhere and keeping it moving forward. Also I've been talking to St. Paul emergency management staff, looking to help solve the problem of responders getting lost in parks when trying to respond to a call. SharedGeo has been very instrumental in making these things happen; it has taken some effort to get all the players on board at the same time but is now coming together; I've gotten good comments back from fire chiefs in various cities and we will keep moving toward getting things up in the regional parks and trail system.

David Brandt (Washington County): Last meeting I updated the group on our ADA (American with Disabilities Act) compliance mapping effort, notably collecting of access ramps. We had a consultant quote us a project time of 47 days; we had our interns complete it in 14 days. We are using in a different way of working with the collector: using aliases for the fields and an interface that is more like a answering a set of questions, rather than just filling in fields. It's working so well that we will be making use of it for ADA asset collection for all county buildings, this has been . Good success.

Geoff Maas (MetroGIS Coordinator): As I hope most of you have seen the new website went up quietly in July. It is not complete, there are a couple empty spots and conditions are changing with the open data changes and its availability, so I will be doing my best to keep it up. A reminder, this is your site, please let me know what it needs what I can add that is valuable for you. The conference is next week; we'll have several of the county managers on hand for a 90-minute open data panel, plus Mark Sloan from Clay County. Also, MetroGIS received a State Government Innovation award for all of our free and open data work earlier this year. The ceremony was held back

in August at the Minnesota History Center. Payments to counties are in progress, four are complete for 2014, three remain.

6) Policy Board Update
Coordinator Maas informed the group that the July 23, 2014 Policy Board meeting was not convened. An update notice in lieu of that meeting was provided to the Board members. The members of the Coordinating Committee felt that convening the Policy Board for its next scheduled time in October would be appropriate to provide updates on projects, follow up on the success of the Free and Open Data initiative and the other on-going work of the collaborative. Maas was directed to contact Policy Board chair Terry Schneider and confirm his approval to convene. The next Policy Board meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 23, 2014** at the Metro Counties Government Center.

7) Technical Presentations: Solar Capacity Modeling
Two related presentations on solar capacity modeling were given; the first by David Brandt, Washington County GIS Coordinator/GIS Faculty University of Wisconsin-River Falls, who, as part of his recent master's thesis research developed a solar capacity modeling project for the City of Stillwater. The second was by student researchers Andrew Walz and Devon Piernot from the University of Minnesota's U-Spatial lab.

Key points from Brandt's presentation included his methodology for solar capacity assessment, possible impacts to the utility grid of increased solar deployment, the impact of planning and adding solar power infrastructure to planning and zoning and impact on historical districts (in places like Stillwater), development planning, impact on tree planning, design of homes and what level of solar power adaptation is realistic.

Key points from the Walz/Piernot presentation was their methodology of using the work and research of Brandt and extend it statewide; they cited that Brandt's work was a 'blueprint' and were able to extend it statewide in a 1-meter application with a focus on what would be most usable resource for the largest amount of people. Key goals of their final application and its use include raising the general public's awareness, assist solar installers to perform cost estimating and make the data available to anyone working professionally (planners, building trades, etc.) who could make use of this level of data.

Key challenges in building the analysis include the balancing resources available vs. amount of data to be processed. Walz and Piernot described their 'fishnet' concept, to develop a grid across the entire state of optimal size to process each cell in the dataset and up the speed of processing. They were able to use compressed LiDAR data (940 GB compressed, would have been over 10+ TB) They described their use of PostGres/PostGIS to assign each tile a record and their buffering methodology so each tile considers the shade of neighboring tiles.

The final released application enables a user to view their property, to click a point and determine the amount of solar energy they have access to. The tool also has links to their utility provider and will soon also provide resources for linking to solar installers in their area. As the project is on-going more functionality will be included and added. Additional tools the team hopes to include are dollar calculations of what you could save on your energy bill by adding solar power.

Walz and Piernot also described many of the challenges they faced, notably in using the LiDAR data. They stated that 'not all LiDAR is created equally' and described the various issues which arose in processing the data and that LiDAR is out of date the moment you get it and start working with it. Walz and Piernot hope their findings and innovative use of the LiDAR would help to shape and support continued LiDAR data collection and serve as an advocacy point to spur the much-needed on-going and sustained collection of LiDAR data.

U-Spatial Associate Director Len Kne praised the students and the project stating that with seven (7) dedicated students and no funding, they managed to get it done, and get it done well. The project encompassed approximately $100,000 in staff time and 30,000 hours of computer processing time. The project was a success due to the 'volunteer/can-do spirit' of those involved and the project was acknowledged by ESRI, winning their Climate Challenge award.

Solar Project Links and Resources:
- Their 'Solar Map' application resource can be found here: **maps.umn.edu/solar/**
- The Python code used for the project is available on GitHub;
- The project URL is here: **solarp.uspatial.umn.edu** with source code, services and links available through this site as well.

8) Work Project Updates
At each quarterly meeting, the Committee receives an update on the projects currently active in the Work Plan.

8a) Address Points Aggregation
Both Dakota and Carver counties have their address points created and published to DataFinder.
Hennepin County is testing the MetroGIS Address Point Editor tool in the cities of Hopkins and Brooklyn Park
No address point data is presently in production in Washington or Scott counties.

8b) Free and Open Data Updates
Pete Henschel re-iterated that Carver County has stood up its open data portal.

Gary Swenson added that Hennepin County continues to work with its internal review process, with new data being added to their data portal as it is approved; an additional 33 data layers will be added to the portal shortly.

Dave Brandt added that in Washington County internal discussions continue, the issue is coming together and he is hopeful that they can have a resolution passed before the end of the year.

Jim Bunning indicated that no action has occurred in Scott County on the issue, however, he has been granted permission by the county surveyor to give the data away if a party requests it.

Geoff Maas indicated he would be reaching out to (county surveyor) Jim Hentges in the near future to engage him on the issue in Scott County, that several counties in Greater Minnesota continue to call and email for information on the issue, and the presentation to the NSGIC national conference (Sept 16, 2014)—co presenting with New York GIO William Johnson was very well received by the national audience, many people around the United States see Minnesota as an important case study on open data issue.

8c) Support for the Geospatial Commons
Maas: The stated goal of MnGeo remains to have the state agency-level clearinghouses' entire data available through the Commons by the end of the year. As neither Hal (Watson) nor Dan (Ross) is in attendance today, I don't have any more specific details to offer the group.

8d) Address Point Editor Enhancement (Version 3.0)
Kotz: The contract is executed with the vendor, once again we are working with North Point Geographic out of Duluth, key enhancements to be added to this version of the tool include, support address change report and email notices, add functionality to 'Add New Points' tool, added functionality to page-thru and scroll item of multi-selection points, modification to the interface for larger comments field and scrollable pop-out field, support checks for duplicate addresses, adding a tool to calculate a hypothetical address and organization and management of the application's code. Version 3.0 of the tool is anticipated to be completed and available for use by December of 2014.

8e1 & 8e2) State and Metro Centerlines Initiatives
Maas: The Statewide Centerline Initiative remains within the wheelhouse of MnDOT right now; I have not been actively involved for a while on that project. The Metro Regional Centerlines Collaborative has been very active in

the past months. A draft data model is prepared, with a sample dataset showcasing a portion of Anoka, Hennepin and Ramsey County.

Matt Koukol has taken a technical lead role in ensuring that takes place. He is assembling the sample area data and will have MnDOT add (conflate) their route data to this sample. The Implementation and Communications Team which includes members of both the Design Team and the Core Team are finalizing a list of partners to reach out to test the sample data and determining a sound method of gathering, publishing and utilizing their comments. We have had fantastic participation from all the partners involved so far, however, the schedule of the project may need to be extended a bit with the rising complexity of assembling the sample and performing the outreach.

While our progress has been brisk of late with the project, it may be difficult to meet the current deadline of the end of November given the complexity of the tasks at hand.

Chinander: Whatever became of the NCompass data being phased out?

Kotz: NCompass contacted us (Metropolitan Council) to gauge MetroGIS interest in purchasing the data and the rights to it outright. We know that the value of the road centerlines product they are offering will be significantly reduced when a free, public version is available.. We held a conference call—I believe it was this past spring—with the metro county managers, our staff and NCompass folks. After that, we received no significant interest from counties in purchasing the rights to the data. Met Council needs updated data, so purchasing a static dataset that we have to update is not really what we are looking for.

8f) Stormsewer Initiative
Maas: The project remains on a low simmer on the back burner, I have been reaching out to the stakeholders to document their specific business need for a standardized, metro-wide stormsewer dataset, trying if possible to meet with at least one interested agency per week. So far I have interviewed Nancy here at Mosquito Control as well as staff at the University of Minnesota Ecology Department and the Ramsey-Washington-Metro Watershed District. I have a pretty sizable list of folks with varying degrees of interest in the dataset and the idea of bringing this data together; I anticipate that by spring of 2015 we'll have a solid report to base future work upon.

8g) Sharing Beyond the Metro
Maas: Project remains on hold. Once we have the Metro Centerlines material ready to share we can begin setting up meetings with our partners in the surrounding counties. Also, we anticipate sharing our MetroGIS work plan with them and our movement toward free and open data. Again, this was simply a way to get to know what they are working on better and to see how much of their current work and challenges overlap with ours, particularly with centerlines, address points and so on.

8h) Private/Public Data Sharing
Maas: Increased data sharing between public and private sector interests has been on the MetroGIS 'to do' list for a long time; from before I came on board. Again, until we have a specific business need to address, or until a team assembles or an owner steps up, this remains fairly ambiguous. I still like the idea of a 'summit' between public and private interests and am happy to help make that happen, but we need something with more substance to work with. We need to have the business need more clearly articulated before we can proceed.

Kotz: This is something (Policy Board Chair) Terry Schneider has been advocating for, but we haven't had a specific focus. Terry would be an appropriate choice for a 'champion' if things got moving.

9) Selection and Prioritization of Work Plan items for 2015.

9a) Work Plan Survey Results for 2015 Work Plan

Maas: Thanks again to those of you—which was almost everyone—who responded to the survey I sent out in late August to rank and get an indication importance of the various projects to your agency or interest. As you know each fall we've been ranking our list of projects and ideas to determine what we will focus our energy on in the coming year.

Based on the results of the survey alone, our project rankings for 2015 look like this:

PROJECT NAME	CURRENT STATUS	How great is your organizations' need for the following projects?			
		HIGH	**MEDIUM**	**LOW**	**NOT NEEDED**
Address Points Aggregation	Active	10	5	2	0
Geospatial Commons	Active	8	9	1	0
Address Points Editor 3.0 (Enhancements)	Active	6	3	4	4
Statewide Centerlines Initiative	Active	6	8	3	1
Metro Regional Centerlines Collaborative	Active	11	4	2	0
Free + Open Public Geospatial Data	Active	6	10	1	0
2016 Metro Aerial Imagery Collect	Active	5	9	3	0
Dashboard Application	Proposed for 2015	2	8	6	2
Regional Stormwater Dataset	In Research	5	6	4	3
Increased Sharing Beyond the Metro	On Hold/Pending	2	8	5	2
Public/Private Data Sharing	On Hold/Pending	3	7	6	0
Creation of Regional Basemap Services	Shelved/Inactive	2	6	5	3
Improvements to MetroGIS Geocoder	Shelved/Inactive	1	8	5	2
Increased Frequency of Parcel Updates	Shelved/Inactive	3	4	6	5
Development of High-Resolution Impervious Surface Dataset	Shelved/Inactive	1	7	5	4
Development of High-Resolution Building Footprint Dataset	Shelved/Inactive	2	6	6	3
Follow-On of Quantifying Public Value (QPV) Study	Shelved/Inactive	0	3	5	6

However, we'll also have Mark [Kotz] up here to walk us through the Prioritization Matrix exercise; we'll discuss the new project proposals and give the entire list a final 'gut check' before approval for inclusion in the 2015 Draft Work Plan document.

We've had two new projects arise for consideration, Randy Knippel has formally re-submitted the Dashboard Application proposal after withdrawing it from our last meeting in June and we've added the Metropolitan Council's 2016 aerial buy-up to our list. While this is already technically underway, at in terms of gathering information, if it becomes the partnership we think it will, it will very likely command some of my time as Coordinator, as well as needing staff time from both the Council, from the County GIS departments and that of MnGeo, especially Chris Cialek's time to get it moving.

Maas: Let's start by running through the specifics of the two new projects being added to the running order. Randy, would you be willing to brief us on your Dashboard Application proposal?

Knippel: Well, even after all the work of putting the project proposal in the new project template documents, I am withdrawing the proposal a second time, the main reason is that the new Esri Web AppBuilder which ties to ESRI's ArcGIS Online (AGO) would potentially meet many of the needs we had hope to take care of with the Dashboard App proposal. The bottom line is, is that it looks like, at least from the email that we reviewed from the Esri beta-team, that it would do a lot of what we expected our Dashboard Application to do. You will still need an AGO organizational subscription to develop an application; you'd install it on your own server and then have access the maps and have the ability to make them public without a user AGO dependency; that ability to be a public application is big. From the standpoint of Dakota County anyway, what's on the horizon with this is that it kind of

"takes the wind" out of what we had proposed with the Dashboard App. We will continue to monitor where that goes, but for now, let's put the Dashboard App on 'hold'.

Maas: Oh, you big tease, that's twice now you've pulled it away from us! *(laughter from the group)…*now I feel really bad having made you go through the rigmarole of filling out the project template documents.
We can certainly keep the proposal on hold until we have more info, thanks again for taking the time to fill all the forms out; I hope is wasn't to terribly burdensome.

Knippel: Yeah, well, I 'cut and pasted' a lot of it from my earlier document. Getting back to the application in a broader sense, one of the challenges is trying to do a solid return-on-investment on developing a custom application and factoring the maintenance costs. With an agency wide application, it's a question of scale and being able to meet the lowest common denominator(s) in your agency; you always need to make some concessions to meet those needs. After talking with upper-level management at Dakota County, we are simply looking for a wider opportunity to distribute costs for application development collaboratively with other agencies through MetroGIS. You always take on the risk with new application development about being able to realizing your return on investment that another solution shows up to supplant what you have done or are trying to do.

With the State's ELA [Enterprise License Agreement] you get a 'virtually unlimited' number of ArcGIS Online licenses for the first year, but actual costs in subsequent years are unknown. With the ESRI products, the real question is overall cost, and those costs need to be managed over time as you add more and more users. With ESRI you at some point have to start adding licenses and that adds up quickly. So getting back to our Dashboard Proposals, we keep it on hold, monitor what ESRI is doing and continue to create ways of coming up with cost-effective solutions instead of simply paying for solutions.

Maas: Our other proposal, as I mentioned is the 2016 Aerial Imagery Buy-Up from the Met Council, Mark can you give us the highlights and background on that?

Kotz: The Council budgets for and collects imagery every Census year, and one of mid-point years between the Census years; this time around it will be 2016. We are looking for partner among the counties of the metro and beyond, and working closely with MnGeo. Chris Cialek [at MnGeo] and I can be considered the owners of the project. The Council's requirements are for half meter, leaf off imagery; however, we know that most of the partners we've contacted need 1 foot, 6-inch or better resolution. The Council would like to have higher resolution as well. We sent out a survey to prospective partners and got a good response as to their interest and desire to participate. We asked if they are considering collecting imagery in 2016. Chisago, Washington, Dakota, Scott, Carver, Le Sueur and Sibley responded yes, Isanti, Ramsey and Rice responded 'maybe', Sherburne, McLeod and Anoka responded 'no' or 'doubtful' and [at time of Coordinating Committee meeting] Wright, Hennepin and Goodhue had not responded yet. The second question was 'If there is a cost share opportunity to collect imagery, are you interested in participating? All the counties that responded indicated yes, with the exception of Chisago and Washington. Once we have all the responses we will connect with partners and move forward from there.

Chinander: Is this different than pictometry?

Kotz: The Met Council has no business need for pictometry or oblique imagery. We are only focused on acquiring ortho imagery. Technically our specification is for half-meter resolution, historically that is what we've had flown, but we want to leverage the available partners and declining costs of imagery collection.

Knippel: As the costs continue to drop; we can certainly get more with our budget. If we can acquire 4" imagery for the cost of 6" imagery, we should certainly act on that.

Swenson: One of the challenges for partnering is the timing. Mark you mentioned that the metro needs it about every five years, on the Census years and some point in between. It is going to be hard for us [Hennepin County] to consistently line up the budgets. Hennepin County needs to be consistent in its collection and it may be hard to partner one cycle and then not the next.

Kotz: We recognize those challenges. We also know that the state [MnGeo] wants to be able to do these things consistently and have dedicated funding to be able to do it regularly. We will keep the group posted as this develops further and we have more info.

9b) Work Plan Project Prioritization

Kotz: As we've discussed we prioritize the list of projects for next year. We know we cannot do them all so we need to rank them and agree on the order of their importance and priority, and determine which need to be shelved due to lack of a sponsor or owner, lack of a champion, lack of fulfilling a business need or having no project team identified. We also assess 'level of effort' needed for the projects on the list. For example if we are paying a vendor to create something, the effort is to manage that contract and would be low. If we need a consistent amount of staff time from stakeholder agencies to make a project happen that would be medium or up to high level of effort as we would need to do everything.

[Mark then conducted the Project Prioritization Matrix exercise with the group, yielding the list below]

Project or Activity Name	Status	Work on in 2015	Priority Score
Address Points Aggregation	Active	Yes	462
Metro Regional Centerlines Collaborative	Active	Yes	430
Free + Open Public Geospatial Data	Active	Yes	429
Geospatial Commons	Active	Yes	387
Statewide Centerlines Initiative	Active	Yes	333
2016 Metro Aerial Imagery Collect	Active	Yes	324
Address Points Editor 3.0 (Enhancements)	Active	Yes	308
Dashboard Application	Proposed/On Hold	Maybe	252
Public/Private Data Sharing	Inactive	No	174
Regional Stormwater Dataset	In Research	Yes	155
Increased Sharing Beyond the Metro	Inactive	No	108
Increased Frequency of Parcel Updates	Inactive	No	69
Improvements to MetroGIS Geocoder	Inactive	No	48
Creation of Regional Basemap Services	Inactive	No	46
Development of High-Res Building Footprint Dataset	Inactive	No	24
Development of High-Res Impervious Surface Dataset	Inactive	No	22
Follow-On of Quantifying Public Value (QPV) Study	Inactive	No	22

Read: I'd like to see some effort put into the MetroGIS Geocoder once the address points are more fully developed in the metro.

Kotz: You should connect with Mike Dolbow [MN.IT Services]. At the last Statewide Geospatial Advisory Committee meeting he talked a lot about where we are with the various geocoders available in the state, and there is some potential for things moving toward a state-wide geocoding services in the near future.

[Kotz asked the group for additional comments or input on the Project Prioritization Matrix, and hearing none, he concluded the exercise]

Maas: I will ensure the project priorities are entered into the Draft Work Plan document for review and hopefully approval at our next meeting. With that, we've worked through the entire agenda for today's meeting.

10) Next Meeting
The next scheduled meeting of the Coordinating Committee is Thursday, December 11, 2014
(The next scheduled meeting of the Policy Board is Thursday, October 23, 2014)

11) Adjournment
Vice-Chair Brandt had to leave the meeting at 3 pm and was unable to adjourn the meeting
(Proxy Vice-Chair Gary Swenson adjourned the meeting at 3:23 pm)