

**Executive Summary**  
**Montana Land Information Advisory Council**  
**Thursday, November 29, 2012**  
**Helena, Montana**

**Attendees:**

Members or Designees: Chairman Jennie Stapp – Montana State Library (MSL); Dawn Anderson - Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP); Mike Bousliman – Department of Transportation; Annette Cabrera – Yellowstone County; Daniel Chelini – Department of Environmental Quality; Rudy Cicon – Montana Association of Registered Land Surveyors; Lance Clampitt – Department of the Interior; Johnny Doney, Fort Peck Tribes; Fred Gifford – Tetra Tech Inc.; Wendy Largent – Montana Association of GIS Professionals (MAGIP); Cathy Maynard – Natural Resources Conservation Service; Dennis McCarthy via telephone – U.S. Department of Agriculture; Cynthia Moore – Department of Revenue; Art Pembroke – Lewis and Clark County; Jon Sesso – Montana House of Representatives; Michael Sweeney – Department of Administration; Linda Vance – Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP); and Ken Wall – Geodata Services Inc.

Guests: Lydia Bailey – FWP; Allan Cox – MTNHP; Jane Horton – MTNHP; Liz Lahey – Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Michael Sweet – Mt. University System; Robin Trenbeath – State Information Technology Services Division; and Leslie Zolman – Department of Commerce.

Staff: Evan Hammer, Stu Kirkpatrick and Marlys Stark.

**Jennie Stapp called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.**

**Approval of April Executive Summary:**

**One correction was made. The first sentence of the second paragraph of the last page should read “was held” rather than “is scheduled”. Motion was made by Member Pembroke and seconded by Member Chelini to approve the April executive summary as corrected and the motion passed.**

**Legislative Update – Jennie Stapp**

As mentioned previously, the GIS enterprise architecture fixed costs have been set and will include a large increase for MSL due to the transfer of the Base Map Service Center (BMSC). The Governor’s Office has agreed to support adding fixed costs to the MSL base budget rather than the Montana Land Information Act budget. When the Governor’s original budget was presented, the funded amount for this cost was about \$50,000 short due to an accounting error which will be corrected.

Bill draft LC212 for the transfer of BMSC and MLIA to MSL, which includes the authority transfer within statute, will be carried by Representative Pat Ingraham from Thompson Falls. MSL is working with the Department of Administration to produce a legislative packet including testimony.

The request from natural resource agencies for MSL to have a water information system manager position to support the hydrography data set was included in the Governor's budget as a one-time only item. This will give agencies to opportunity to prove the value, need and benefit of this position.

Governor Bullock's budget should be released in time for the start of the legislative session and is anticipated to be fairly similar to Governor Schweitzer's budget.

MSL's budget is heard is front of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee for Education.

MSL will be watching LC946 which is a bill to revise special district laws.

Library Legislative Day which is hosted by the Montana Library Association and MAGIP will be held at the library the evening of January 16.

#### **FY'14 Land Information Plan – Stu Kirkpatrick**

Planning for the plan is done in FY'13 for FY'14 action. The tasks in the plan have not changed much although the budget is different. The spending authority went down based on collections but the budget line items and amounts are more definite since the transition so the change shouldn't affect MLIA in any way.

Some IT costs were reduced since the transfer to the library. Currently ITSD fixed costs are about \$3,600 per month compared to \$6,000 a month previously.

The plan is very clear in how funding is spent. A significant task change is from a metadata perspective and the way it interfaces with the portal. Additional time will be spent to sync metadata, portal, distributions and so on and to make changes to the MSL GIS "storefront" to give users a better internet experience.

Data archiving will affect the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) also. A snapshot will be taken at the end of the year as a demonstration to determine how to continue to archive MSDI in the future.

There is more interest in developing a national transportation framework so work will be done to improve the Montana transportation framework. Statewide addresses is very important so putting the MDT and GIS archives together would be great. Software reliance is always a big hurdle for these issues. Land cover data needs to integrate with land use data.

One change is the FY'14 proposed budget is due to MTNHP's receipt of enough federal funding for wetlands mapping. This funding is not guaranteed in the future.

The MSDI work plan will reflect these issues and will be presented to the Council in March.

Legislators need to be aware that mapping is still important and expensive.

**Motion was made by Member Clampitt and seconded by Member Largent to adopt the Land Plan as presented and the motion passed.**

The Land Plan will be presented to the Commission on December 12 and will probably be approved with no issues. The Commission will also review the work plan but as information and not for approval.

### **Montana Association of Counties (MACo) Resolution to Revise MLIA Statute**

MACo has passed a resolution to revise the MLIA statute by changing the funding so that 50% of the 75% which is collected would be required to be allocated in grants for local and tribal governments. Currently approximately 40% is being allocated to that type of grant. Concerns about this resolution are that if they do present legislation to this end it might bog down the authority transfer bill and that 50% to grants would jeopardize other work being done with the funds and also might make it impossible to fill open positions.

Members felt that smaller counties benefit more from the way the state currently operates and that, since everyone with worthy applications are currently being funded, this resolution seems pointless. This could also have the effect of taking money away from others would could use the grant.

Members discussed ways to address the concerns of MACo. This included changing the grant process to encourage applications from smaller counties, outreach through continuing to education and promote awareness of the accomplishments of the program, to have MACo be included in developing the annual Land Plan and finally to have a MLIAC representative attend MACo district meetings.

**The council would like some statement to go to the commission about council concerns about the inability to meet priorities if funding to grants is required to be at a higher amount and the preference to address concerns through the Land Plan.**

**Motion was made by Member Chelini and seconded by Member Maynard to convey to MACo that MLIAC is expressing support for local government as expressed in the Land Plan and to invite county involvement in the development of the land plan and to express concern that this resolution could damage MLIAC priorities and the motion passed with Member Pembroke abstaining.**

### **MSDI Stewardship Process Revision – Jennie Stapp**

The change only reflects the process that involves MSL and the State Librarian.

In regard to framework layer data standards, in order to be a framework MSDI layer it has to be statewide, maintained, with a recommended theme and there needs to be a standard.

**Motion was made by Member Clampitt and seconded by Member Vance to accept the spatial data selection criteria as a draft and the motion passed.**

**Meeting was recessed at 12:04 for lunch and reconvened at 12:52.**

#### **MLIA/MSDI General Administrative Budget Status – Jennie Stapp**

Future submissions will use a similar spreadsheet format.

#### **MLIA Grant State Report – Stu Kirkpatrick**

Most projects are moving along well although some have requested extensions. One project hasn't expended any money yet due to software issues while some have closed out early.

The next grant application period opens in January and ends February 15.

#### **MSDI Work Plan Update – Stu Kirkpatrick**

The work plan was approved last March. The MSDI web update is expected to go live before the legislative session begins. Several attached things have been updated. MSDI will be the test for the archival process. The process for access to SQL databases has been changed and anticipated problems did not materialize. The big project remaining is adjusting the cadastral to the new BLM geodetic control database. There is a lot of work remaining but the project is expected to be done on time.

#### **Natural Resources Information System (NRIS) Advisory Committee Report – Nat Carter, Chair**

Since MLIAC and the NRIS Advisory Committee report to the MSL Commission regarding GIS and other data issues, some coordination should be done. Information is being collected to produce a GIS document outlining needs and priorities for GIS. Water information/hydrography data is the top priority for those agencies that responded with the GIS portal and clearinghouse function being seconded.

#### **MAGIP Report – Miles Wacker, President**

The fall technical session will be held along with the IT conference. The IT conference has over 500 participants and the fall technical session has over 120.

The next big event will be the 2014 Intermountain conference at the Crowne Plaza in Billings which is scheduled to be held April 7 – 11, 2014.

MAGIP is going to increase higher education scholarships for undergrads and first year grads up to \$2,000 from \$1,000.

A webinar series is being held once a month.

### **Council Updates**

Volunteers are needed for the MLIA grant subcommittee. Members Doney, Largent and Vance have volunteered. There needs to be someone from each sector and there is no limitation to how many people can participate. The review will start March 1<sup>st</sup> to mid-April. Final review/prioritization must be done in time to give those decisions to the State Librarian by May 15.

The cycle for Department of Revenue oblique imagery might be changed from every six to every two years. They are looking at different types of resolutions and maximizing the outcomes. Currently data is being gathered to make that decision.

Montana is scheduled for the NAIP 2013 flight; the feds may change to a two year cycle.

### **Open Forum and Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **March Meeting Date, Location and Agenda Items – Jennie Stapp**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 14 or 21, likely at the Lewis and Clark Library again. Since the Intermountain conference will cause a conflict with the 14<sup>th</sup>, the 21<sup>st</sup> is the first option.

**The meeting adjourned at 2: 05 p.m.**