

**Executive Summary**  
**Montana Land Information Advisory Council (MLIAC)**  
**Tuesday, December 10, 2013**  
**Helena, Montana**

**Attendees:**

Members or Designees: Chair Jennie Stapp – Montana State Library (MSL); Ron Baldwin – Department of Administration SITSD; Dawn Anderson – State Agency Representative; Kevin Kauska for Mike Bousliman – State Agency Representative; Annette Cabrera – Local Government Representative; Dan Chelini – State Agency Representative; Rudy Cicon – Montana Association of Registered Land Surveyors Representative on the phone; Lance Clampitt – U.S. Interior Department Representative; Warren Fahner – Local Government Representative; Fred Gifford – Private Sector Representative; Allen Armstrong for Wendy Largent – GIS Professional Organization Representative; Cathy Maynard – U.S. Department of Agriculture Representative; Dennis McCarthy – U.S. Department of Agriculture Representative on the phone; Cynthia Monteau Moore – State Agency Representative ; Linda Vance – GIS Professional Organization Representative; and Ken Wall – Private Sector Representative.

Guests: Matt Heller – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Staff: Evan Hammer, Stu Kirkpatrick and Marlys Stark.

**Jennie Stapp called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.**

**Approval of September Executive Summary – Council**

**Motion was made and seconded to approve the September executive summary as presented and the motion passed.**

**MLIA 2015 Land Plan – Jennie Stapp**

The priorities of the plan remained largely unchanged from the FY14 plan since that plan seemed to work well. A slightly larger amount of grant funds is forecast because MLIA collections have rebounded. FY13 was the second highest year of collections since the account was formed. Some MSDI concerns that members mentioned will be addressed in the MSDI work plan rather than the annual land plan.

**Motion was made and seconded to approve the MLIA 2014 land plan as presented and the motion passed.**

**MLIA Rules Change – Jennie Stapp**

The comment period for the proposed changes passed with only one comment being received. That comment was simply that when the change was made from theme champions to theme

stewards, the definition section was overlooked. That correction was made. Council approval of this document will mean approval of all previous changes and the extra definition change.

**Motion was made and seconded to approve the MLIA rules change as presented and the motion passed.**

The State Library Commission will give final approval on Wednesday, December 11 and the changes will be published by the end of the year.

#### **Changes to the MSDI Application Process – Jennie Stapp**

The application process was first reviewed in September and it was decided that changes needed to be made. The presented document incorporated those changes. After reviewing the document, members discussed some additional changes they would prefer regarding best practices. It was suggested that the mandatory requirements need to be changed from questions to statements. Jennie and Stu will work on the document to cleanup wording to align with the discussion and bring it back for approval at in March.

**This item is tabled until the next meeting when a document with corrected wording can be presented.**

#### **Strategic Plan Discussion – Jennie Stapp**

As discussed in September, the current plan is out of date and discussions need to begin regarding a new plan. This would include confirming existing goals, adding new or deleting old goals, listing accomplishments, and so on. It will require input from many people, including stakeholders, whether it is completely rewritten or just adapted. MSL does not have any authority to insist that entities adhere to the plan but if the document includes the stated goals of GIS, MSL and stakeholders, at the least the plan could be a useful reference. One opinion was that the strategic plan should include goals, objectives and tasks but not case studies as those should be used to demonstrate success stories.

**Stu and Jennie will go through the outdated plan and mark each goal as completed, still valid, etc. and then think about the proper approach for a new strategic plan. This will be on the agenda at a later meeting.**

Volunteers for a workgroup may be needed eventually.

#### **2015 Legislative Session – Potential Executive Planning Process (EPP) Items – Jennie Stapp**

For the 2013 session, MSL presented a priority list to the Governor's Office for approval. Jennie related that from a MSL perspective the current process makes it appear that one agency proposal is more important than another which may not be the case. For the EPP process this session, Jennie has asked staff to think holistically to potentially integrate their requests. The water information manager position is an EPP item that MSL is working on. Agencies requesting proposals that would benefit from council support need to inform the council.

### **MLIA Land Plan and Grant Status Report – Stu Kirkpatrick**

The 2013 Stillwater County asset management grant is making progress but will need another extension. All other grants are fine.

A potential budget cap for future grants had been previously discussed by the council and therefore an average grant size was requested. The only information available was from 2011 to 2014. Based on that information, Jennie and Stu felt a cap of \$40,000 would be adequate for most grants. Council members discussed the pros and cons of a grant cap. Issues of imposing a grant cap included:

- If a cap is included, grant applications may be written to go up to that amount rather than asking for a lesser amount;
- Larger worthwhile projects may not be requested;
- A cap may impact the nature of proposals that come forward.

Council consensus was that a cap should not be imposed however historic statistics of the average grant amounts approved was relevant information to be included in the grant application form.

Volunteers will be needed for the grant subcommittee. The preferred mix is some new, some old, and one from each sector. Linda Vance, Warren Fahner and Dawn Anderson volunteered during the meeting.

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

The GIS Coordination, MSDI and Council budgets, current through October 2013, were presented. There were no areas of concern at this time.

### **MAGIP Report – Allen Armstrong**

The MAGIP 2014 work plan was adopted at the most recent board meeting. Allen related that he is very pleased with the plan as it lays out no more than three clear tasks for each individual. The plan is available on the MAGIP website.

### **Council Updates**

NAIP 2013 Imagery - MSL ordered the raw tiles for the entire state. Total media cost is \$137. It will take at least six weeks to get the data and then staff will get it put up as a multi-year service.

Significant progress has been made on the public land survey system (PLSS) stewardship discussion. Montana has been adopted by the ESRI local solutions team so they are providing free consultation on parcel fabric. The goal is implementation in April.

The elevation working group has started up again in part because of the federal program known as a "3-DEP" and partially because of revived interest in Montana for enhanced elevation data. A lot of participants are interested in lidar data. Two tasks were selected during the first meeting. The first is to come up with a basic lidar standard for Montana and the second is to identify

funding opportunities that exist in the next six months. The next meeting is January 7 via GoToMeeting.

MSL and SITSD staff members will be meeting with ESRI to look at renegotiating the state's enterprise license agreement. Renegotiation will likely include revisions to the current ArcGIS Online credit provisions. This process needs to be concluded by early summer in order to be included in the state budget process.

**Open Forum and Public Comment**

There were none received.

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

MSL would like to shift the meeting months in order to align better with the commission meetings and action items for the council. March, May, August, and November may be best. Dates will be chosen at the beginning of the year in order to get them on the calendar sooner, perhaps the first Thursday of the month. A meeting schedule will be sent out at a later date.

**The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.**