

MINUTES
McLEAN COUNTY GIS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, June 17th, 2011, 10:30 a.m.
Government Center Room 404

Members Present

Paul Russell, Executive Director – McLean County Regional Planning Commission (MCRPC); Troy Olson, Engineering Technician, proxy for Jim Karch, Director of Public Works – City of Bloomington (COB); Josh Thompson, GIS Specialist proxy for Phil Dick, Director – McLean County (MC) Building & Zoning (B&Z); Robin Weaver, Director of Public Works – Town of Normal (TON).

Members Absent

Jim Karch, Director of Public Works – COB; Phil Dick, Director – MC B&Z; Tony Cannon, Executive Director - Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB/911); Mike Ireland, Assessor COBTA.

Others Present

John Hendershott, Environmental Health Programs Supervisor - MC Health; Justin Nettleton, GIS Technician - MC IT; Cassidy Killian, GIS Coordinator – TON IT; Khalid Hasan, GIS Director – MCRPC.

1. Call to Order

Mr. Russell called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. after noting a quorum.

2. Attendance

Attendance was recorded by Mr. Hasan.

3. Consent Agenda

Ms. Weaver motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, Mr. Thompson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Items of Business

None.

5. Information / Discussion Items

A. New Government Plat Map Viewer

Mr. Hasan gave a demonstration of features and capabilities of the new government only plat map viewer through the McGIS intranet portal which was well received. Ms. Weaver asked if advanced user queries e.g. about acreages, square footage etc. were possible. Mr. Hasan replied that such property related information is the top need (documented in the GIS Plan) of almost all government users and MCRPC is working towards making it possible. The technical capabilities exist provided pending access requested to the County's assessment and taxation databases comes through. Mr. Russell asked if the tax payer information was available through a search and Mr. Hasan replied that it is not searchable yet, but available through point and click lookups.

Mr. Hasan also suggested that COB consider providing an easily accessible direct link for all their employees to the McGIS intranet portal through an exclusive COB intranet portal. This does not exist now, which results in lesser awareness and utilization of existing government only data and resources providing far more powerful, extensive and advanced capabilities compared to those available generally to the public. Both TON and County already have an intranet page linking to the McGIS intranet portal and this is extremely helpful for government employees in doing their daily tasks more efficiently and effectively and COB employees should have the same options at the very least.

Mr. Hasan reported that he is still working with the County and COB IT departments to enable access for government employees and the public of this new application. County IT has been requested to setup the firewall so a scaled down version (with less data) of this viewer can be made available publically and to retire the older plat viewer application and for fulfilling one more prerequisite for migration to ESRI software version 10.x. In addition, some

external links e.g. COBTA, Normal Township Assessor, Google Street view etc. need to be unblocked. Similarly COB IT is working on trouble shooting access issues for COB employees.

Mr. Hasan added that MCRPC will be setting up training sessions for government employees and the public as soon as these issues are resolved and requesting for a general email announcement by contacting the consortium management and technical committee members shortly.

B. Update on GIS Plan Implementation Activities

Mr. Hasan referred to the project gantt chart in the comprehensive GIS plan and briefed the committee on the current implementation status. He summarized that we are on the planned track but a little behind (about 5 months) on the schedule. The key governance and coordination initiative tasks like designating department liaisons and scheduling IT committee meetings were planned for January 2011 and accomplished in May 2011. For key tasks associated with GIS data initiative some are complete, e.g. commercial off the shelf solutions (COTS) review, revising cadastral schema, others are pending, e.g. property information access while others are in progress, e.g. master streets/public safety schema and related data improvements, consistent standards, documentation and revising data model among others.

Significant activities not listed in the gantt chart but which nevertheless continue as part of routine operations are developing newer web applications, hardware and software upgrades and user/public support and outreach activities.

Other Discussion Items that May Arise

None.

6. Adjournment

The regular meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m. The next scheduled meeting of this committee, pending items of business, is July 15th, 10:30 a.m. in Room 404 at the Government Center.

7. Executive Session

No executive session was required.

Respectfully Submitted,
Khalid Hasan,
GIS Director, MCRPC