

AGENDA

**MCLEAN COUNTY GIS MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
FRIDAY, January 18th, 2002, [9:00 A.M.]**

*\*\*\* Please Note New Meeting Time 9:00AM \*\*\**

**MCLEAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Administrative Matters**

- a. Review of the Minutes from the December 14th, 2001 meeting of the GIS Committee
- b. Financial Report

**3. Possible Projects with Area Local Governments (Lexington / Downs)**

**4. Update on MCRPC Virtual Private Network connection to the County**

**5. Priority Projects**

- a. Cadastral Mapping
- b. Aerial Photography
- c. Intranet Map Server
- d. Subscriptions / Data Pricing
- e. E911 Addressing
- f. GPS

**6. Executive Session**

**7. Other Matters of Business or Discussion that May Arise**

**8. Next Meeting**

**9. Adjournment**

## MINUTES

### **MCLEAN COUNTY GIS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**FRIDAY, December 14th, 2001, 9:30 A.M.**

### **MCLEAN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

#### **Members Present**

George Drye, Director of Engineering and Water - City of Bloomington; Mike Hall, - Town of Normal, John Mitchell, County Engineer - McLean County Highway Department; Paul Russell, Director - McLean County Regional Planning Commission.

#### **Members Absent**

Bill Gamblin, E911 Administrator - McLean County E-911, Michael Ireland, Assessor - City of Bloomington Township;.

#### **Others Present**

Mark Hocking Engineering Technician - City of Bloomington Craig Nelson; Phil Dick, Director of Building & Zoning - McLean County; Bill Jackson, GIS Programmer/Analyst - McLean County Regional Planning Commission; Terri Joyce - City of Bloomington Township; Kevin Kothe, Information Systems Engineer - City of Bloomington; David Mather, GIS Coordinator - McLean County Regional Planning Commission; Troy Olson, GIS Specialist - McLean County Regional Planning Commission; Russ Warren - Senior Designer, Farnsworth Group, Stephen Sochotsky, GIS Specialist - Town of Normal, Steve Bland, Engineering Technician - City of Bloomington; Kent Bohnhoff - Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting commenced at 9:30 a.m.

#### **2. Administrative Matters**

##### **a. Review of the Minutes from the October, 19th 2001 meeting of the GIS Committee**

No changes to the minutes were noted, minutes were approved.

##### **b. Financial Report**

No questions about the financial report. David noted that the recorders fee is at zero because the woman who usually does the transfer has been out on maternity leave. \$14828.00 was transferred for November through mid December.

#### **3. LCD projector**

Mr. Mather announced the presence of a new scheduling calendar on the GIS website for the LCD projector. Where scheduling conflicts may occur, the Tech and Management committee member activities will take priority. Mr. Kothe discussed the recent acquisition of a 128 megabyte memory card and adapter for \$90.00 to enhance capabilities for handling larger slide shows without the need for a laptop computer connection.

#### **4. VPN Connection for MCRPC**

Mr. Nelson updated the Committee on the status of the Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection which would connect the Regional Planning office to the County network. He indicated that he thought this would be in place by the end of January 2002. The connection would be used for ArcIMS server access and for accessing ArcInfo licenses on the mcgisgov server. The connection should only take a few minutes to set up. It simply requires the loading of some software on the server at the Planning Commission, and a password for a connection via the Internet. Mr. Mather indicated that the speed would be limited by Regional Planning's DSL connection, and the County's own network

#### **5. Priority Projects**

##### **a. Intranet Map Server**

Mr. Jackson indicated that an additional map service with Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) taxing districts is up and running. Also, a new parcel map mapservice is available featuring an ODBC connection to the City of Bloomington Township Assessor's Access database. Mr. Mather advised that he hoped to connect with the County Assessor's database in the future, though Mr. Craig Nelson thought direct access to the PAMS database may be problematic. Mr. Mather suggested the possibility of dumping the PAMS database to another format. Mr. Jackson stated that Mr. Kahman, County Supervisor of Assessments, and one of his staff, was set up to connect to the ArcIMS server though there were some problems connecting other computers in his office. Mr. Mather asked Mr. Craig Nelson if it was necessary for the computers to be connected to the Internet for the intranet connection to work. Mr. Nelson advised that it was not necessary, but he would have someone look into the problem.

Mr. Jackson suggested that the time may be near to send a broad announcement of ArcIMS availability. Mr. Mather advised we would need to look into providing ArcIMS training and that the InfoTech facility at 205 North Main in downtown Bloomington would be good place for training. Mr. Mather asked who should have the training? Mr. Kevin Koethe suggested that less than 10% of local government employees do not need it and that the rest do though they don't know it yet. Mr. Hall suggested that each Tech Committee member chose who in their offices should get initial training. These individuals could then provide guidance to others in their offices.

##### **b. Cadastral Mapping**

Using the LCD projector, Mr. Olson showed the current and future parcel delivery areas. The predicted time line for complete delivery is May or June 2002. The contractor, Akanda, will have staff working on the easement layer because a key person who normally works on the parcels

will be on vacation over the holidays. Mr. Olson stated that we had received most of Bloomington-Normal parcels at this time and we are soon to begin receiving rural area parcels.

### **c. Aerial Photography**

Mr. Olson discussed problems with the DEM breaklines which caused obvious distortions (waves) in the roads in higher relief areas. We received some of the low flight photos for the south Bloomington area and the problems appear to be resolved. Mr. Olson discussed the need for compressing the data given its large file size. The color TIFFs delivered by GRW are 400 MB each, but a black and white JPEG of the same area is only 13 MB. Conversion of TIFFs to JPEGs is one easy way to compress file size. In order to get color JPEGs for the entire county, tiled by Township, on a single disk a DVD writer would be required. Mr. Olson discussed some the problems encountered with tiling the photos by Township and suggested it was a limitation of the ArcInfo software rather than the computer.

Mr. Paul Russell inquired if the low flight photos were available yet for the area including the Interstate Center. Mr. Olson indicated that these had not been received yet and that the only low flight delivered so far is in south Bloomington

### **d. GIS Day**

Mr. Mather stated that the McLean County GIS Day 2001 was a big success. Mr. Mather stated that we had 7 presenters including Keith Milburn from Evergreen FS, and that Mr. Jackson had set up the ArcIMS server and a bank of four computers on a LAN. The Post Office was a good location choice and that at least 150 people attended. Mr. Mather said that he had sent thank you letters to all participants and that the two rooms were reserved for next year's GIS Day which falls on Nov. 20th next year. Mr. Drye asked how many students attended. Mr. Mather stated that at least 30 students visited from ISU. Mr. Drye asked whether the High Schools had been notified of the event and Mr. Mather stated that there was not enough time, that at least two months advance notice was necessary. Mr. Russell thought the tech group did a great job. Mr. Mather mentioned that the GIS web site was updated with the event information and photos.

### **e. Map book**

Mr. Mather advised that no new progress had been made regarding the Map Book.

### **f. E911 Addressing**

Mr. Kothe advised that E911 was approved to begin operating and that a testing period would begin after the database is ready.

### **g. GPS Base Station**

Mr. Hall advised that the FCC license application for frequency and bandwidth for a GPS base station had fallen through due to non-action by KCI Radio. Although there was no formal agreement in place, the company indicated they could get us a frequency. Mr. Hall stated that he would talk to a local company with an excellent service record to see if they could do the job.

## **h. Soils data**

Mr. Mather advised that Bob McLeese, State Soil Scientist, in Champaign had sent us a one square mile complete digital soils data sample and that this was all that had been completed. He further stated that we had sent 2/3 of money NRCS asked for to get county digital soils data production on the fast track. Since this has not happened we are reluctant to give the additional 18k which had been the scheduled payment 1.5 years ago. Mr. Mather stated that the NRCS had billed for that amount 1.5 years ago but the payment was not made since no product had been received. Mr. Mather had emailed Mr. McLeese that we were reluctant to pay the amount due until we had the product. Mr. Kothe stated that the digital soils data was due in the year 2000. Mr. Drye suggested that the committee review the contract. Mr. Kothe indicated that a large amount of the work had been begun by NRCS, but that QC revealed serious problems with the data and that they had to start over. Mr. Kothe reminded the committee of the importance of the data for various projects including the land use map. Mr. Hall suggested that the committee send a formal letter of concern to Mr. McLeese.

## **6. Executive Session**

No items to discuss.

## **7. Other Matters of Business or Discussion that May Arise**

### **Cultural-Historical Map Data**

Mr. Drye asked whether any Cultural-Historical map layers were available for the county. Someone suggested the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) be contacted to see if this data was available. The data may be restricted due to its sensitive nature.

### **Flood Maps**

Mr. Mather advised that he had called FEMA and learned that our data request had been approved and that data would be forthcoming within a few weeks. However, to date no data had been received and that further inquiry was necessary.

### **ILGIC meeting**

Mr. Kothe advised that he had sat in on a meeting of the Illinois Geographic Information Council (ILGIC) on November 30th at the Bloomington Police Department's O'Brien Room. The council is investigating formal data standards for GIS data such as transportation layers. Mr. Kothe suggested that the implementations of standards may actually be beneficial to the county GIS and relieve the number of data requests we receive from other state agencies.

### **GIS Intergovernmental agreement**

Mr. Russell opened for discussion the need to request the appointment of representatives to the GIS management committee. Those present discussed the issues and generally agreed that it was a positive step that would ensure future participation by all the members.

## **8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the GIS Committee will be held on Friday, January 18th, 2002, at 9:00 a.m. at the McLean County Highway Department.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Mather,  
MCRPC GIS Coordinator