



MSGIC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2016

9a.m. – 12p.m.

Anne Arundel County Government, Heritage Complex (Annapolis, MD)

Attendees:

Marshall Stevenson, WBCM (Chair)
Patrick McLoughlin, Spatial Systems (Chair-Elect)
Allen Wainger, Michael Baker Corp (Treasurer)
Glen Sine, Anne Arundel County (Local Government Caucus Chair)
Matt Sokol, MD DoIT (State Caucus Chair)
Lynda Liptrap, US Census Bureau (Federal Caucus Chair)
Allen Blades, Axis Geospatial (Private Industry Caucus Chair)
Julia Fischer, MD DoIT (Education Subcommittee Chair)
Patrick Callahan, Prince George's County (Data & Resources Subcommittee Chair)
Kenny Miller, MD DoIT (Deputy GIO)
Gary Maragos, MDP
Doug Goldsmith, KCI
Theresa Martin, City of Laurel
James Shaw (MSS Liason to MSGIC)
Charlene Howard, MWCOG
Sid Pandey, Dewberry

On the Phone:

Mike Scott, ESRGC (Education Caucus Chair)
Mara Kaminowitz, BMC (Regional Caucus Chair)

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

November Minutes Approved

Open Meeting & Announcements – Marshall Stevenson

Open/General Discussion

- Governor announced his legislative agenda. Has anyone seen it? Up until a month ago there wasn't much on the website about what his major initiatives were.

MSGIC Business

- MSGIC P.O. Box – Julie Spangler (unable to attend)

Action Item: A. Wainger to send forwarding address until mailbox is set up.

Action Item: A. Wainger needs to contact IRS about new address

State Updates - Kenny Miller

- Formal Data Partnerships between the State and Local Governments – Kenny Miller
- Working on two strategic plans
 1. MD geospatial data sharing program.
 - A standard MOU for local governments for sharing data with the state.

- DOIT, SHA and MDP first.
- Have a draft in the works
- Will be travelling to all the jurisdictions in the coming months. Several jurisdictions already have their data made freely available in the public domain.
- Some data should not be public but should be shared with the appropriate agencies.
- Problem is we have multiple copies of the same data in different places

2. NG 9-1-1

- The envisioned role of the state is to collect this data and put together in a seamless dataset.
- Reasonable expectations that there might be funds to do this.
- Goal by mid-year to have something signed and the collection and sharing.
- The board has previously supported capital expenditures of such programs but we do not want to be in a position where we are maintaining
- Idea to create seamless datasets where locals can push their updates into statewide datasets
- What we do not have is a formal agreement with every county.
- Also stated that we (the state) will not distribute this data as a statewide file. Other counties have stipulated that they do not want them shared with anyone else.
- Want to make it clear among the counties and the state what is fair to put out in the public domain. Hope is that once we achieve that we can expand to other data like hydrography, hazmat, etc.

Question: Each of the jurisdictions will likely have a difference of opinion on what data can/should be shared. Have you pulled in a couple key counties yet and identified what those datasets might be?

Answer: Yes, have considered those critical datasets to public safety. Plan to reach out and have this discussion statewide. Trying to build on successes like the address points and imagery. Does not take a significant amount of staff time and worth it. Need to make clear what the counties get out of it. If we are able to get a majority of these datasets, the state can handle the distribution.

- Locals will likely want to have access to the state assets in their jurisdictions and in their neighboring jurisdictions. For example, reached out to get Park n Ride locations. Most may only care about the location and nothing else. It is that core schema that will be imperative.
- This organization has an obligation to make this data available and make the lives of our members easier.
- DoIT already has similar agreements with every jurisdiction for the radio system towers and fibers.
- The counties have already dealing with MOU's and seen a master contract for communications and K. Miller will be borrowing on that principle.
- Recommend the next step is utilities.
 - Have spent a large amount of time convincing a particular utility company that Parks and Planning is a county agency and should be able to use their street light data.
 - The public service commission owns these folks or they have to answer to them so their influence might be a good place to start.
 - Yes, and we've kind of lost are bargaining chip now that all of our data is shared publicly.

Question: Is there a lobbying effort?

Answer: The public service commission is the state version of the FCC. They do have some money coming later this year to begin implementation.

MSGIC Treasury Report - Al Wainger

Need to start planning budget for next year.

- Our expenses were about 12K which include such recurring costs as: TUgis, tax accountant, interns, etc.
 - May want to budget for 12-17K
 - More training which may have costs associated with that, e.g., paying the trainer, location, etc.
- Action Item:** J. Fischer to give more concrete numbers on training following discussion.

Question: What about the MACO Winter Conference?

- Haven't done anything for the summer but did sponsor the breakfast for the winter conference.
- Reached out to them and were supposed to have a ¼ page advertisement.

Action Item: Patrick McLoughlin has a copy of the agenda and will send it.

- If there is a big turn over there is a lot of education and if not, it's more of a working agenda.
- Small turnout potentially due to the December timing.

Question: Does MSGIC have a briefing tact to go into new legislative packets.

- No, not specifically but something we should look into putting together.

- If we are going to invest (given partnerships w/the locals), would be smart to be involved in both the summer and winter conferences.
- If we're going to have our name out there we should have something in their briefing packets for them to refer to.
- Had a presence at the winter conference to show support and were looking to hopefully get some support in return for the summer conference.
- Previously turned down to present – it was an open data panel.
- Structure seems to be more panel discussions.
- They allowed speakers to present at the cyber café at MACO although no one attended.
- KCI will have a presence at MML and MACO and willing to support.

Conferences

TUgis 2016 (3/15) – Marshall Stevenson

- MSGIC/DoIT Sponsorship - confirmed
- Resume Review Session – a hold-over from that last few years.
 - Thought there might be some value for students in particular.
 - Also talked about doing some mock-interviews with some pointed tech questions that they might encounter with advice on how they should prepare/respond.
 - Should not be difficult, just need to reserve a room and time and then guide folks from our Booth to the room.

Question: How would we get the word out ahead of time?

Answer: TUgis would need to help us with the messaging ahead of time. Would need to get all the details for them.

- Would recommend no sign-ups, maybe 11-1 during that open time.
- Could have 3 people manning the booth for that time so that someone could step into that room as people came up for resume review.
- Could use Linda Morgan, Scott Jeffrey and folks like that to target our marketing.
- Several at a recent GEO DC meetup were there looking for jobs.
 - Spoke to them about our Emerging Professionals group and sharing what we are doing.

- Could also promote conference attendance.
 - Traditionally it has been our responsibility to get moderators.
 - We also need to get booth volunteers, gather up marketing materials and get the booth display updated for printing, if necessary.

Action Item: Ask TUgis for a room.

- **DoIT Training** – Looking to put on training that has been only open to state employees.
 - Would be on an off day of the conference, would discourage state employees from attending, and would make available to only MSGIC members.

Vote: Asking for financial assistance from DoIT, TUgis, and MSGIC(\$500/each).

A. Wainger makes a motion

A. Blades seconds

All in favor

MACo Winter Conference

- P. Callahan was there with Prince George’s county. Did not see MSGIC’s name anywhere but the signs were down early.
- Very sparse attendance potentially due to the timing and the agenda.

Delmarva GIS Conference

- There was some confusion about who is the sponsor (ESRGC or MSGIC) likely because Lauren (ESRGC) was making the arrangements for (MSGIC).
- MSGIC is sponsoring the continental breakfast which may be why we are not listed on the homepage?
- Have also been talking to DelMarVa Conference group about sponsoring the TUgis Conference.

Quarterly Meeting Updates – Patrick McLoughlin

- The agenda is mostly complete, still waiting for confirmation on one speaker.
- If they are unable, we could do the Caucus breakouts like we’ve done before which was well received.
- GPI is the breakfast sponsor – A. Samonisky has sent information to them.
- Recommend doing MSGIC business and Caucus meetups before lunch.
- An opportunity for Caucus chairs to get some feedback, identify objectives, get ideas on training and needs, get opinions on how they perceive MSGIC is doing.

Question: Do we want to do a recap on how the training went? “Lidar workshop recap” and can let people know about upcoming dates. Definitely.

- Quarterly Meeting Social – Doug Goldsmith
 - 4 – 5:30 PM finger foods and beverages at Mathew’s 1600 in Catonsville.

Question: Would you be open to TUgis co-sponsoring the event? Their name would also be listed on the messaging and maybe signage at the meeting. Sure.

Action Item: M. Stevenson will talk to Virginia

Vote: MSGIC contributing \$250 toward social. Would be a KCI/TUgis/MSGIC joint effort.

Marshall puts out the motion

P. Callahan seconds.

All in favor.

MSGIC Interns - Mike Scott

- New intern has started and is working A. Samonisky.
- Ask M. Stevenson to send A. Samonisky's email
- Took a little more time to get an intern this time around and need to plan a little earlier for next time - a little overlap is okay.

MSGIC Emerging Professionals – Sid Pandey

- Quarterly social intent to give those folks another opportunity to network.
- Will be advertised through MSGIC and should be brought up during Quarterly
- Could have Scott Jeffrey assist, particularly because of the location.

Question: Do we have a group of folks identified as emerging professionals?

Answer: Not yet, could message out to MSGIC membership to find out who would like to be a part of the group.

Action Item: M. Stevenson will work with Sid to give him access to MailChimp

- Plan for future meetups to do something similar to GEODC does where they find 2-3 people who want to give a short talk.

MSS/MSGIC - Patrick Callahan/James Shaw/Matt Sokol

- Datum 2022 Subcommittee
- National Grid
 - M. Sokol talked to Barney Krucoff about putting the statewide NG service up on MDiMap and is in progress.
 - Also talked to Cole Browne WSAR – Wilderness Search and Rescue – he is the liaison for Maryland.
 - Hoping Cole might be able to potentially donate some of his time for a class, maybe less focused on S&R and more on NG and LiDAR.
 - Had sent a training video previously.

Question: K. Miller heard recently about another grid system, aware of how this fits into National Grid?

Answer: No but in theory, NG is a grid system that could be expanded worldwide.

- Typically they all tend to start out with the UTM zones and then as you get closer it is the NG.
- Maryland itself has two UTM zones – The far western counties and the rest of the state.

Question: Was it the Discrete Global Grid System you had heard about? Yes.

- DGGS is an OGC initiative.
- It is based on WGS84 which is not used in surveying.
- The reason we have datum22 coming out it to move to ITRF.

Question: Are you aware of any efforts to move forward the National Grid? Unsure.

- Done in support with NGA. Matt Sokol has been in talks with Talbot Brooks (Delta State Univ).
- The Three Words global system – It really does work well particularly from overseas or just folks not in town. You do have to use their app.
- BRGISC in process of hosting a panel on the National Grid at their meeting in Feb or March. Will be open to non-BRGISC members.

- K. Miller has been in communication with CAD vendors to allow for dispatchers to easily convert between Lat/Long and USNG.
- NG does not refer to anything on the ground. Yes, and that is the point, there may not be any ground references left following a disaster.
- Why not just Lat/Long? Because people get confused between DMS, DD, etc. Also, to get high accuracy need to go out several decimal points vs the NG.

Marketing/Outreach/Advocacy

- Outreach by Executive Committee to membership

MailChimp Access – Marshall Stevenson

- M. Stevenson did give access to folks previously.
- Was able to do a quick email out to members on behalf of TUGis.
- Those mailings are saved and can be-reused.
- Not tied to our membership db directly.

Question: Can we get a list of adds from the db periodically? (M. Scott) – Yes.

Review of Welcome Packets – Ashley Samonisky

Social Media Plan – Ashley Samonisky

- Both posted to Google Drive
- MSGIC Promotional Materials
 - A lot of emails went out during November.
 - Agree we should do something and asking for someone to make a proposal and put it to a vote.
 - Need to have by the conference.
 - Lapel pins for the EC to wear at meetings, conferences, etc. Reasonable price giveaway at events.
 - Need also MSGIC ribbons, we are running low.
 - Giveaway quantity dependent on cost.

Action Item: M. Stevenson to check MSGIC bin on ribbons.

Action Item: P. McLoughlin and A. Wainger will look into tchotchkes.

Education

Training opportunities for the coming year

- Creating an events calendar for the website like done at the MDiMAP portal. Would try to find a way to highlight MSGIC and sponsor events. Will be easier to update and edit than the current list.
- J. Fischer is putting together a training calendar. In the past have done a survey and do not believe we need to do again, EC folks should have a good grasp.
- Python scripting at TUGis (not through MSGIC) but would like to potentially offer around the state in the future.
- Some more GISP training which will be different as folks now need to prep for the exam.

Question: What are other things folks are interested in?

- ArcGIS Online
- ArcGIS Pro
- Collector for ArcGIS - MEMA has developed a FEMA qualified app that fills out the FEMA forms.
- Open Source products

- Intro to surveying and maybe combine with info on datum change
 - Imagery (ways to use) - The average user doesn't understand how to use the color infrared.
 - Can be anything from all-day onsite training to 2-3 hour webinar.
- Ideal to do something with the data that is already there.
 - How about targeting not necessarily the MSGIC member but the consumer, e.g., GIS for decision makers.
 - Might be ideal for MML or a MACO with a very targeted focus.
 - Hot topics like TMDL to inform them on what data is out there and how to use it.
 - Training needs to be geared toward a county executive type person and presented by a County Executive.
 - No county executives come to mind who know GIS.
 - Rep. Sarbanes and Debbie Carpenter?
 - Caroline Gaulke might be of help w/getting someone from AACO DPW who is actively doing these projects.
 - Geospatial data is the backbone to asset management.
 - SHA did a presentation at TUgis that were real world examples of how GIS helped their bottom line.
 - What about Ken Ulman? He is a supporter of GIS.
 - There are also plenty of police chiefs, i.e., Brian Ebling from Caroline County; Dennis Wood, Deputy Fire Chief in PG.
 - How about someone who has become a believer and witnessed what GIS has done for them?

Action Item: Send any additional training ideas and any locations that could host training.

Question: Do they need to be sites with computers? Could develop a list of sites that have computers and those where folks would need to bring their own.

- NAPSG puts on lots of webinars and we might want to follow that model.
- There is a cost but the Maritime Institute in Linthicum has a lot of space (auditorium, classrooms, and cafeteria).

Question: Will this calendar include Conferences? Yes

LiDAR Workshop – Mike Scott/Julia Fischer

- Sent out email blast and the class filled up in about 10 minutes.
- In the process now w/Mike and Logan about doing another session in Feb.
- Looking to ask MNCPPC who is hosting the Jan session to also host the Feb.
- Also looking to have a session at TUgis the day before or after the conference so as to not compete.
- Additionally, hoping to do a summer session on the Eastern Shore.

Question: Registration and cost?

Answer: It was handled through Eventbrite. \$50 unless you are a member than it is free.

Question: Why don't we just make it free for MSGIC members?

Answer: Just need to look into if/how that would work with Eventbrite. Seems like it would minimize the complexity of it and state this is something that is exclusive to MSGIC members.

Question: Considering how popular this is, why is there a restriction for attendance?

Answer: Space and laptop limitations of the facility. For this class, will need to have access to Spatial Analyst.

Question: For the training next week, PGCO had planned on covering the breakfast, is that still the case? Unsure.

Action Item: J. Fischer will reach out to Jim Cannistra.

New Business

- Plats. Net
 - Had a meeting with Archives as a way of looking up your plat in MD.
 - Want to create a geospatial interface and have spoken with Prince George's County and Montgomery County on their current processes and working out how to move forward.
 - They had a product a few years ago, "LandRec"
 - They have everything scanned but not georeferenced although they may start with linking them and then working on that level in the future.
 - Census asked K. Miller for the official state and county boundary lines.
 - Trying to identify the authoritative source for boundaries.
 - Census is trying to nail these boundaries down, particularly those with a known boundary that should not change.
 - The difficulty is that things will change and accuracy continues to improve.
 - DC for example spent a lot of money surveying to delineate their boundary.