



Land Information Officers Network

Draft Meeting Minutes

WLIA Spring Regional Meeting

June 4th, 2009

Blue Harbor Hotel, Sheboygan

<i>(Those who signed attendance sheet)</i>	
Audrey Jensen – Lincoln Dave Tlusty – Langlade Brad Bastian – Outagamie Steve Geiger- Polk Eric Damkot- Washington Jason Grueneberg – Wood Jodi Helgeson – Adams Martin Goettl – Trempealeau Barb Gibson- Vilas Ed Harvey- Sheboygan Don Dittmar- Waukesha Jennifer Borlick- Rock Christina Pearson- Ozaukee Scott Galetka – Bayfield Mark Teuteberg – Oconto Kelly Felton – Sauk Andy Hess – Calumet	Mary Jean Ritchie – Lafayette Mike Romportl – Oneida Joyce Fiacco- Dodge Cathy DeLain- Manitowoc Steve Hanson- Kewaunee Bill Shockley- Clark Brett Budrow- St. Croix Terry Dietzel- Fond du Lac AJ Wortley – SCO Brian Vigue– DOA Peter Herreid – DOA Mike Friis- DOA Jim Lacy- SCO Curtis Pulford- WI GIO David Hart- UW Sea Grant Dick Vraga- USGS Lisa Morrison- WI DATCP

The meeting was called to order by Terry Dietzel, LION Chair, at 4:45 PM o'clock.

Terry introduced Brian Vigue, Administrator, Division of Intergovernmental Relations. Brian said he would be available to talk about local programs after the meeting and might be able to do some site visits when out with Mike.

1. Discuss Land Information Program Revenue and Grants- Peter Herreid

Application deadline for base-budget grants is June 16. LIOs were call if apps were not received. He said to call if there were problems because getting the grant money encumbered was important.

Best projections are that the program will have about \$2.4-2.5 mil in revenue for 2009 (estimates up from last meeting); saw a spike in February. They anticipate being able to fully fund all base budget grants up to the \$50,000 level. There is no sunset to Comp Planning grants but only \$570,000 of the \$2 million was requested, making the remaining available to help fund the base budget grants. It doesn't appear that funds will be siphoned off.

The monthly calls between LION, DOA and WLIA continue. It was noted that if revenues continue to increase, LION should be ready to offer suggestions regarding how it should be used. The method of dispersal should be codified; i.e., base budget, contribution based grants and strategic initiative grants. It is felt that contribution based grants would be easier than SIG.

2. Discuss County Land Information Program Plan updates for 2010- Peter Herreid, DOA

Peter said he received ideas for plan instruction revisions and time table at the last meeting. He distributed a tentative timeline for Update of Instructions- Countywide Plans for Land Records Modernization. Completion of the plans is regulated by statute and to remain eligible for use of retained fees, the plans need to be updated on a 5 year scope. In 2004, the WLIB approved plans in 2005-2006 so it is time for updates.

He asked for input from LIOs and an LIO work group of volunteers was formed at the annual meeting. Peter needs to know what LIOs would find useful or not and how to make plans more useful. Peter presented some questions to think about that would give him some direction including: 5-year cycle too long or too short (length of cycle not spelled out in statute); move away from older terminology (e.g., framework data not foundational elements); usefulness of current format; what function does the plan serve; would it be helpful to integrate it into RAMONA- WI GIS Inventory (combine survey with the plan) to be facilitate generation of reports showing progress to legislators and make it more automated. It was noted that the survey doesn't include question about future projects. Discussion followed with questions from LIOs.

Items discussed: given limited county budgets and staff at this point in time, a complete revision of the plan format and instructions is not practical; should be left up to each county to update as they see fit; simply send amendments to WLIB approved plans; many included dates in title so remove dates; should have already updated plans to accommodate PSC Wireless grant projects; some counties already do annual updates or when have major changes; complicated by County Boards or County Board committee approvals- impractical for every update between recommended 5-year updates; survey more valuable to state and plan more valuable to county; plans need to be meaningful and useful, shouldn't do it just to do it; state agencies do annual updates. More discussion is needed. Don, Jason, Joyce and Andy volunteered to work with Peter on this.

3. Update on Flat Fee for Real Estate Document Recording.

Jeff or Cathy weren't able to attend so Terry provided an update.

The most common complaint is that the flat fee is too low. The proposed \$25 is lower than most surrounding states. At least 26 counties have passed the resolution with several more not included on the latest map. This will be updated and distributed.

The issue stalled but due to timing of the state budget discussion determined not a bad thing. It was felt best not to push it at that time due to worries that if it were to be included in this budget cycle, money would be diverted to the state. This is on hold for the time being.

Jodi H gave an update on proposed legislation by Erpenbach and Schnieder to mandate removal of Social Security numbers on any internet-viewable document. There was talk of adding an additional \$5 to the Flat Fee resolution to pay for this. Another LIO reported that he had heard talk that surveyors were also looking to add to the total to support complete remonumentation although Mike R said he wasn't aware of any such effort. Several other LIOs said that they had heard the same rumor.

Jodi H said that the Dane County Board had passed a resolution to pull records off-line. There was concern that this could be extended to eventually include digital orthophotography and other databases. Jodi said that Florida has spent millions redacting SS#. The WRDA is meeting the following week and would be discussing this issue. It was mentioned that if funding through the flat fee was passed that more work with municipalities could be expected.

4. Update and discussion on Proposed Survey Practice Modernization Bill: SB-194.

Steve Geiger, representing WSLs, was present to answer questions about this proposed bill. Jim Lacy recommended that everyone read the bill themselves and not listen to hearsay. He said there are a lot of different interpretations and suggested each county consult with their Corporation Counsel. He reviewed several sections which had caused concern, remarking that the current statute has been out there since 1993 and needed to be updated. The language was not intended to threaten GIS applications but concerns exist that language differs from intent.

The President's Council (LION, WSLs, WRDA, WRPLA, state) reportedly discussed the proposed legislation in May. WSLs listened and the drafters will clarify mapping/GIS points. At that time, anyone unhappy with the proposed language was invited to suggest alternative wording. WSLs agreed to delay further action for now.

This led to discussion regarding whether or not LION should be taking an official position on these kinds of issues. Discussion points included: LION should remain neutral- organized to share information; LION should take a position to provide legislation direction; difficulties for LIOs if LION's position differs from the county's position- may be in conflict; each county should advocate their own position. The discussion highlighted the need to clarify LION's role.

Jim L again stated that LIOs should read the proposed legislation and share it with other departments who have an interest. Lisa Morrison asked how best to get information to LIOs- through LION as a group or through each individual LIO. Terry D suggested that she (and

others trying to get information to each county) contact the LIO and let them filter who to pass information on to.

Steve G said that WSLS was concerned about the comments received on the proposed legislation. He said no one should panic as no one is trying to take away anyone's job; emphasized the need to work together; noted that the way current statute is written, it could be interpreted the same way. Mike R said that he hoped we could all work together; no intent for WSLS to go after \$5 in the Flat Fee proposal; similar to the Landscape Architect bill which threatened a lot of professional surveyors and GIS. It will depend on what comes out of the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Resolution of the easement issue is not currently spelled out. The DOT intends to get their easement people registered by the 2018 deadline. There are different levels of easement accuracy that affect real property. Someone questioned who holds liability if easements are wrong. State agencies are trying to define this with their lawyers. Lisa M said that any county that has concerns about suggested changes to the easement language should contact her but she feels the GIS language can be worked out.

Terry said LION would recommend that LIOs read the proposed legislation and define their county's position. Lisa requested the LIO contact database and Fiacco will email it to her.

5. Update and discussion on the \$0.75 monthly surcharge to fund 911.

Richard Tuma was unable to attend so Don Dittmar spoke provided the update. Don said that Richard felt the redirection of this money to police and fire protection was a done deal due to the size of the state's deficit. The Governor got involved and needed to come up with \$100 million somewhere. It will be used to supplement local aid removed from shared revenues. Some of the funds could still go to Dispatch but will most likely go back into general aids.

6. Any other business.

Don Dittmar requested a letter of recommendation from LION for his reappointment to the National Geospatial Advisory Committee for another 2-year term. Jason G motioned, second by Cathy D, for the LION Chair to send a letter of recommendation. Motion carried. Terry will take care of this.

Don D motioned to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting, seconded by Christina P. Motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Don Dittmar;

Motion seconded by Cathy DeLain;

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Minutes taken by:

Joyce Fiacco, LION Secretary