

VGIN Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, October 9, 2008
1:00 PM, CESC
Minutes

Members Present:	Senator John Watkins Supervisor John Jenkins Trent Parks for Jeff Anderson Charles Donato Joe Pugh for Murali Rao	Richard Pevarski Stan Hovey Page Cockrell James Wilson Delegate Jeff Frederick
Members Absent:	Delegate Beverly Sherwood Delegate Salvatore Iaquinto Delegate Dave Englin Senator Mark Obenshain	Lem Stewart Chris Knights Connie Brennan Joseph Maroon
Staff Present:	Dan Widner, Coordinator Terry Mayo, Board Assistant	Stu Blankenship, Staff

1. CALL TO ORDER

Senator John Watkins called the meeting to order at 1:17 PM. Senator Watkins welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

Senator Watkins asked for corrections or additions to the April 9, 2008 Advisory Board Minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Charles Donato that the minutes for April 9, 2008 be accepted. Supervisor John Jenkins 2nd the motion. The minutes were approved; **10-0-0**.

2. ORTHOIMAGERY

Dan Widner addressed the Advisory Board, and said that Stu Blankenship will address the Board to present an update on Orthoimagery.

2.1 2009 VBMP Orthoimagery Request for Proposal Status Report: The RFP closed on September 24th. Image capture will be split between 2009 and 2011 (Eastern half of state will be captured during 2009 and Western half will be captured during 2011. (See Stu's presentation). The imagery this time will be digital as opposed to last time when it was film. This takes a lot of processing time out – faster delivery – within 6 months of acquisition. With this RFP there will be more upgrade options available. Requested upgrades include resolution upgrades, contours, planimetrics, true Orthophotography, color infrared, and off year flights. Vendors were encouraged to submit other creative options.

2.2 Virginia Partnership with USDA National Aerial Imagery Program: Mr. Blankenship briefed the Advisory Board on the 2008 Imagery Acquisition by USDA. The partnership was formed to produce a “leaf on” summer collection – one example is that this imagery can be used to make sure that something is not being grown that shouldn’t be grown. The planned imagery from USDA was of decreased resolution, true color and 85% coverage of Virginia. USDA came to us to partner with them. With the Partnership will be able to have 4 band color (true color and near infrared); improved accuracy using VBMP control points, and 100% coverage. The total NAIP Budget for VA was \$740,296. Total provided by Virginia = \$90,000 plus control points. Without partnership Virginia would not have been flown this year due to USDA budget cuts. The initial delivery will be Compressed County Mosaics and the final Delivery is Quarter Quadrangles. The guaranteed delivery date is September 2009. By next week you will be able to go to our Metadata portal and download the CCMs at <http://gisdata.virginia.gov/>. The public will be able to download the data at no cost.

3. COMMONWEALTH STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR GIS

Mr. Widner wanted to give the Advisory Board an update of the Strategic Planning. Not a lot of activity has happened since the last Board meeting due to the RFP for the new imagery has taking up a lot of time. Since the RFP has been released, we are shifting back to the Strategic Plan. VGIN will establish a five-year GIS strategic plan for the Commonwealth. The Strategic Plan will establish a vision for VA GIS, identify strategic initiatives based on stakeholder requirements, and identify implementation strategies on how to get there. A strategic plan is needed to focus on where GIS needs to go in the future. It needs to leverage state and local government resources, focus upon an interoperable geospatial environment for software, people and processes. There is a need to chart the path forward and communicate the plan through outreach, town hall meetings, the VGIN web-site, listservs, etc. The plan will need to be revisited every year to keep it on track and ensure we are on the right path. The vision is to “establish and maintain an interoperable geospatial environment for the Commonwealth that meets the needs of geospatial stakeholders.” The Advisory Board had a discussion concerning the sharing of data. Rick Pevarski, Senator Watkins, Trent Park, Page Cockrell, and Charles Donato made comments about sharing data. The overall strategic goals are to establish and maintain the state spatial data infrastructure - framework data layers, and identify and develop commonly needed enterprise services. The stakeholders are anybody who uses geospatial data such as local, state and federal government, university non-profit and private agencies. They will be identifying and interviewing stakeholders. Then the plan is to take the compiled information back and share the results through town hall meetings and other means.

Dan Widner reminded the Board about their suggested role as an executive oversight steering committee. He would like to know if there are other ways the Board would like

to be involved in this process. He thought the steering committee approach is a good way for the Board to get involved. Senator Watkins said he would like to be involved in the Town Hall meetings to bring the public in and involved. He said it is going to be a challenge to find stakeholders. Mr. Widner said he will be coming back to the Advisory Group for guidance. Mr. Widner said that when they talk to the stakeholders or public they need to lay out what VGIN does. Need to focus on mandates and the stakeholder's expectation. The outcome for the project would like to see is to have the stakeholder buy-in; actionable recommendations – save time and money, low hanging fruit and enhance data interoperability.

4. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON OCTOBER COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Widner addressed the Board and referred them to the Coordinator's Report that he email them earlier, and a copy is in their Board packets. Senator Watkins asked for questions or comments. Rick Pevarski congratulated Dan Widner on his NSGIC Board appointment. Joe Pugh made a comment on the coordinator's report. There were no addition comments or corrections.

5. BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2009

Mr. Widner addressed the Advisory Board and asked when the Board would like to meet for calendar year 2009. The Board agreed to meet Wednesdays on January 7, April 8, July 8 and October 7.

6. NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION

Senator Watkins asked for new business or open discussion from the Public. Dan Widner said that Stan Hovey asked to speak about something. Mr. Hovey addressed the Board, and said the public schools started a pilot program about GIS. They did their first survey a week ago about the 1st two years of the program. In the 1st year (2006) there were about 100 teachers teaching GIS to approximately 4,470 students. In 2008, an estimated 286 teachers were teaching an estimated 12,830 children. Mr. Hovey said you can see the growth in the school system. Mr. Hovey said that in as little as two years you will have thousands of new students learning about GIS. Mr. Hovey also said that Virginia is the only state that is teaching Geospatial Technology in the public schools. He is working to implement this in all states. Mr. Widner wanted to know if the statistics were online, and Mr. Hovey said he did not know; however, he is going to forward the information to Mr. Widner.

Senator Watkins asked for more comments and questions. Page Cockrell said he may be able to bring some services from his sector society. Senator Watkins asked Mr. Widner that in light of what we are doing with the Strategic Plan has the perception of

VGIN changed. He asked if most of the past negative comments disappeared. Mr. Widner said that he thinks so. Senator Watkins asked about the VITA influence. Mr. Widner said we are having an underwhelming response from state agencies about the rate structure program (the General Assembly had VITA/VGIN to do a geospatial services rate structure). Dan Widner said that with the current budget situation the rate structure needs to be revisited to see how VGIN can help the agencies. Senator Watkins said the last thing he would like to see is the duplication of services. Mr. Widner said that there are some specific needs for GIS services. Trent Park made a comment about the early approach to the rate structure. Rick Pevarski said that no one has the level of data that Virginia has (he was at an international conference). Senator Watkins asked for more comments, and there were none. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Terry D. Mayo

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Date