VGIN Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 7, 2015

10:00 AM, CESC

Draft Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Senator John Watkins	Delegate James Leftwich
	Clyde Cristman	Connie Brennan
	Samuel Nixon, Jr.	Doug Richmond
	Christopher Knights	Michael Kolonay for Martin Briley
	Elaine Roop	John Palatiello
	Dr. Hua Lui	Charlie Donato
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Senator Mark Obenshain	Delegate Richard Anderson
	Delegate Scott Lingamfelter	Delegate Rob Krupicka
	Charlie Kilpatrick, VDOT	
STAFF PRESENT:	Dan Widner, Coordinator	Terry Mayo, Board Assistant
	Steve Marzolf, ISP Director	Dorothy Spears-Dean
	Wendy Stout	John Scrivani
	Sam Keys	

1. CALL TO ORDER

Senator John Watkins called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM. Senator Watkins asked everyone to introduce themselves, and they did. Senator Watkins introduced the new Advisory Board Member, Mr. Clyde Christman of DCR. Senator Watkins called for the review and approval of the October 8, 2014 Minutes. Connie Brennan made a motion to approve the October 8, 2014 Minutes, and Chris Knights 2nd the motion for approval. The Minutes were approved; **10-0-0** (John Palatiello and Charlie Donato had not yet arrived).

2. 2015-20120 GIS Strategic Plan

Review and Discussion of draft 2015-2020 GIS Strategic five year plan – Coordinator Dan Widner introduced to the Advisory Board, representatives of the firm Michael Baker International, the consultant partners helping to develop the plan. Mr. Widner introduced Jonathan Soulen from the firm who would review the draft 5 Year GIS Strategic Plan. Mr. Soulen also introduced his staff. He gave a review of project activities of the last several months that commenced with six regional Town Hall meetings across the Commonwealth to solicit stakeholder input. Mr. Soulen said the Town Halls had a great mix of people from both GIS and Public Safety representing all stakeholder groups of the Commonwealth that included state, local, regional, and federal government, university, private sector and non-profit. They reviewed the existing VGIN initiatives and Programs, and talked about future trends, challenges and opportunities and sought input for goals and initiatives going forward. Mr. Soulen said that Goal #1 of the plan is "Coordination and Collaboration", which seeks to facilitate coordination for: VITA's Integrated Services Program, Local Government, State Agencies, and the remaining stakeholder groups as it pertains to the geospatial and public safety communities throughout the Commonwealth. Mr. Soulen said he thought that Goal #1 was the most important goal for all the stakeholder groups as it seeks to bring GIS stakeholders together. The 2nd Goal he identified is "Technical Services and Products" which provides and maintains statewide data-sets and spatial solutions that are most efficiently and effectively managed at the state level. Mr. Soulen said that the VBMP orthophotography is an excellent example that demonstrates this goal. He said that it is a perfect example of a data layer that provides multiple benefits to the Commonwealth. Initiatives for this Goal include providing NG911 Geospatial data products and services, oversee the maintenance and advertising of the geospatial clearinghouse, and the provisioning of statewide GIS data layers. He also said that one of the most critical tasks is the re-engineering of the road centerline (RCL) data layer. Mr. Soulen said that Goal 3 is "Education and Best Practices" with initiatives that define best practices and facilitate training opportunities directly related to VGIN products and services and serve as the go-to resource for best practice information relating to geospatial products and services as they are delivered by government entities of the Commonwealth. Mr. Soulen concluded by saying the draft GIS Strategic Plan has been placed on the VITA website for public comment through January 28, 2015 and he encourages everyone to review it.

Chairman Watkins called for questions from the Advisory Board. Mr. Cristman asked about the E911 Service Board Study. Mr. Marzolf addressed the Board and said that staff is going to brief the VGIN Board at the next VGIN Advisory Board meeting in April.

Mr. Marzolf also said that the Feasibility Study that Dorothy Spears-Dean is working on has to work with the GIS Strategic Plan. Mr. John Palatiello asked Mr. Widner what is it that he is asking from the Advisory Committee at this time. Mr. Widner commented that staff is asking for VGIN Advisory Board comment and feedback on the draft. Chairman Watkins said staff is asking for feed-back by January 28th , as that is when the public comment period is due back. Mr. Marzolf said that this plan will drive the activity for the next 5 years of the VGIN Division and that staff needs to focus on what is going to be their priorities. Chairman Watkins called for additional discussion or questions from the Advisory Board. Mr. Palatiello asked about the absence of Parcels from the list of mission critical data on page 18 of the draft plan. This question brought about a lengthy discussion with Advisory Board Members and staff. Mr. Marzolf commented that it is not a critical data layer for NG9-1-1 and not identified as such by NENA. With funding for VGIN coming from public safety, VGIN will have to prioritize and make decisions about what can be accomplished. Mr. Soulen commented that it is not on the critical data goal list but it can be on a wish list. Chairman Watkins stated that most of the revenue source is primarily from 911. Mr. Marzolf also commented that if VGIN could get more revenue through other resources Parcels could be prioritized higher for GIS Strategic Plan. Mr. Cristman asked if money is available for statewide LiDAR coverage. Mr. Widner said no, but that through efforts such as funding for statewide Land Cover data we are able to focus on the critical areas such as Tidewater. Senator Watkins commented to the Advisory Board that if they had specific questions, to take the time and send them to Mr. Widner.

3. <u>3D Elevation Program of Virginia</u>

Mr. Widner addressed the Advisory Board and said that John Scrivani will present on the 3D Elevation Proposal (3DEP) and provide a LiDAR update. Mr. Scrivani addressed the Advisory Board, and showed the Advisory Board a slide on the current availability of LiDAR data. Mr. Scrivani said that the highest quality level (QL1) is located in Louisa County and the lowest in Virginia (QL3) is located in some areas around Tidewater and the Eastern Shore. The funding has primarily come from federal funds for the project. Mr. Scrivani said that going forward we would like to get the entire Commonwealth covered with Quality Level 2 or better with an 8-year refresh plan to keep the data up to date. Mr. Scrivani said the LiDAR Acquisition Plan proposes the priority areas Piedmont; New River Valley; Eastern Shore; Southwest Virginia; and Southside Virginia. Mr. Scrivani said that the USGS put out an announcement in 2014 for nationwide LiDAR coverage that may help VGIN meet the goals. He also said that a pre-proposal was

accepted by USGS on November 17 and a full proposal was submitted on December 12. Mr. Scrivani said that the last guidance from USGS included an expectation of 75% state/local/other federal contributions. Mr. Scrivani said that VGIN is waiting upon a USGS decision with hopes of significant federal contributions since there is a shortage and state/local funding. The coordination of this effort is not asking for a grant; but rather joint funding arrangements for USGS managed projects, with VGIN facilitating. Mr. Scrivani informed the Advisory Board that he has provided training to several localities and that a LiDAR Workshop was provided at the Hampton Roads Planning District. Mr. Scrivani said that there were 25 participants with 4 people left on the waiting list. Most of the participants were local government GIS staff. The workshop utilized the 2013 Norfolk QL2 dataset. Mr. Scrivani said that the Hampton Roads Planning District gave a presentation on how it is using the data for coastal inundation studies. Also a presentation by NOAA was made. Chairman Watkins called for questions and/or comments from the Advisory Board. Chairman Watkins asked if the information is available on the website. Mr. Scrivani said it will be available in February. Chairman Watkins then asked how we approached Piedmont Shenandoah Valley since there were no contributors. Mr. Scrivani said through emails, etc. Mr. Doug Richmond had a question on the switch from funding commitment from USGS. Mr. Scrivani said that the USGS is trying to spread their resources over the entire nation. Mr. John Palatiello stated that when the USGS first put this information out in July he understood that LiDAR was fully funded by Congress but the bad news is that the amount needed for funding is not enough money. Connie Brennan asked if there is a lot of competition for the dollars. Mr. Scrivani said that there were many states that were turned away in the first phase.

4. Coordinator's Report/New Business/Open Discussion/Conclusion

Mr. Dan Widner addressed the Board and referred the Advisory Board to their Board packets. Mr. Widner said that staff has been doing a lot of planning for the fly-over for the western part of the state (see attached Coordinator's Report). Mr. Widner also said that last time the Western part of the state was flown was in 2011. Mr. Widner said that staff is working on getting the Land Cover statement of requirements through the VITA approval process. Chairman Watkins asked if there were any questions. Several questions were asked from Advisory Board members, and a discussion ensured.

- **New Business:** Chairman Watkins informed the Advisory Board that a Resolution has been prepared by Mr. John Palatiello and that Mr. Palatiello

would like for the Board to consider the resolution on "Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems." After passing out the Resolution and hearing an explanation from Mr. Palatiello, the Advisory Board read and commented on the contents. It was decided by that the Advisory Board at this time it will not take a stand of the Resolution and since the VGIN Advisory Board is under the Executive Branch of government, that it would be appropriate for the Advisory Board to wait and have guidance from the Executive Branch on this issue. Mr. Cristman commented that he would be more comfortable with the Attorney General's guidance on this Resolution. Several Advisory Board members made comments. It was decided that the Advisory Board would not act on the proposed Resolution.

Mr. Palatiello asked the Advisory Board about adopting a time-frame for Advisory Board members to send in agenda items for its' meetings. Chairman Watkins stated, and it was agreed upon by other Advisory Board members, that everyone is free to send in agenda items at any time for the Advisory Board meetings. Mr. Marzolf commented that staff is looking at establishing guidelines and procedures in process documentation for all meetings, and as soon as they are done, the Board will be provided the information.

Chairman Watkins asked for any comments or suggestions from any members of the Advisory Board. There were none, and Chairman Watkins adjourned the meeting at 11:29 AM. The Next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for April 1, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted: _____

Terry D. Mayo

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Date