

GOVERNOR'S INTERIM GEOSPATIAL COUNCIL

Minutes of February 24, 2005

REGULAR MEETING, No. 2

A regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Governor's Interim Geospatial Council was held on Thursday, February 24, 2005, in Conference Room A at the Department of Transportation, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, Connecticut.

PRESENT:

Thirteen members of the Council were present and represented various state agencies: Steven Fish, DEP, Chet Camarata, DECD, Julie Bisi, DEMHS, Eric Dency, CSP, Deborah Dumin, DEP, Tom Confrey, DOIT, Glenn Elliott, Military Dept., Tyler Kleykamp, DPH, Joan Carrasquillo, DPS, Bill Palomba, DPUC, Angelo Asaro, DOT, Julie Annino, DOT and John Harmon CSUS.

ABSENT:

Wayne Kasacek, Dept. of Agriculture and Pat McGlamery, UConn

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Fish called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. The Chairman briefly stated that ESRI would be addressing Council this morning and passed out timelines for the scope and depth of work to be done by ESRI on the TOPOFF III exercise.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Chairman called for a motion to approve the February 3, 2005, minutes as submitted. Council noted a few minor changes to the minutes. A motion was made by Dan Morely and seconded by Chet Camarata to approve the February 3, 2005, minutes with minor changes. The vote was unanimous with no opposing votes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Eugene Cieri, Captain from the Hartford Fire Department, City of Hartford, addressed the Council and presented a brief history of the Department's use of Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL), Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographical Informational System (GIS) and the implementation and utilization of this program by the Hartford Fire Department. Captain Cieri remarked that the Fire Department felt that the Council would be very important to them in the assistance of establishing a central database to store the information and keeping that information accurate and providing them with the latest information available. Captain Cieri would like to come back to a future Council meeting to give an actual demonstration of this system. A brief questions and answers session took place with Council after Captain Cieri's presentation.

Chairman asked if there were any other public comments. Hearing none the Chairman moved to the next agenda item.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Fish briefly discussed the requirement meetings with ESRI and various agencies last week.

Chairman Fish stated that he met with the User-to-User Group's Steering Committee on February 22, 2005, at their request, to primarily discuss the March 2nd User-to-User meeting at the MDC Training Center in Hartford. The Chairman along with, Deborah Dumin, Dan Morely and Tom Confrey will be presenting an overview of Council activities at the March 2nd meeting.

Legislative update – Chairman noted that a hearing took place on February 16, 2005, on legislation to create a geospatial council, which was submitted by Senator Kissel. It was decided from the Commissioner levels not to testify. Matt Ranelli mentioned that there was a vote to draft a raised bill that did move to the

next step on this proposed legislation. Chairman commented that it was the agencies' positions to stay quiet and see where the legislation goes with the thinking that it may not go very far within the legislative process.

BRIEFING ESRI:

Carl Nysten from ESRI gave a presentation to the Council with regard to Homeland Security and the State H.S. GIS Portal. Mr. Nysten gave a brief overview of the project and the two themes. One to scope out the long-term vision of the State of Connecticut and what it is trying to accomplish and secondly, to sketch out the shorter term need for the TOPOFF III Exercise. The briefing characterized how these two efforts will join together off of each other.

COUNCIL ORGANIZATION ISSUES

Creating an Executive Committee

Chairman Fish suggested that the new Executive Committee could be modeled after the Ad Hoc Council which consisted of the Chair, the Vice Chair and the heads of the workgroups; however, including two at large members.

MOTION: Beth Petroni made a motion to establish an Executive Committee as Chairman Fish stated with discussion of the at large members. John Harmon seconded the motion. Committee members agreed that having two at large members would be beneficial to the newly formed Executive Committee. The Executive Committee's function would be to establish priorities, direction and high-level goals. The Executive Committee would bring recommendations back to the full Council and the full Council would have the authority to make the final decisions. A vote of Council members was unanimous with no opposing votes. Motion carried to establish an Executive Committee as stated.

Discussion of Ad Hoc Work Group Structure and Functions

Chairman opened this item up for discussion. Deborah Dumin gave the Council a brief background on each of the Ad Hoc Council's work groups. The work groups consisted of the following:

- Training – Training in GIS
- Structure and Process – Formalizing the Organization
- Data – Looking at the data infrastructure
- Infrastructure – Geospatial Network, the technology

Expanding Council Membership Discussion

Discussion took place about expanding the Council in the future and at-large-members for the Executive Committee versus the full Council and opening it up to stakeholders including other state agencies, municipalities, regional planning agencies, private sector, NGO's and utilities and whether the Executive Order would allow new members. It was stated that the Governor's Interim Council should recommend through the report to the Governor what additional members be included. Council comment was made to make sure there was a broad audience at Council meetings, to share the information, invite the stakeholders to the meetings and make sure there is public discussion possibly before and after each meeting. Chairman mentioned his meeting with the User-to-User Committee and the Council's attempt to broaden their efforts. Discussion took place to include groups attending the meetings, CCM, RPA's (all fifteen), utilities, Siting Council, MDC, COST and the User-to-User group as well as additional state agencies. Council agreed that this would be a task for the Structure and Process work group.

APPOINTMENT OF WORK GROUP CHAIRS

Data Work Group

MOTION: Deborah Dumin nominated as Chairman by Dan Morley and seconded by Beth Petroni. No discussion, the vote was unanimous with no opposing votes. Motion Carried

Infrastructure Work Group

MOTION: Mike Varney nominated as Chairman by Beth Petroni and seconded by Julie Bisi. No discussion, the vote was unanimous with no opposing votes. Motion Carried

Structure and Process Work Group

MOTION: Jim Spencer nominated as Chairman by Deborah Dumin and seconded by John Harmon. No discussion, the vote was unanimous with no opposing votes. Motion Carried

Training Work Group

MOTION: John Harmon nominated as Chairman by Beth Petroni and Julie Bisi seconded. No discussion, the vote was unanimous with no opposing votes. Motion Carried.

Legal and Security Work Group

Council discussed adding names to this work group. Bill Palomba, from DPUC asked to add Sonja Shuford to this work group and Glenn Elliott stated that the Military Dept. would like to add someone to the work group as well but would get back with a name.

A general discussion of adding names to all work groups was debated including Human Service Agencies like DMR as well as other members from the private sector. ESRI voiced interest in participating in one of the work groups. Also mentioned for the Council's consideration was to reach out to GITA to get the right representation for utilities.

MOTION: Beth Petroni motioned to table the decision to elect a chair to the legal and security work group until there is a better understanding of the membership for this group. Tyler Kleykamp seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous with no opposing votes. Motion Carried.

TERMS OF OFFICE & MEMBERSHIP

MOTION: Chairman opened this item up as a general discussion. Beth Petroni made a motion to refer this to the Structure and Process work group. Motion seconded by Bill Palomba. The vote was unanimous to refer terms of office and membership to the Structure and Process work group with no opposing votes. Motion carried.

DEFINE WORK GROUP ROLES – TIMELINES FOR PRODUCTS

MOTION: Council discussed roles and timelines. Beth Petroni made a motion to have the work groups define those short-term roles and responsibilities beyond TOPOFF III and to bring back those decisions for discussion to the next full Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Julie Bisi. The vote was unanimous with no opposing votes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman recommended that Council attend the User-to-User meeting on March 2nd.

Chairman Fish asked those in attendance to see him or Mike Varney after the meeting with regard to the staffing plan for the GEOLab. Chairman Fish stated that he is looking for staff to operate the lab in the first part of the TOPOFF event. Chairman stated that they are looking for cross representation from various agencies.

Jim Spencer gave the Council an update on the 2004 flight products.

Recommendation by Council to talk to Pat McGlamery to potentially provide a resource to serve them up on Uconn's MAGIC website temporarily until another permanent location is ready to receive and serve the imagery.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 24, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. at DOT.

Hearing no other business before the Council the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.