

**GENESEE COUNTY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM STEERING SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

April 12, 2010

Members Present: Jim Gerth
Derek Bradshaw for Julie Hinterman, Vice-Chairperson
Joe Heimbach
Frank Ricica
Robert Slattery for John Daly

Members Absent: Commissioner Ted Henry
Jill McKenzie

Others Present: Ken Koleda
Christine Pobocik
Andrew Thompson

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Genesee County GIS Steering Subcommittee meeting was called to order at approximately 1:35 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members were present and absent as aforementioned.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 12, 2009

Action Taken: Motion by Mr. Slattery, supported by Mr. Heimbach, to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2009, Genesee County GIS Steering Committee Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IV. REPORTS

A. Working Group Report

Mr. Koleda reported that section corners are being collected by the Road Commission as they do road projects. The section corners are critical for improving the accuracy of the parcel layer. The Road Commission has focused on remonumented corners but they will collect others when in proximity to a project. About 60% of the corners are remonumented. If the Road Commission

gets ahead of the remonumentation, it may not be a serious concern because they usually do not move the corners. This is an ongoing effort.

B. Pictometry Project Status

The Pictometry flight was flown in the spring of 2009. They have offered us a free trial of Pictometry Online (POL) service until December. The service is very similar to the Pictometry software including the use of the measurement tools however there are no data layers. It would cost \$500 per layer to add our GIS data layers. This may be a possible option for us in a future Pictometry flight to distribute data online from Pictometry and would cut down on installation effort.

In January, a presentation on building footprints was given to local assessors. Pictometry can take existing imagery and create building footprints at a cost of 50 to 75 cents a parcel. Davison Township was interested. If footprints were created for both years of Pictometry imagery, they could then be compared. There are very few false positives. Revenue increases would be small and not a big justification. Very few assessors showed up. There is not a huge value for pursuing this at the county level.

There have been requests for private companies to access Pictometry. They can access the 2006 images online at Pictometry's website. There would be a \$17 per hour charge per user billed in tenth hour increments.

The final payment for Pictometry is in June. The Pictometry project had a "library compression" bundled in, but we determined that we did not actually need that. Pictometry has agreed to take \$5000 off the bill. This money can possibly go to purchasing storage for the images or for possibly getting footprints for multiuse condos.

Mr. Koleda reported that they were ready to process the 2010 parcels which will be sent out to the participants. The file is very close to the standard established in 2009. He plans to distribute the data through an FTP site or by email.

C. Data/Layers

Street Centerlines – The GIS department has received a copy of the County 911 street centerline file. This file is better than the state centerline file because it has private roads with address ranges as well as many spatial adjustments. The City of Flint also has a 911 street centerline file. Mr. Koleda is trying to find a good way to exchange the data from the two files which use different coordinate systems and are in different software.

Flood Zones – Mr. Koleda has been getting calls about the new flood zones from people who were previously not in a flood zone but are now in one due to the new flood maps that took affect in September of 2009. The federal government requires that they have flood insurance if they are in a flood zone. The homeowner needs to get a letter of exception and they generally need a survey.

Hydrants – Mr. Koleda is contacting communities to help them capture hydrant information in a digital format. The City of Mt. Morris is the only one that is

complete and that data was given to the County 911 dispatch. The City of Flint has about two-thirds of their hydrant data complete. There is a student at Mott who is doing some work on the data for Flint Township.

D. State Imagery Program and Bing Maps

The State of Michigan was offered a deal by Microsoft Map to have access to the BING maps enterprise engine and also discounted aerial image flights. They have signed an agreement. Microsoft will fly big areas and Genesee County could get 12 inch orthos for only \$7700. This would be 25% of what we paid when we flew with the USGS and only 10% of the typical cost to fly orthos ourselves. They need 7 counties to agree to fly and they achieved that goal this year. They wanted USGS to cost share but they did not agree. The USGS insists that any data it contributes to must be public domain immediately.

E. GIS Department Goals for 2010 - Ken Koleda

Mr. Koleda presented a handout which outlines the GIS Department goals and objectives for 2010 which was requested by Commissioner Curtis at the last directors meeting. Mr. Koleda is exploring the possibility of brokering out GIS services to local communities without GIS to help generate revenue.

V. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

Mr. Bradshaw reported on the preliminary findings of the Genesee County Economic Development Strategy Study done by AECOM. One finding of the study was that no one entity was doing Economic Development for Genesee County. There is no one voice. A second finding is there is not a sufficient GIS web presence on the internet. For the size of our county, and all of the things going on in the county our GIS and website should be focused for economic development. The website is currently focused on internal information for staff use. When businesses are looking for a place to locate they make decisions within 48 hours by using data that they find online. As a result of these findings, a request has been sent to Senator Kildee's office for \$900,000 in funding for a web base GIS. The website and GIS are the key to marketing our county and cities the goal is to focus it more on development. Other communities in the area have a better web presence and marketing. Battle Creek Futures and Saginaw Futures are a few examples.

VI. AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Chairperson Vacancy

This item was tabled until the next meeting when the new Equalization Department Head will be present.

B. Local Data Sharing Agreement

Mr. Koleda reported that a few years ago there was a fee to communities for the upkeep of the parcel layer. When the communities moved to the Equalizer software that fee was eliminated. The County still maintains the parcel layer and it is provided to the communities with the Pictometry software. Mr. Koleda is looking to establish a formal data agreement whereby when the county provides parcel data they would agree to provide any data they have upon request. Grand Blanc, Fenton, and Fenton Township are the only communities known to have their own GIS data at this time. These communities have provided data upon request, but this agreement would simply formalize that.

C. Global View

Global View is an online GIS Viewer that has an integrated shopping cart feature. They have agreed to put our GIS data and historical aerials online free of charge to help promote their product. They will promote the data and we would be able to shift the GIS map and data requests to the online application. Hopefully the volume of requests will go up. We are looking at pricing for subscriptions and quantity discounts. Pricing will be taken to the Government Operations Committee and then to the Board of Commissioners. The agreement looks fine we just need to work out what we are going to charge.

D. Revised Data Pricing

Mr. Koleda presented the new pricing system fees for GIS data. The current system fees do not generate enough revenue to cover our costs for creation and maintenance of the data. There would be minimum charges and a subscription system may also be possible. The goal is to double the revenue generated from the sale of GIS data. The group discussed holding off on the subscription aspect of the pricing fees.

Action Taken: Motion by Mr. Heimbach, supported by Mr. Gerth, to support, with minor modifications, the pricing structure for GIS Data.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 12, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:42 p.m.

**GENESEE COUNTY
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM STEERING SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

August 9, 2010

Members Present: Jim Gerth
Derek Bradshaw for Julie Hinterman, Vice-Chairperson
Joe Heimbach
Robert Slattery for John Daly

Members Absent: Commissioner Ted Henry
Jill McKenzie
Frank Ricica

Others Present: Ken Koleda
Christine Pobocik

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Genesee County GIS Steering Subcommittee meeting was called to order at approximately 1:36 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members were present and absent as aforementioned.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 12, 2010

Action Taken: Motion by Mr. Slattery, supported by Mr. Gerth, to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2010, Genesee County GIS Steering Committee Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IV. REPORTS

A. Working Group Report

No report was given. The group is going to move towards providing more demonstrations and training.

B. Pictometry Project Status

The 2010 parcels are completed and have been distributed to a few. Initial contacts have been made. The files are smaller and standardized so the process should be quicker. Language will be put in future agreements to charge

a service trip fee if the call is outside of the parcel updates. Last time we had a three year schedule. Next January we will begin the process to see if there is interest in a spring 2012 flight. There is software called Change Finder that allows you to compare years. Davison Township has opted to purchase it. Building footprints are created and compared to the outlines on the imagery and highlights the changes. The maximum cost per parcel is .75 cents and goes down to less than .50 cents per parcel.

C. Data/Layers

Aerials – Mr. Koleda reported that a 1949 set of aerials has been added from the Road Commission and we have acquired aerials from 1950 and 1971 from Michigan State University. We have 12 or more years of photos.

Parcels – the parcel layer had errors ranging from 10 feet to 60 feet. Mr. Koleda has been working with the parcels in an area of Swartz Creek testing different methods to adjust the parcels cheaply. He has been creating centerlines and using the subdivision plans to offset the parcels. This method works well on subdivisions. This method is cheaper than the \$9 to \$15 charge for new parcels. There are 130,000 parcels outside of flint that need to be adjusted.

Hydrants – a student from Mott had been working on hydrants and people in various communities have also been working on them.

D. State of Michigan GIS Business Plan Status – Ken Koleda

The State of Michigan received money to put together a GIS Business Plan. A consultant was hired to prepare the plan. USGS, IMAGIN and SEMCOG were on the committee to review the plan but they have all pulled out of the committee. The plan outlines more of what the state wants and not what everyone else needs.

E. Global View online GIS Data Status – Ken Koleda

This program will allow us to put data online for free. We should be close to getting a demo from them. Alpena is already online. Mr. Koleda reviewed it and they had orthos up and query abilities and the users could generate a .pdf.

F. Revised GIS Data Pricing Status – Ken Koleda

Mr. Koleda reported that the revised data pricing is in place and updated on the website. We are ready for GlobalView.

V. AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Chairperson Vacancy

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

B. Parcel Data on Google Maps

The Genesee County parcel layer is on Google. They do not show them together with the parcels. We should ask them to take it down. The new Enhance Access policy for the Register of Deeds says that we can't limit what they use the data for. Do we need to match their policy or can we identify specifics and get some slight modifications to that policy?

Action Taken: Motion by Mr. Heimbach, supported by Mr. Gerth, to request that Google take down the Genesee County parcel layer.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. GIS Department Services affected by Staff Reduction

Mr. Koleda reported that he has been picking up the work previously done by the GIS Specialist. He is learning how the subwarehouses work. He is hoping that Gloval View will help with the map requests. Assessors can requests maps at a cost of \$12.50.

D. Enhanced Access Policy Revision

The item was discussed under item B, Parcel Data on Google Maps.

E. Revised Data Price, Fees to Communities

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 11, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:35 p.m.