



RAMSEY COUNTY GIS USER GROUP

An alliance of communities sharing Geographical Information Systems

Meeting Minutes

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM January 5th, 2016

Shoreview City Hall, 4600 Victoria Street North

1. Call to Order and Introductions – Meeting was called to order at 2:04

Jolinda Stapleton, City of Roseville
Brian Jastram, MWMO
Matt Koukol, Ramsey County
Mike Stralka, Ramsey County
Tyler Thompson, VLAWMO
Mark Andrie, City of New Brighton
Jared Haas, City of Shoreview
Carrie Magnuson, RWMWD

Andrea Prichard, RCD
Sam Klimoski, City of St Paul
Matthew Bachler, City of Arden Hills
Niki Hill, City of Shoreview
Steve Lorbach, St Paul Regi. Water Authority
Nate Zwonitzer, CRWD
Dan Holzemer, City of White Bear Lake

2. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda – Correction to #5, 2nd sentence of last paragraph to read “All these counties plan on flying Ortho Imagery 2017”.... 2017 was truncated to “201”. Approved by consensus.

3. Approval of the December 1st Meeting Minutes – Changed next meeting date to February 2nd. RCGIS meetings for 2017 are scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of February, April, June, September, November, and December. Approved by consensus.

4. Secretary Vote – Members voted to nominate Dan Holzemer, City of White Bear Lake, to the 2017 Secretary Position. Tyler Thompson made the motion, seconded by Jolinda Stapleton, 12 voting members present. A quorum (40% of voting members – minimum of 10) was present so the motion carried.

5. Ramsey County Updates – Matt Koukol was at the meeting. He again stated that the impervious surface data is ready. The Minnesota Geospatial Commons (<https://gisdata.mn.gov/>) has the data for free download, just search Ramsey County. Ramsey County also has services that you can use in ArcMap. All data will now be placed on the GeoCommons. The half-section maps, fire maps, and FEMA will remain on the RCGIS ftp site and be updated quarterly.

Matt gave an update on the 5 year Construction Update Map. The purpose of the map is to help coordinate construction schedules, partner on certain projects, and notify the public of upcoming construction projects. Representatives for Ramsey County, the City of Roseville, and the City of St. Paul tested the map. The organizations added their respective 5 Year CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) to the map.

The concerns are:

- Availability to the Public (Various organizations 5 year CIPs are constantly changing, we might not want to make it available to the public at first)
- Finding personnel to perform this duty and who? (Engineers, Planners, GIS staff, Communication staff)
- When to update this map (Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, at the time the project is complete?).

Matt stated that the first version of the map “is ugly” but the group thought that this map was functional, easy to edit, and a good idea for the organizations and the public.

Chair

Niki Hill

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Vice Chair

Jared Haas

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Secretary

Dan Holzemer

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6. Budget Discussion

- a) **Metro GIS** – Geoff Mass (Met Council) had a presentation for the user group on continuing efforts to create a Regional Stormwater Dataset. Elements of a stormwater utility system are owned and maintained by multiple entities, even within a single municipality. This proposed dataset would fuse together storm sewer infrastructure data from metro organizations including (not limited to) cities, counties, MnDOT, watershed management organizations, and universities. Having a contiguous dataset would benefit local and state governments for modeling, infrastructure maintenance, land management, emergency response, public health, and community planning. This initiative was developed and tested in 2010 by state and local governments, and MnDOT, but efforts lapsed due to lack of funding and leadership. Geoff noted that different organizations have different rules for providing data to the public, especially when it comes to public health and public safety (fiber optic lines, sanitary sewers, water distribution systems). Sharing data between LGUs (Local Government Units) is required under State Statute.

Geoff is developing a plan to lead this initiative in 2017 with funding from multiple sources. He will return to the RCGISUG with a more complete plan and a proposed contribution at a future User Group meeting.

Geoff also solicited the group for involvement in the Metro GIS Coordinating Committee Policy Board. Two city representative seats are available if anyone is interested.

- b) **NearMap** – There was discussion of the NearMap presentation that took place last month. Various organizations had interest in this product. This product has High Resolution Ortho Imagery (about 2" pixel). NearMap does about 2 flights a year. Currently the City of Roseville and the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District are using the product and have found it very useful. (examples are differences between porous and regular pavements, roof tops, algae blooms, street striping, erosion concerns) There were concerns of having no control of when they do their flights, (leaf on or leaf off). The consensus of the group was that the pros outweighed the cons. Furthermore Matt Koukol stated that Ramsey County would be willing to front half of the \$45,000 cost per year, leaving a cost of \$22,500 for the RCGIS user group. There was further discussion to see if a discount was available if we were to enter into a 2 or more year contract with NearMap. However, the consensus was to let the group try it for a year and see if we like the product.
- c) **Further Discussion** – Brian Jastram discussed with the group if it would be advantageous to buy a MultiStation device for 3D scanning and locating of physical locations (specifically the Leica Nova MS60 http://www.leica-geosystems.us/en/Leica-Nova-MS60_106652.htm with Leica Captivate and Infinity TPS Scanning Bundle software) and to share it with the RCGISUG member organizations. Currently we don't believe that any of the organizations own such a device. The group might be on board with renting a MultiStation for certain projects, but there is a fair amount of training involved in its operation.
- d) **Action Items** – There was limited discussion of the Fee Structure being that at the last meeting the consensus was to leave it "as-is". Jolinda Stapleton made a motion to make no changes to the fee structure, and it was seconded by Steve Lorbach. Ayes all, motion passed. Steve Lorbach made a motion to move forward on the purchase of NearMap for one year, provided that Ramsey County pays half of the \$45,000 price (\$22,500). The motion was seconded by Sam Klimoski. Ayes all, motion passed.

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7. **Community Announcements** – No announcements
8. **Adjourn** – Meeting Adjourned 4:02

The next meeting will be on February 2nd, from 2 - 4pm, at the Shoreview City Hall.

Minutes submitted by Dan Holzemer, Secretary

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