



RAMSEY COUNTY GIS USER GROUP

An alliance of communities sharing Geographical Information Systems

Monthly Meeting Minutes

January 3, 2008

Location: Shoreview City Hall, 4600 Victoria St. N

1. Welcome & Introductions

Attendees:

Steve Lohrbach – Saint Paul

Joel Koeppe- Roseville

Mike Goodnature – Ramsey County

Carrie Mack- Ramsey Washington Watershed Dist

Deb Jones – Falcon Heights

Steve Gilkey – Geospan

Liesa Miller – MnDOT Metro GIS

Curt Peterson- Ramsey County

Chad Bergo - Maplewood

Jolinda Stapleton – Roseville

John F. Blackstone - SPRWS

Etoile Strachota - URS

Ger Pha – St. Paul

Meeting was called to order by Jolinda Stapleton

2. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Agenda modified to allow Geospan presentation to begin after Officer Elections but before the Treasurers Report.

3. Approval of 2007 December Minutes

Several omissions noted, including incomplete reports and typos. Minutes will be reviewed by John Blackstone and Carrie Mack and a revised version will be posted on the website. The revised minutes of the 2007 December meeting will be posted at <http://www.ramseygis.com/minutes.php>) and will seek approval at the February meeting.

4. New business

a. Officer Elections –The position of Vice President was not filled at the December 2007 meeting. Mike Goodnature volunteered his nomination, but quorum was not met. Members not present at the January meeting can vote via email to determine his election.

b. Geospan presentation – Steve Gilkey gave a presentation and demonstration of GEOVISTA™ software capabilities and how it compared to Pictometry software currently being used by many RCGISUG members. A sample of their work done for the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada can be seen by linking to the ArcIMS site that integrates GEOVISTA street level imagery;

Chair

Jolinda Stapleton

jolinda.stapleton@ci.roseville.mn.us

Vice Chair

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Secretary

Carrie Mack

carrie.mack@rwmwd.org



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<http://streetimages.rctcsouthernnevada.com/> . This is the same API used for Oblique Aerial imagery. Note that the site supports a 'go to intersection' function. His presentation has been converted to a PDF and can be found on the user group website.

5. Treasurers Report

Chad Bergo provided a document of the RCGISIG Financial State and Annual Expenditures. This statement included the following:

- > Current Balance of RCGISUG's escrow fund as of 12/31/07: \$137,290.53
- > 2008 Annual Fees: +\$34,729.98
- > Estimated balance of escrow fund on 12/31/08: ~\$159,520.51

Balance excess exists because of an increase in current members, a grant from the USGS that paid for a portion of the aerial photo flight costs (\$25,000), and because the National Conference expenditures were not used in 2006 or 2007. The group is in year 2 of a 3 year cycle to update Physical Features data. Approximately \$60,000 will be needed to be on track for this purchase. Deb Jones noted that there will be a change in Fee allocation from member organizations after the 2008 Census is completed. Fees are currently based on the 2000 Census population served.

6. Old Business

- a. User group website Steve L. – No updates have been made to the website.
- b. Education Opportunities – Jan was unable to attend the meeting to report on the presentation he and Jolinda made to TIES members. Jolinda reported that the presentation went very well and had an unexpectedly high turnout – 35 to 40 people. While few of them had previous knowledge of GIS, there was great interest particularly in finding county-based resources to use in their elementary school classes.
- c. Enterprise GIS Small Group – Group members that volunteered for the Enterprise GIS Small Group will be meeting on Monday January 8th at 10AM in the Roseville city offices. The group currently includes John Blackstone, Steve Lorbach, Mike

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Goodnature, Curt Peterson, Joel Koepp, and Jolinda Stapleton. The goal of this meeting will be to come up with document stating the program/project plan for implementing Enterprise GIS in Ramsey County. Chad Bergo stated that he is currently using the program, and at this point there is no customized mapping or editing capabilities. This factor is likely a benefit for maintaining data integrity while being used by a variety of users.

7. Ramsey County Updates Curt P.

Ramsey County has been working on updating census centerlines (edges) based on old TIGER data. Curt found this data to be inaccurate by up to 400 ft. in some areas. Curt is looking for information from cities as to how they are planning to participate in the 2010 LUCA program. Of major importance are addresses for multiple family dwellings IE apartments, nursing homes, group homes and dormitories since many of these addresses are not held in the County taxpayer database. The update will be two fold centerlines (edges) and addresses. For this update to be complete it is vital to have cities participate with address updates. Ramsey County plans to have centerline and address updates completed by January 31ST. Please contact Curt Peterson with City LUCA Census update information. This notice will be sent to cities within Ramsey County.

Curt brought updated CDs to pass out.

8. Community announcements and reports

- a. The FTP site password has changed. Licensed Users should contact Curt Peterson if they are having trouble accessing the FTP site.
- b. Active Living Ramsey County is working on a project to update non-motorized vehicle routes (biking and walking paths). Curt Peterson has been collaborating with the ALRC, providing a base map and assisting in finding errors and additions to the current data. The group is looking for help from cities to help fill in the gaps to the current Pedestrian Bicycle System by either (a) coming to the Ramsey County offices to indicate where the paths should be digitized in, (b) making a digital version in GIS or other

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program that can be sent to Ramsey County, or (c) by tracing the known paths onto a paper map that later be digitized in by Ramsey County. Prior to the meeting, a forward was sent out to RCGISUG members regarding this opportunity. The next ALRC meeting will take place on March 13th.

9. Agenda for December Meeting

The proposed agenda for the February meeting was discussed. Suggestions regarding any agenda items are welcome. Please send item suggestions to Carrie Mack (carrie.mack@rwmwd.org). February Draft Agenda will be distributed with the minutes and posted on the web site.

10. Other business

No other business.

11. Adjournment was at 3:57 p.m.

Next meeting will be on February 7, 2008, 2:00 p.m. at Shoreview City Hall.

Minutes submitted by Carrie Mack, Secretary.

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Jolinda Stapleton
jolinda.stapleton@ci.roseville.mn.us

Vice Chair
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carrie.mack@rwmwd.org