



RAMSEY COUNTY GIS USER GROUP

An alliance of communities sharing Geographical Information Systems

Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2008

Location: Shoreview City Hall, 4600 Victoria St. N

1. Welcome & Introductions

Jolinda Stapleton – Roseville

Joel Koepf- Roseville

Jan Vanderwall – Roseville Area Schools

Carrie Mack- Ramsey Washington WD

Deb Jones – Falcon Heights

Matt Baker – City of Shoreview

Curt Peterson- Ramsey County

Dave Kotilinek – City of North St. Paul

Julie Wotczak – North Oaks

Ger Pha – City of St. Paul

Melissa Baker - Capitol Region WD

John Jacobson – Ramsey County

Meeting was called to order by Jolinda Stapleton

2. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Suggestion made to move Pictometry Update (Item 4e) to the beginning of the meeting (4a). Suggestion approved. Agenda modified

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. Approval of February 2008 Minutes

No changes were suggested. February Meeting Minutes approved.

4. Agenda Items

a. Pictometry Update – Jolinda emailed Steve Baker (Ramsey County Assessor) last week who confirmed that a new 2008 flight contract with Pictometry was approved by the Board of Ramsey County Commissioners. John Jacobson (Ramsey Co.) passed out copies of the Board resolution and attachments (review Ramsey County Board meeting minutes from February 26, 2008 at <http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/cb/ma/minutes/index.htm>). Ramsey County Commissioners also considered Geospan, but at this time found it to be cost prohibitive considering the level of functionality. Deliverables and specifications for Pictometry contract are provided in Schedule “A” in the handouts:

- Licensed images procured with an 11-megapixel camera, formatted as MRSID traditional orthophotos.
- Higher 4-inch resolution images
- US Census Bureau TIGER line files of County or a base map supplied by Licensee
- DEMS
- Change Analysis Software: Improved management software provides simultaneous viewing of two different flight aerials so land use comparisons can be made over time.
- 1 digital copy of the Licensed Documentation for the Licensed Software.

Chair

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- Perpetual rights to software even if future flights are not purchased.

The flight would be done in end of March 2008 or sometime in April with a June delivery date. John thought that the delivery method *could* include a web service that would connect to the photo server. If Ramsey County was to host image service, the user group could access the data that way. At this time, John was not sure of what the new web service would be or if it would be included in the contract.

Cost for these deliverables is approximately \$33,000 per year for 2 year cycle.

Jolinda re-stated RCGISUG funding contributions discussed at the October 2007 meeting. At that time, meeting attendance was not enough to meet quorum, but an unofficial agreement amongst the group was to offer up to \$10,000. The group also stated in the October meeting that they were not interested in contracting flights on an annual basis.

Questions the group wanted answered before formally approving an amount to contribute over the next two years:

1. Can the MRSIDs be compressed for mobile devices/laptops?
2. Can the new product provide imagery through a web service?
3. What is the current accuracy of the data? What are future projections for increasing the accuracy of the data?
4. Is there a possibility of combining efforts with the County to include a physical features update?

Dean Larson (Pictometry) may be asked to attend/present at the April meeting to answer some of these questions.

b. Enterprise GIS Small Group – Jolinda gave a background of the project (see previous meeting minutes for more details), reported on progress made by the Enterprise GIS Small Group progress, and opened the discussion to determine RCGISUG financial investment for Enterprise proposal.

The group collectively compiled a draft proposal summarizing what the RCGISUG currently does, where there are faults and/or gaps in efficiency, and how Enterprise GIS could enhance the current system. This document was sent to Dan Falbo (ESRI) for editing, and is expected to be available for RCGISUG member review within 2 weeks. At that time, it will be sent to members via email to be reviewed at the April meeting.

Budget: The RCGISUG currently pays Roseville to host CivExplorer. If Ramsey County took over this role, then the same funding could be used for the Enterprise GIS project.

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Group consensus stated that funding will be specifically for software and hardware purchases only. No total cost has been estimated for the entire project.

Jolinda motioned to include a price cap in the proposal regarding RCGISUG investment of up to \$30,000, with ongoing \$6000 annual contribution for online mapping application if it is hosted at Ramsey County. Jan seconds the motion. No objections. Motion carried. A quorum was not met at this meeting, so additional voting will be submitted from voting members via email to Jolinda.

c. Discussion of RCGISUG Goals and Objectives Document – Jan V. Jan received a request to update a RCGISUG goals and objectives statement included in the City of Shoreview's Comprehensive Plan on Intergovernmental Coordination. The language in their current version seems to be from a 2004 version created by the RCGISUG. A copy was passed out to the group. Jolinda noted that the JPA states that the board of directors should be meeting annually. This meeting could be an appropriate time to assess this document for updates/revisions, as well as come up with checklist for projects. After forming a cohesive plan for the year, and redrafting the document, the Board would then present the information to the group for discussion. Any member can submit ideas for the Board to discuss at any time.

d. User Group Website - Steve L. – Steve was not available at this meeting to present.

e. Education Opportunities – Jan V. Progress is being made regarding an education opportunity discussed at the last meeting for a student outreach group to visit to a User Group member workplace (see meeting minutes for background information). Jan said that there is continuing interest, so student groups are being formed; desired topics and logistics are being worked out.

5. Ramsey County data updates - Curt P.

Update CD's were passed out. No CAMA, permitting, or sales data were available at the time of CD production, but this data will be posted on the ftp site when it becomes available. This should be done in the next week when Property Records and Revenue Department updates this information. Update parcels should be current as far as spatial entities go.

Ramsey County recently delivered a second version of street true adds, true deletes, and attribute changes (3 shapefiles) to census for assessment. The cities of Arden Hills and White Bear Lake have decided not to update this information.

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As a reminder to those having trouble accessing the Ramsey Co. ftp site, the password has changed. Email Curt Peterson for the new password.

6. Community announcements and reports

- a. Capital Region Watershed District is a new member to the RCGISUG. Melissa Baker will be representing CRWD at meetings and as a voting member.
- b. Joel Koepp: Roseville continues to work on their Comprehensive Plan. They are using GIS and the County data to prepare an extensive mailing to areas that may have their comp plan designations changed. The mailing is going to owners of non-residential property, owners of non-homestead residential property, and occupants of all homesteaded and multi-family property.
- c. John Jacobson: Ramsey County has been receiving several calls from the public and other groups regarding errors in address data. Ramsey Co. submits this information to the appropriate city for verification before changes are made official. Deb will be sending Falcon Heights address information when their census is done. John suggested cities send parcel PIN number with updates.
- d. Deb Jones: Falcon Heights 2008 Draft Comprehensive Plan is available on their website. (www.falconheights.org)
- e. John Jacobson: The Property Records and Revenue Department has moved out of West Publishing building to the old Ag building at 90 West Plato Blvd. The new building has free parking as well as a staffed Resource Center. Mark Oswald has been appointed as the new director.

7. Agenda for April 2008 meeting – No suggestions submitted. Topic ideas can be sent to RCGISUG Secretary, Carrie Mack at carrie.mack@rwmwd.org.

8. Other business

- a. Jolinda noted that the July meeting this year would fall on July 3rd. While most offices will be open the day prior to Independence Day, Jolinda will not be available to attend. The decision of whether to switch the meeting to the Tuesday prior (July 1st) will be made closer to the actual date. Jolinda will also not be able to attend the August due to a time conflict with the GIS User Conference in CA. If neither date is changed, Vice Chair Mike Goodnature will conduct the RCGISUG meetings.

9. Adjournment –Meeting adjourned at 3:19pm.

Next meeting will be on April 4, 2008, 2:00 p.m. at Shoreview City Hall.

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Minutes submitted by Carrie Mack, Secretary.

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