

State Geospatial Coordinating Board Meeting
Thursday, June 8, 2023
1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Meeting Summary

The State Geospatial Coordinating Board Meeting was held via virtual teleconference and on-site at Commonwealth Technology Center in Harrisburg.

Attendee List:

Board Members and Designees

- Aucker, Jason (Elected Local Government Official - Rural Community)
- Blackmer, Gale (Designee for DCNR – Secretary Cindy Dunn)
- Boozel, Kevin (Butler County Commissioner)
- Cook, Cheryl (Designee for Agriculture - Secretary Russell Redding)
- DeMatt, Mike (Chair and Designee for Secretary of Administration, Neil Weaver)
- Drzyzga, Scott (Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, GIS Consortium)
- Eaton, Kevin (Vice-Chair, Governance Task Force Lead, and Designee for the Secretary of Environmental Protection, Richard Negrin)
- Gilbert, Dave (Keystone GIS)
- Gross, Eliza (United States Geologic Survey Mapping Liaison)
- Guiseppe, Al (DCNR, Data Task Force Chair)
- Hill, Mike (Designee for PA State Police Colonel Christopher Paris)
- Hunt, Will (Potter County, APA-PA Chapter)
- Kelly, Maurie (Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access)
- Kiger, Bill (PA One Call System)
- Leitzell, Mark (Designee for Department of Transportation - Secretary Michael Carroll)
- Lettiere, Laura (Mifflin County, County GIS Professional Association of Pennsylvania and Service Delivery Task Force Lead)
- Smith, Justin (Cumberland County, County EMA)
- Warner, Matthew (Designee for Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors)
- Whitacre, James (PA Game Commission, Data Development Expert)
- Zubek, Scott (Tioga County, Geospatial Expert)

Additional Attendees

Andreoli, Beth	Wall, Scottie
Partsch, David	DeMoss, Jonathan
Passiment, Jessica	Remillard, Denise

Staff

- Janosik-Nehilla, Valerie – (Office of Administration, Office of Chief Counsel)

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- Jespersen, Eric (Executive Director State Geospatial Coordinating Board, Office of Administration, Office for Information Technology)

I. Welcome & Opening Remarks

- DeMatt, Mike (Acting Co-Chair and Designee for Secretary of Administration, Neil Weaver)
 - The agenda was presented: [060823 agenda.pdf \(pa.gov\)](#)
 - Board meeting materials: [06082023 presentation](#)
 - Welcome new appointees onboard
- a. Sign-in and Introductions – Board Members
 - b. Opening Remarks – Mike DeMatt, Eric Jespersen

II. GeoBoard Leadership Team Updates

- a. **Data Program Task Force** (Al Guisepppe and Eric Jespersen)
Leadership change: Jeff Boyle departing, Al Guisepppe incoming

NG911

- Should have statewide address and road centerline data completed next year
- This is a broadly useful dataset that can be used as a case study for aggregating local data

Hydrography

- Raystown Elevation-derived Hydrography (EDH) was a pilot project by USGS - complete
 - Now a site of National Wetland Inventory pilot
- PA NE Susquehanna EDH production task now underway

Civic Boundaries

- Expected start of Census/DOT Boundary Quality Project mid-June.
- Noted again the February publication of Local Government Commission report on municipal boundaries.

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Imagery/ Elevation

- Successful 2023 collection season for PEMA's aerial imagery program. Program ending upon delivery of this round of imagery.

Geodetic

- Working Group preparing Official Position regarding adoption of new reference datum, to support legislative adoption efforts by land survey community

Parcel

- County Pro Land Records Committee visioning sessions to result in roadmap for aggregation of county-owned data.

b. Service Delivery Task Force (Laura Lettiere and Maurie Kelly)

- Use of Erie County and Philadelphia County data to do pilot project most likely for 3DPA demonstration
- County data sharing agreements
 - Need to encourage those that haven't signed to sign and those that have signed but did not share data to move forward with sharing
- Joint Task Force meeting on July 13 to focus on expanding data sharing.
- Planning metadata workshop in Fall 2023
- Western PA imagery arriving steadily
- Potential pilot project with weather service; hoping this will integrate into flood assessment tool
- Kittatinny Ridge (kittatinnyridge.org) posting data used in Return-on-Environment studies

c. Governance Task Force (Kevin Eaton)

Legislative Review Subcommittee

- GeoBoard Reauthorization review team suggested minor changes in anticipation of June 2024 reauthorization.

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Communications

- Reviewing use of SharePoint, website, and resource account

d. State GIS Coordinator (Scottie Wall)

- NGSIC Geospatial Maturity Assessment underway
 - Self-assessment
 - National benchmarks
- Bureau of Geospatial Services
 - Creating Strategic and Tactical Plan
- Geospatial Center of Excellence (GCoE)
 - OA OIT Internal Geospatial Committee
 - Currently drafting standards & governance

e. Executive Director (Eric Jespersen)

- Implementation Tasks published on website
- Enterprise Data Office providing additional meeting and communications support to GeoBoard
- Majority of vacant GeoBoard Member positions filled since March quarterly meeting

III. Data Task Force Workshop Report

Joint meeting of representatives of the various Working Groups held to develop a roadmap template to guide each group and begin the integration that will be required PA BaseMap 2030

- Meeting summary shared with meeting participants
- Individual roadmaps expected by October 2023
- Small team will combine in an overall roadmap for review at November 2023 quarterly meeting
- Side benefit – emphasis on GeoBoard internal and external communications. Draft plan expected for August quarterly meeting

IV. Remote Sensing Opportunity Brief

The Elevation Working Group prepared a brief entitled *Remote Sensing Remote Sensing Stewardship: Exploring Alternatives to Current Practice*. GeoBoard member Gale Blackmer (DCNR) presented the brief :

- Imagery and lidar are a universal need among governments and for citizen services

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- Many local governments and private firms collect localized data
- Drones and satellite imaging have emerged as complementary data sources
- At least two previous statewide programs have lapsed, including the PEMA program ending this year
- PA would benefit from a permanent program, having a steward, predictable cycles and products

An active discussion ensued, some key points of which are:

- There are lessons to be learned from previous statewide programs
- Kevin Eaton suggested that Bureau of Geospatial Services is a logical choice to lead the initiative
- Scottie Wall agreed to the challenge, supported by Mike DeMatt; Maurie Kelly and James Whitacre voiced support in chat
- Justin Smith asserted that state agencies are the right level for a statewide program. He stated that it could be a full-time job to coordinate an imagery program, and that a similar commitment would accelerate the hoped for statewide parcel data aggregation
- Scott Zubek stated that a Remote Sensing Program should be the GeoBoard's first priority
- No motion was entered to change the status of the opportunity brief from draft to final; remains draft

V. Member Forum

GoeBoard member Cheryl Cook (Agriculture) picked up the discussion, saying that it illustrated the complexity of and need for communicating opportunities across such a large and diverse enterprise as the Commonwealth. Main points she made included:

- We need to better communicate about skills, data and opportunities among ourselves and with agencies that we have not necessarily identified as geospatial data users
- Need to ensure that all agencies and local governments understand the importance of geospatial data and how to leverage skills that exist in the enterprise
- There may be opportunities to inform multiple agencies at once if we address interagency teams created by Executive Order; examples where this approach could

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help enhance efforts include: identify food deserts, match aging populations and needs, ensure environmental justice, reduce gun violence, longitudinal data systems.

- Scottie Wall reiterated that the Bureau of Geospatial Services is more active than ever in coordination and that there are already processes for inter-agency coordination and a plethora of GIS/data resources available to agencies.

VI. New Business

Expanding Data Sharing Workshop

- July 13 - Joint Task Force Meeting

Topics for August 10 meeting

- Datum-related Official Position
- Communications Plan
- Member Forum

VII. Motion to Adjourn

By motion of Cheryl Cook, seconded by Laura Lettiere, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 3:00 P.M.

2023 Board Meeting Schedule

Meetings dates and times are listed below. Notification will be provided if changes occur.

- August 10, 2023 at 1:30 PM - Virtual video / teleconference and on-site
- November 16, 2023 at 1:30 PM - Virtual video / teleconference and on-site

On-site location: 1 Technology Park, Commonwealth Technology Center (CTC), Harrisburg, PA 17110