

VGIN Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 19, 2011

1:00 PM, CESC

Draft Minutes

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| MEMBERS PRESENT: | Senator John Watkins | Stanford Hovey |
| | Delegate Richard Anderson | David Johnson (DCR) |
| | Samuel Nixon | Murali Rao for VDOT |
| | Charles Donato | |
| | Richard Pevarski | |
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| MEMBERS ABSENT: | Senator Mark Obenshain | Jeffrey Anderson |
| | Delegate Beverly Sherwood | W. Page Cockrell |
| | Delegate L. Scott Lingamfelter | Chris Knight |
| | Delegate David Englin | Supervisor John Jenkins |
| | James Wilson | Connie Brennan |
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| GUEST PRESENT: | Bill Price, DCR | |
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| STAFF PRESENT: | Dan Widner, Coordinator | Terry Mayo, Board Assistant |
| | Jerry Simonoff, ESG Director | Dorothy Spears-Dean |
| | Steve Marzolf, ISP Director | Stefanie McGuffin |

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Watkins called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM. Chairman Watkins addressed the Board and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chairman Watkins informed the Advisory Board members that there will not be a quorum at this meeting to approve the previous meeting minutes, and that they will be brought before the Advisory Board again at the next scheduled meeting.

Chairman Watkins asked for comments, and there were none.

2. 2011 VBMP STATUS REPORT

Mr. Widner addressed the Advisory Board and gave a brief summary of the status of the 2011 VBMP Project. Mr. Widner said that as of Oct. 14th Sanborn had delivered 66.9%.

Mr. Widner asked for questions. Mr. Rick Pevarski asked about the VUPS feedback on deliverable quality. Mr. Widner said that there is a year warranty on the product and that VGIN continues to welcome the input from VUPS. Chairman Watkins asked for more questions and there were none.

3. GIS BASELINE SURVEY:

Stefanie McGuffin addressed the Board and talked about the GIS Baseline Survey. Ms. McGuffin said that currently there is no state-wide collection of information regarding GIS capabilities and services at the local government level. VGIN has developed a survey to collect baseline information regarding local GIS that will gather information on software usage, personnel, training, basedata, imagery, basedata maintenance, data distribution and fees, and PSAP interaction. VGIN will provide a link to its local government GIS contracts. Ms. McGuffin said the goal is 100% participation by using the Regional Coordinators to engage localities to complete the survey. The online survey will be sent out very soon and feedback generated by the end of the year. Ms. McGuffin said that the results will be provided to the localities and that this information will help VGIN with its Strategic Planning. This information is needed to understand their customers' current capabilities and needs, and it is vital to the planning for the future of GIS in the Commonwealth. Ms. McGuffin said that she hoped to come back and provide the results of the survey. Chairman Watkins called for questions from the Advisory Board. Mr. Pevarski asked about having some place where staff could provide help to some localities who do not have the personnel to provide this information. Mr. Johnson asked about the interface with the Planning District Commissions. Ms. McGuffin said that she works with two planning districts in her area. Mr. Widner said that he has signed a MOU with the VAPDC. Mr. Stan Hovey asked if the survey could include a question about what assistance localities and others may need with GIS services. Mr. Johnson asked "if he was a locality, what type of information should he be required to gather." Ms. McGuffin said one question may be what type of data layers are you maintaining. Mr. Widner added that this is what VGIN refers to as the base

mapping data. Mr. Marzolf commented that this what VGIN is establishing right now as the baseline. Mr. Marzolf said that as a need develops, VGIN follows the need. Chairman Watkins wanted to know when this is going to be sent out. Ms. McGuffin said it is ready to go now. Chairman Watkins asked about economic development being a big part of this project. Chairman Watkins said PDCs, and other state agencies and organizations should be added. Mr. Murali Rao commented that he looked at the questions and many localities may not know how to define GIS, so GIS may need to be defined in the survey. Mr. Rao said it would be good to include in the survey state agencies. Mr. Widner said they are working with the localities first and then plan to survey state agencies. Mr. Pevarski said that his company has been gathering municipal data, and VGIN is welcomed to search through their data to get answers they do not have.

Mr. Robert Rike addressed the Board and said VGIN should send a letter about the survey to the County Managers and City Administrators. Also, he said to include the PDCs. Mr. Rike said it is important to include not only what they have; however, what they are doing with GIS. Mr. Rike also said it would be helpful to understand what their challenges are. Mr. Charles Donato commented that he thought this is a fairly lengthy survey. He asked if there is a save feature involved, and said that it would be great because there may be several people filling out the form.

4. GEOSPATIAL CLEARINGHOUSE

Mr. Widner addressed the Advisory Board and talked about the Geospatial Clearinghouse. Mr. Widner gave an update on this project. Mr. Widner said that VGIN started the work-group last year and developed a charter to direct the efforts. Subsequently the work group developed functional requirements and use cases for the clearinghouse. This summer he issued a RFI through VITA to get some input from the private sector on technical direction and to find out what the cost could be. Nine responses have been received. He is now developing a statement of requirements that will be issued through the IT Services Contract with VITA. The Clearinghouse will be looking at a place to go to search and discover data and metadata. The clearinghouse will utilize a “publication version” of the source data. Mr. Widner said the Clearinghouse is akin to a content management system. Mr. Widner said that some of the challenges VGIN is facing are the traditional, centrally located “monolithic” platform to a standards based distributed platform; getting access to authoritative data from the source (local/state government) for VGIN or other qualifying entities. Mr. Widner said that GIS is positioned to take advantage of a distributed platform (versus the monolithic model) and that VGIN was trying to work within their means. He said that other than the VBMP

orthophotography, VGIN is a data aggregator. Mr. Widner said that the software solution will utilize ESRI's "ArcGIS for organizations" software platform. Also, Mr. Widner said that VGIN will strive to expose data through the clearinghouse and enable all non-sensitive GIS Data. Chairman Watkins asked about using "health" data. He said it is an important part. Mr. Nixon asked if VGIN is looking to aggregate the data electronically rather than physically. Bill Price talked about the value to the Clearinghouse. Mr. Charles Donato said that a rate button would be good to add to the survey. Mr. Marzolf said that VGIN's goal is to eliminate duplication. VGIN now has a de facto standard on this. VGIN will continue to be the gateway to discovering GIS data and metadata. Chairman Watkins asked for more comments or questions, and there were no more.

5. VBMP IMAGERY SERVICES

Mr. Widner asked for the Board's guidance with the VBMP Imagery Services. VGIN is proposing to make the VBMP imagery web service accessible without a fee and restrictions beginning January 2012. Mr. Widner commented that it is a struggle to balance the cost of the product with the value. There is already wide value and benefit from viewing imagery in Google. Mr. Widner referenced the Advisory Board to a recent article in the *Roanoke Times* about this topic. Mr. Widner said that the sales of data and services are so small that the costs exceed sales. VGIN would like to make the data available to Google, and ESRI as soon as possible, Bing Maps, and others to gain the most usage and value. VGIN is currently waiting up to two years before releasing data without restrictions. Mr. Widner said that VGIN also plans to revisit the fee schedule and policies for purchasing copies and present this for review at the next Board Meeting. Mr. Widner said the Budget Appropriation dictates that VGIN establish the fees for state agencies and what the localities can charge for the VBMP ortho product. The fee structure applies to other entities as well. Mr. Widner asked for comments and feedback from the Advisory Board. Mr. David Johnson asked about applications as it relates to imagery capture. He wanted to know if VGIN is moving towards VBMP Imagery Services for a dynamic situation such as 911. Mr. Widner explained the relationship of VGIN to 911 and that it is already being done. Mr. Marzolf addressed the Advisory Board and gave a brief overview of how GIS and E911 began to work together. Chairman Watkins said that he would like to suggest that VGIN keep the fee schedule for copies but to follow VGIN's recommendation for the web services and make them accessible at no cost. Chairman Watkins asked the Advisory Board Members if they were in agreement with his suggestion and that VGIN should proceed with the

VBMP Imagery Services. All were in agreement.

6. OCTOBER COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Widner addressed the Advisory Board and highlighted the GIS Conference, saying that he expected an attendance of about 225 participants at the VA GIS Conference this year; however, they received well over 300 participants. Mr. Widner also highlighted the effort underway by GIS managers in Northern Virginia to catalog the uses and application of GIS data and services within their localities. The effort, which has the potential to be utilized at a statewide level, addresses one of the GIS Strategic Plan initiatives to educate decision makers on the value of GIS.

7. NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION

Chairman Watkins asked for new business. Chairman Watkins asked about any update on the redistricting maps. Mr. Widner said that as far as he knew things have settled down and they are moving on in the process. There was no other new business.

Chairman Watkins adjourned the meeting at 2:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: _____
Terry D. Mayo

Date