

VGIN Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 20, 2011

1:00 PM, CESC

Minutes

|                  |                                 |                                  |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| MEMBERS PRESENT: | Senator John Watkins            | Connie Brennan                   |
|                  | Delegate Richard Anderson       | Rick Pevarski                    |
|                  | Supervisor John Jenkins         | Charles Donato                   |
|                  | Chris Knight                    | Samuel Nixon                     |
|                  | Stanford Hovey                  | W. Page Cockrell                 |
|                  | Bill Price for DCR Director     |                                  |
|                  |                                 |                                  |
| MEMBERS ABSENT:  | Senator Mark Obenshain          | James Wilson                     |
|                  | Delegate Beverly Sherwood       | Delegate David Englin            |
|                  | Delegate L. Scott Lingamfelter  | Murali Rao for VDOT Commissioner |
|                  | Trent Park for Jeffrey Anderson |                                  |
|                  |                                 |                                  |
| STAFF PRESENT:   | Dan Widner, Coordinator         | Terry Mayo, Board Assistant      |
|                  | John Scrivani                   |                                  |
|                  |                                 |                                  |

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Senator Watkins called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM. Senator Watkins addressed the Board and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Senator Watkins asked the Advisory Board members to introduce themselves.

Senator Watkins called for a motion to approve the October 6, 2010 meeting, as there was not a quorum to hold the January 18, 2011 meeting, and that meeting was cancelled. Delegate Richard Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes, and Connie Brennan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion for approval. The October 6, 2010 minutes were approved; **11-0-0**.

**2. GIS in the Redistricting Process – Kent Stigall, Division of Legislative Services**

Mr. Widner introduced Kent Stigall of the Division of Legislative Services who talked about GIS and the redistricting process. The primary issue is timeline. Mr. Stigall gave a brief presentation on GIS on the redistricting process. The redistricting website is:

<http://redistricting.dls.virginia.gov/2010>. Senator Watkins called for questions from the Advisory Board. Connie Brennan asked a question about the timeline. Senator Watkins made a comment that Virginia is unique, as it is the 1<sup>st</sup> Voting Rights State to go through the redistricting process. Senator Watkins commented that this is the 4<sup>th</sup> redistricting he has been involved in. Senator Watkins asked for more questions and there were none.

### **3. GIS Education**

Mr. Widner introduced Stu Blankenship of WorldView Solutions, and Sean Carithers of Virtual World Race to the Advisory Board, and said that they are going to do a demonstration and presentation on “The Virtual World Race – Engaging Children Using the Power of Maps and Technology to Make Health Living Choices.” Mr. Carithers gave a brief background on himself to the Advisory Board. He said that he actually rode his bike around the world and was a professional cyclist. He always had a dream to use geography with fitness. He has created a virtual course using actual fitness activities. They started out as a tool for schools. They have several schools in Virginia participating this year. Some of the schools are Tuckahoe Middle, St. Christopher’s, St. Bridget, Fisher Elementary, Wilder Middle and the Richmond Cycling Corps. They created a 25,000 miles course around the world. Worldview created the online course for Virtual World Race. There are three courses loaded for the schools. Within the application you can get a Road Map and a Satellite Map with a click. A student can go in and see what it looks like in a particular spot. They have the ability to bring up photos of actual places depending upon availability. This is one of the 1<sup>st</sup> programs in the school that they have a database of all the progress each student is making. Mr. Nixon asked if they had a chance to present this to the Department of Health, he thought they would be interested. Mr. Blankenship said it is pretty challenging and has a quite a bit of technology involved. Mr. Carithers said they have about 5,000 kids using this site right now. Mr. Nixon said that VITA would be happy to help facilitate those meetings if he would like. Stanford Hovey said that Virginia is the only state to teach GIS in its K-12 schools. The suggestion he has is that they contact the Department of Education in Virginia and see if this can be facilitated in the public schools. Rick Pevarski asked if they are looking to tie this into Childhood Obesity. Mr. Carithers said they have tried to tie this in; however, not all demographics of children can afford certain foods, such as the Whole Foods in the Short Pump area. Mr. Pevarski said that Virginia Performs would be a good group to tie it in with Childhood Obesity. Mr. Pevarski asked if this is offered to the private industries, and Mr. Carithers said yes. Mr. Pevarski asked if the program could customize the time. Mr. Carithers yes, and that is one of the ways this was designed. Senator Watkins asked about the anticipated plans for starting this up. Mr.

Carithers said that there is interest not only in Virginia, but in other countries. Their goal is to get this up and running in Virginia at places such as “The Boy’s and Girl’s” club and then move outward. Mr. Blankenship said that from a technology perspective, they have learned that this has to be scaled out and that they have plans to do this. Senator Watkins asked that they keep the Advisory Board apprised of what is going on with this project. Senator Watkins thanked them for the presentation and demonstration.

#### **4. 2011 VBMP Ortho Acquisition Status:**

Mr. John Scrivani briefed the Advisory Board on the VBMP Ortho project. Mr. Scrivani said that there were a lot of challenges this year with weather, such as late snow fall and windy days. However, they were successful and finished acquisition on April 17. In 2011 the Western part of the state was flown. The Western based area totaled up 21,420 tiles, roughly 20,000 square miles. In the Eastern area 4,176 tiles with roughly 3,700 square miles. The total cost of this data acquisition program is \$2,363,292, with about 31% of it shared by localities and the federal government. Mr. Scrivani also briefed the Advisory Board on the LiDAR Projects. The initial areas are in the final stages of the QA. He is expecting data to be delivered any week now. Senator Watkins asked about the Virginia Beach area and has that been flown. Mr. Scrivani said yes. Senator Watkins wanted to know if VGIN is hosting this LiDar data. Mr. Scrivani said no. USDA and NOVA are going to host, and he can link into their site as well. Senator Watkins asked about the plan for frequency in flying. Mr. Scrivani said that they are keeping up with the previous schedule. Mr. Pevarski asked about Roanoke City and Harrisonburg going to a higher resolution. Mr. Scrivani said yes; however, for most purposes, the 6 inch resolution is sufficient. Senator Watkins asked for more questions and there were none.

#### **5. Coordinator’s Report:**

Mr. Widner said he sent the Coordinator’s Report on Monday and that all the documents will be posted on the ISP Website. Mr. Widner pointed the participants to a group of maps that he posted in the room about the recent tornadoes. There is a before and after map of a neighborhood in Pulaski damaged by the tornado that occurred on April 8. The fly-over was done on April 6 and on April 14 so you get a before and after picture. The poster of Gloucester shows the path of a tornado that happened on April 16, 2011. Mr. Widner said that this is a great example of how the VGIN products are being used in support of Emergency Management operations. Mr. Widner said that the last poster shows the statewide broadband internet availability that they are producing for the SOTECH’s office. Knowing where Broadband exists helps people determine where the need is. Mr. Widner introduced Bob Oblinsky to the Advisory Board who was hired as a Contractor to help VGIN out on Broadband Mapping.

Mr. Widner went on to talk about the Coordinator's Report.

The Virginia GIS Conference has been set for September 19<sup>th</sup> in Richmond. He also talked about Senate Bill 549 – Network for Geospatial Health Research. The final report is located at:

<http://gismaps.virginia.gov/ftpfiles/SB549%20Report%20FINAL%2001%2012%202011%20doc.pdf>

Ms. Connie Brennan asked what is going to happen now with the report. She was wondering if there were going to be any efforts to take on some of the good suggestions that the report provided. Mr. Widner said that VGIN will be responsible for the Clearinghouse portion of the report, with the Department of Health taking the lead on the remainder and that they probably need to hear from people like Ms. Brennan. Mr. Stanford Hovey had a question about LiDAR. He thinks that some flyers on the education of GIS would be helpful and that VGIN should get a package together to give to the public. Mr. Widner said another item has come up on Professional Development and GIS Certification. W. Page Cockrell said that once the brochures or flyers are developed that maybe they should be posted on the Website. Mr. Cockrell also said that he wants an update on the Strategic Plan. Mr. Widner said that he would like to present something at the next Advisory Board Meeting. Senator Watkins said that he sits on a Board that involves Healthcare data. Senator Watkins said it would be a good idea to put this with the GIS system and implement it in such a way that it becomes beneficial and interchangeable. Senator Watkins called for more questions and there were none.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION**

Senator Watkins asked for new business. There were none. Ms. Brennan asked if VGIN could prepare a short report to put in the VACO newsletter to get out to the localities. Mr. Widner said he would be happy to do that. Ms. Brennan and Mr. Widner agreed that they would meet and get the particulars on doing this request. Supervisor John Jenkins said there is a VACO Board Meeting coming up and Mr. Widner is welcomed to present the newsletter there.

Senator Watkins said he is happy with the outcome of the Advisory Board, and he appreciates the Advisory Board members for coming out and participating.

Senator Watkins adjourned the meeting at 2: 38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

**Terry D. Mayo**

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**Date**