

August 29, 2000 - Minutes

Department of Technology Planning

Virginia Geographic Information Network

Virginia Geographic Information Network Advisory Board

Department of Information Technology

Conference Room, 3rd floor of the Richmond Building

110 S. 7th Street, Richmond, Virginia

Members Present:	Honorable John Watkins, <i>Chairman</i>
	Daniel S. Shaffer, <i>Vice Chairman</i>
	Ken Anderson
	Kenneth D. Barker
	Michael D. Clower
	W. Page Cockrell
	Jerry Simonoff
Designee:	Dan Widner for Pete Kolakowski
	Jean Tingler for Mark Kilduff
Members Absent:	Honorable Watkins M. Abbitt, Jr.
	Honorable Mary Margaret Whipple
	William C. Cleveland
	Dr. W. Mark Crain
VGIN Staff:	William D. Shinar, VGIN Division Coordinator
	Bob Rike, VGIN Division Assistant Coordinator
	John Mcgee, VGIN Division Assistant Coordinator
	Matt Blaes, VGIN Division Assistant Coordinator

The Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN) Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M. by the Honorable John Watkins, *Chairman*.

Business

Mr. Shinar discussed two new appointments to the advisory board:

Delegate Beverly Sherwood from House District 59 and

Delegate Sam Nixon from House District 27

Following a brief discussion on the background of the new board members Senator Watkins suggested that he and Mr. Shinar co-sign a letter to the new board members welcoming them to the advisory board and inviting them to the next meeting.

The minutes from the last Advisory Board meeting were reviewed. The abolition of the standing sub-committees in favor of AD Hoc sub-committees as reflected in the minutes of the last board meeting was discussed as well as a general discussion on policies and procedures related to the Advisory board. Mr. Shinar indicated that he would present a report on the policies and procedures related to an Advisory Board at the next meeting to provide clarification on scheduling and notification requirements.

There was also a discussion on the depth of detail required for the board minutes. It was indicated that summary minutes which document relevant policy and guideline decisions were all that was necessary. (tape meetings, extract pertinent elements for minutes and re-use tape after minutes approved).

VGIN Coordinator's Report

- Budget Report and Business plan (Board Package Section 2)
- The problem mapped, quilt mapping (Board Package Section 3)

It was recommended that the title of the "Quilt Maps" be changed to indicate that the data reflected local government base map data sources.

Mr. Anderson suggested that the quilt maps be posted on the web site.

- Mr. Shinar reported on meetings attended by VGIN staff since the last Advisory Board Meeting.
- Mr. Shinar indicated that the VGIN CAPP grant application was not awarded.

- Private sector GIS Resource on the VGIN web site (Board Package Section 4)

There was a discussion on how private sector firms were being notified of the resource. Senator Watkins suggested utilizing the information resources of the Chamber of Commerce. Jean Tingler offered to share her 30 or 40 contacts.

- Meta Data input and access tool (Board Package Section 5)

The Virginia Metadata input and access tool was demonstrated by Mr. Blaes. Mr. Shinar indicated that interest in using the tool has been expressed by members of the local government community. Mr. Shinar indicated that he would report on this issue at the next Advisory Board Meeting after farther discussions with the local government community.

- Distributed Spatial Data Library – Due to funding limitations VGIN is going forward with one project, a regional Crime project. A white paper would be developed by the end of the year with a pilot completed by the end of May.
- 1:24,000 Hydrology data (Board Package Section 6)

Mr. Shinar reported on the joint Virginia/North Carolina Hydrology efforts.

- Mr. Shinar indicated that he has had discussions with potential partners for an update of the SPOT Satellite data. He would report to the board on this at the next meeting.

There was a discussion on the availability of DOQQ's and the status of this effort. Mr. Shinar indicated that the status would be available through the meta data clearinghouse. Mrs. Tingler indicated that the VEDP web site is usually updated within 1 or 2 weeks when new imagery is available.

- Base Mapping Options Workgroup (Board Package Section 7)

Mr. Shinar discussed the project and introduced the members of the workgroup and thanked each of them for their assistance and participation in the group.

- Digital Ortho Specification Options Workgroup (Board Package Section 8)

Mr. Shinar discussed the project and identified the workgroup participants.

- Virtual GIS User Group (Board Package Section 9)

Mr. Shinar explained the Virtual GIS user groups and discussed the membership of the local government virtual GIS user group. There was a discussion on the method of distribution for materials from the workgroups. Mr. Shinar indicated that the materials would be e-mailed directly to the Virtual workgroup members for review and comment, but would also be posted on the web site for general review.

- Projections (Board Package Section 10)

Mr. Shinar indicated that a study of statewide projections would be undertaken in conjunction with staff from Virginia Tech. There was a discussion on the projections to be included. Mrs. Tingler offered to forward information on the projections that they have encountered

- Survey of State Standards (Board Package Section 11)

Mr. Shinar reviewed a survey of existing spatial data standards in other states and indicated that VGIN would be working with small groups of constituents to review specific FGDC standards for relevancy.

There was a discussion of the FGDC Standards. Mr. Clower said that they have been working with local government officials to determine their needs and then looking at the FGDC standards to see if they met the needs. Mr. Anderson indicated that the FGDC standards in many cases were not applicable to local government needs and pointed out deficiencies in the FGDC Cadastral data Standard.

- COVITS, the annual technology conference of the Secretary of Technology was discussed.
- Citrix Application Server (Board Package Section 12)

A general discussion on the capabilities and functionality of the Citrix application server of the Secretary of Technology's GIS (SOTECH GIS) followed.

A master license agreement and State procurement contract efforts were discussed. A discussion of vendor licensing to the private sector followed. Mr. Shaffer discussed the changes in license pricing by the vendor that have affected the ability of application service providers (ASP) to competitively deliver applications to potential clients.

Mr. Simonoff indicated that an alliance of private sector interests similar to some of the approaches that the state has used in the past might help the situation.

- Mr. Shinar reported that VGIN has worked with several state agencies to help quantify their spatial data and GIS needs and identify future efforts.
- Dates of several upcoming meetings of interest were discussed.

Policy and Standards Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee

The policy and standards ad-hoc sub-committee reviewed the Virginia Metadata “lite” standard. There was a general discussion of the state agency reporting requirement and the content of the state agency meta data “lite” standard. It was clarified that an agency would be required to report data in only one format because the data elements in the “lite” meta data standard were a sub-set of the same elements in full FGDC compliant metadata. The sub-committee was directed by the chairman to formalize a recommendation in writing and forward it for consideration by the Board.

Surveyors Proposed Legislation

Mr. Shinar gave a brief description of the proposed changes to the definition of “surveying” in the state code and background on the efforts of the Virginia Association of Surveyors to date. Mr. Fred Shanks, past president of the VAS and member of the Committee for the Occupational Oversight of Land Surveyors (COOLS), reviewed the status of existing efforts with other affected professional organizations and the future steps required. Dan Shaffer Vice-chairman indicated that the Advisory Board would review the material and decide whether to act on it at the next meeting.

The schedule for the next board meeting was discussed. The next meeting was tentatively set for Friday October 27 at 2:00 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

None

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

It was suggested that the meetings be scheduled a year in advance. The next meeting of the Advisory Board was tentatively scheduled for Friday October 27Th at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

William D. Shinar

VGIN Division Coordinator

Log of Attendees

Greg Tilley
Alan Grafton
David Kinsey
Helen Walla
Fred Shanks
Randy Trot

VARGIS
EarthData
DEQ
Prince William County/VAMLIS
VAS
Timmons