

79th Metropolitan GIS Committee
Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments
Thursday, February 11th, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Brad Anderson, City of Moorhead GIS Manager
Kay Anderson, Cass County GIS Programs Manager
Todd Copeland, Moorhead Public Service GIS Coordinator
Ari Del Rosario, Metro COG Assistant Transportation Planner
Travis Genty, City of West Fargo GIS Manager
Daryl Masten, City of Fargo GIS Manager
Peyton Mastera, City of Dilworth City Administrator
Mark Sloan, Clay County Information Services Director
Barrett Voigt, City of Horace Community Developer Director (Proxy for Brent Holper)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Genty called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Introductions were made.

2. COMMITTEE CHAIR FOR 2021, BRENT HOLPER

Action Item

Following the approved Chair order, it would be the City of Horace's turn to be the GIS Committee Chair. Brent Holper was nominated and, as proxy, Mr. Voigt accepted Mr. Holper's nomination in his absence.

Motion: Approve 2021 Chair nomination.

Mr. Masten moved, seconded by Mr. Sloan.

MOTION, passed 8, 0.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. CONSIDER MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 25TH, 2020 GIS MEETING

Action Item

Proxy Chair Voigt asked if there were any changes and for a motion.

Motion: Approve February 25, 2020 agenda with changes.

Mr. Mastera moved, seconded by Mr. Sloan.

MOTION, passed 8, 0.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. 2021 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Mr. Del Rosario presented the 2020 Membership List. He requested each jurisdiction review their representation information and notify him of any changes. Mr. Masten announced that he will be moving to the proxy role effective next meeting. Becky Tigue will be the new representative for the City of Dilworth.

5. NG-911

Mr. Sloan noted that this is still ongoing. Work on NG-911 was put on hold after last spring due to the pandemic.

Mr. Anderson commented that MN started work on this before ND, but it seems that ND is now further ahead. He has heard there are some helpful tools. Mr. Anderson also mentioned that he has been working on updating Moorhead address points and street centerlines to the new MN 911 standards.

Ms. Anderson said that they have come a long way. Most counties in ND have been maintaining centerlines and address points for 911 purposes. Cass County has been one of the first test counties working with a coach at Intrado who has been helping to upload data and ensure correct formatting. Within the past couple of weeks, they have done an ALL compare and achieved a 96% match rate (2% off the recommended match rate) and a simulation against their data. Ms. Anderson is happy with what they have been able to achieve thus far. They are currently waiting for the list of errors from the review. It is expected that a lot of these errors will need to be handled by the telecommunication providers. Daryl Masten has been very helpful in building a model to help export data into the correct format for Intrado. There is also an add-on custom to ArcMap that has been helpful as an error checker. This has been paid for by the ND Association of Counties.

Mr. Masten added that Intrado has been great to work with and the project has been moving on nicely.

6. **LiDAR / AERIAL IMAGERY**

Mr. Masten said that working on this project has been challenging. There were delays due to the pandemic last spring and it appeared that the vendor continued to use the pandemic as an excuse for further delays. At this point in February 2021, a good number of deliverables have still not been met, despite expectations to have them delivered last October. There have been deliverables thus far that Fargo has had to send back including a lot of planimetric information and the first round of re-projected images which were in the wrong locations. They are still waiting for the re-projection of the LAS file from the LiDAR as well. The vendor has not been corresponding with them recently. Overall, it has been a frustrating process with Quantum Spatial, whose project manager also left in the fall.

Mr. Anderson asked if they have only received the imagery thus far. Mr. Masten confirmed that the imagery is the only full deliverable that has been completed. The City of Fargo approved the ND state plain LAS files in November but the vendor still hasn't run the reprojection on those.

Mr. Voigt asked if this was something that was done on an annual basis, or every three years. Mr. Masten confirmed that for this particular project, they typically fly every three years. The diversion authority has been discussing whether this be changed to every two years, but it was decided at the diversion meeting to keep it at three years.

Mr. Voigt asked if individual communities can opt to do it annually if need be. He mentioned that Horace has been developing rapidly. Mr. Masten said that individual communities could work on their own projects but is unsure whether that would be covered by Metro COG funding. He mentioned that Cass County, Fargo and West Fargo all have upcoming imagery projects in the spring, although they do not include LiDAR. Mr. Masten also noted that there was no funding set aside from Metro COG however for this specific project due to change in leadership. Ms. Anderson added that Cass County projects are

currently on a five-year cycle. Data from this upcoming project is expected to be available in the fall. Mr. Genty mentioned that the deal between the West Fargo and Fargo is for a three-year cycle.

Mr. Voigt asked whether West Fargo and Fargo would be open to including Horace in their deal. Mr. Masten said yes, he doesn't think either jurisdiction would be against it. He did add that as an EagleView project there would be some constraints such as no ownership of oblique shots, which would come an extra cost. Mr. Voigt added that Horace has just started getting more into GIS and he has been tasked to see what opportunities are out there.

7. MIGRATION TO ARCGIS PRO

Mr. Masten said that the Red River Regional Dispatch Center is moving to a new Tyler product version of the New World software which will move from being ArcGIS Desktop based to ArcGIS Pro based. This has been a learning experience but other than that, the City of Fargo has still been operating with a mix of both and hasn't taken the full jump to Pro yet.

Mr. Genty also said that West Fargo has been using a mix of both, but have fully committed to moving their parcel fabric to Pro.

Mr. Sloan added that the Clay County switched over their parcel fabric to Pro in December and despite some hurdles, it has worked well.

Ms. Anderson said that Cass County has also switched over their parcel fabric to Pro. It has been challenging but they are making it work.

Mr. Anderson said that Moorhead has dabbled in it a little but they still have two licenses. He mentioned that they had a joint training with ProWest and other metro jurisdictions to help them through the transition. There had been some challenges with the feature classes and missing data that they output from the parcel fabric. That being said, Mr. Anderson said he has been using Pro a lot more and it has been working well.

After mentioning he has been working a lot from home connecting with the City's VPN network, Mr. Anderson asked how everyone else has been faring. Mr. Genty said he has been going back and forth between home and the office. When he works from home, he has been remoting in to his desktop using ScreenConnect and hasn't noticed any issues. Mr. Anderson added that using ArcMap straight from his laptop required a lot of patience and that connecting to their workstations in the office seemed to be the only solution.

Mr. Copeland said Moorhead Public Service hasn't used a lot of Pro yet. He mentioned that they haven't switched because utility network modelling within Pro is not yet fully developed with all the applications. Wastewater is developed, electric is still about a year or so out and communications are still about three to five years out from being fully developed on Pro. Because of this, there are no immediate plans to jump ship just yet. Mr. Masten added that they have been looking at the utility network modelling and plan to move their water systems to Pro within this year or the next. Based on Mr. Copeland's comments, Mr. Masten said that they will hold off on moving communications to Pro.

8. JURISDICTIONAL ROUNDTABLE & UPDATES

- a. City of Fargo

- Dealing with the pandemic
 - Waiting to see how other jurisdictions go with migrating parcel fabric to Pro
- b. City of Moorhead
- Working from home
 - Migrating parcel fabric to Pro, changing the scripts and formatting
 - Using Pro a lot more, doing a lot of neat things with it
 - Waiting on aerial imagery
 - Lots of organization changes, some new department heads and a new mayor
- c. City of West Fargo
- Will be getting a new Assistant Administrator soon
 - Migrating parcel fabric to Pro
 - Setting up Collector maps
 - Monitoring erosion along the Sheyenne using drone imagery
 - Cleaning up wet underground utility data
- d. City of Dilworth
- No GIS updates
 - Wanted to thank the group for all their work
- e. City of Horace
- Don't have the capacity for a GIS department but have started to dive into GIS
 - Now have their own GIS license for zoning and future land use maps
 - Rewriting new land use ordinance, looking to have an interactive zoning map that is linked with their zoning ordinance tax document
 - Hoping to have it done next year
 - Wanted to thank the county for their support
- f. Cass County
- Developed a wait times app for the past election, may use for future elections
 - Photo RFP kept the county busy in December
 - Prep migrating parcel fabric to Pro
 - 911 project
 - Working on a statewide parcel project with tax and assessment info
 - Rollout scheduled for the end of June
- g. Clay County
- Primary parcel editor has been working from home and it has been working well
 - The department moved to a new building, no internet connectivity yet
 - Rolled out a new sales tool
 - Working on a facilities application with help from a student
- h. Moorhead Public Service
- Management changes, new general manager Travis Schmidt
 - QuickCapture applications testing
- i. Metro COG
- There was a transition period between Ari Del Rosario taking over Anna Pierce's position
 - Making sure Metro COG has organized and updated shapefiles and layers

- Using GIS to work on Federal Functional Classification Update with NDDOT

9. Adjourned at 2:09 p.m.