

**Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board**

**Arkansas Tech University Library  
305 West Q Street  
Russellville, AR 72801  
President's Board Room**

**DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

**June 2, 2010**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Board Members Present:**

Tracy Moy  
Dr. Beth McMillan  
Kasey Summerville  
Dr. Jackson Cothren (Brian Culpepper proxy)  
Randy Everett  
Bekki White (Nathan Taylor proxy)  
Claire Bailey (Hershel Cleveland proxy)  
Glen Dabney

**Board Members Absent:**

Judge Clayton Castleman  
John Ed Isbell  
Dr. Robert Kissell  
Judge Jerry Hunton

**AGIO Staff:**

Shelby Johnson  
Rachel Hood

**Guests:**

Ed Leachman  
Mike Garner  
Bill Sneed  
Elizabeth Bowen  
Bonnie Moy

Call meeting to order

10:05 AM meeting called to order by Tracy Moy.

**Welcome guests**

The Chair called for the approval of the minutes for the March 3, 2010 meeting.

**Motion:** Tracy motioned to approve the corrected minutes.

**Second:** Glen seconded the motion to approve the minutes, and there being no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

## **Old Business**

### **AGIO Report**

The AGIO has been engaged in a number of outreach and coordination activities since the last Board meeting. These include conference attendance, presentations and travels to numerous counties.

Three staff members attended the Mid-America GIS Symposium in Kansas City, Missouri.

The staff has continued to coordinate with counties including travel to Cleveland, Calhoun, IZard, Jefferson, and Stone counties. Each of these trips has been associated with both the Centerline and County Assessor Mapping Program.

Other activities have included winding down the procurement and fiscal cycle in preparation for the closeout of the state fiscal year.

For the 2011 fiscal year, the Director of DFA notified the AGIO that our 2011 funding level under the current forecast will be \$734,126 which is \$49,803 below the agency appropriation of \$783,929 set by ACT 112 of the fiscal session.

The Governor has sent out instructions to agencies in preparation for the upcoming 2012-2013 budget cycle and instructs agencies there will be no employee cost of living adjustment, merit pay increase, career service or increases in operating costs. His plan is to submit a flat base level budget to the Legislature. This has an obvious bearing on our business plan and we will be seeking further instruction from the Governor's Office in the short term as we begin preparing the request.

The AGIO will be on the agenda for JCACIT legislative hearing for our Geospatial Business Plan on June 9, 2010.

It will also have an opportunity to go over the plan with the governor's office to finesse it for presenting to the 2012-2013 budget hearing.

There was some discussion about streamlined sales tax revenue.

Shelby announced that the next meeting will be on Sept. 1 in Mena with details to follow.\*

## **New Business**

### **New Data Recommended for Loading on GeoStor**

Shelby explained the AGIO has been coordinating with the Arkansas Department of Heritage on the National Historic Registry Properties GIS database. The data is important because it plays into construction, planning and development projects.

**Data Category:** Culture

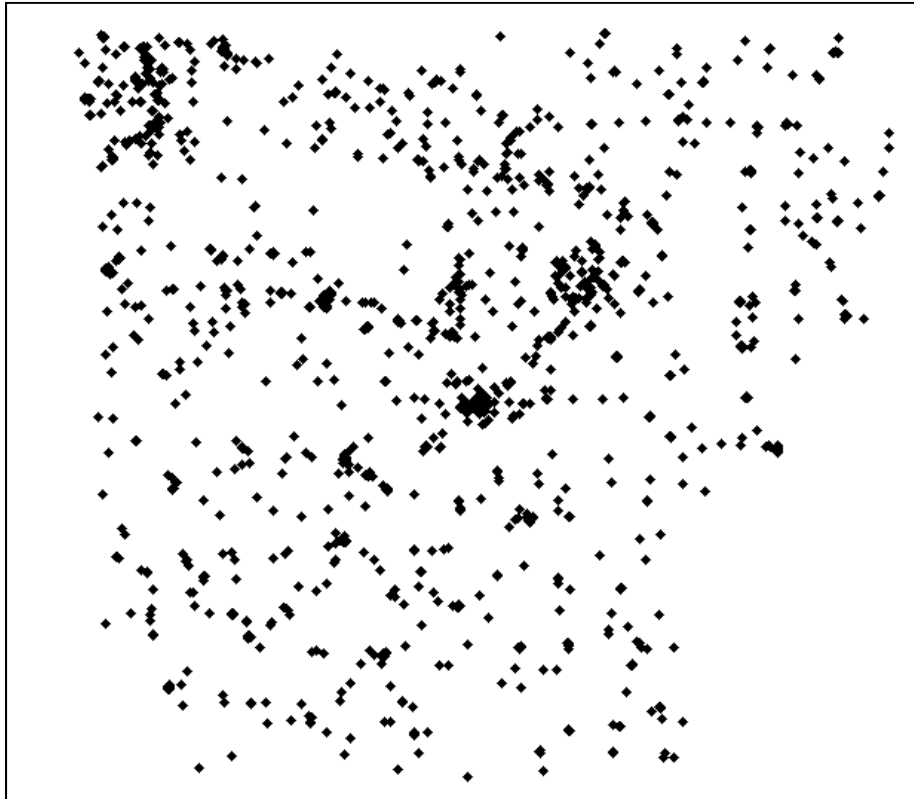
**GIS Board Priority Category:** 1, 2, 5, & 6

**Title:** National\_Register\_Properties

**Publisher:** Arkansas Department of Heritage

**Abstract:** The file contains location information for over 2,500 properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places in the state of Arkansas. These locations were extracted from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Survey and National Register database. It includes the historic name, a brief location description and coordinates of the location.

**AGIO Recommendation:** AGIO recommends this data be loaded into GeoStor.



Randy and Tracy asked some questions and briefly discussed.

Tracy motioned to end the discussion

Randy seconded the motion.

**Motion:** Tracy motioned to load the National Register Properties on GeoStor.

**Second:** Kasey seconded the motion.

The Chair asked the Board if there were no objections to dealing with both data loading items together. Hearing none the chair asked Shelby to continue. Guy Lowes was scheduled to make a presentation next, but his flight was delayed so Shelby introduced Culpepper and his presentation.

**Brian Culpepper (proxy for Dr. Jack Cothren), Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies, University of Arkansas presented Image Classification for Agricultural Reappraisal**

Brian Culpepper began his presentation on high resolution image classification for agricultural reappraisal in Crittenden County. There are three objectives: Leverage high resolution aerial imagery to streamline creation of land cover polygons. Classify

polygons into LC categories that are compatible with rural agri-land reappraisal in AR. Build an ArcGIS processing model for ACD to automate the land cover per parcel.

Shelby asked about the licensing model of ArcGIS and Culpepper discussed how it will work out for them. Shelby thinks this is significant because he's heard from other counties who have contractors following this model already, so this would be a good plan for coordination. To semi-automate the process would be a "game-changing technique," Shelby said. Everett agreed, saying it was something he was interested in.

Culpepper continued to say they have been struggling separating urban areas and water areas. 1. Segmentation: Pixels to vector objects- this is the part that's getting streamlined. You can choose the level of segmentation. 2. Objects classified based upon attributes, at 1-meter resolution. Beth asked if you could zoom into the pixels, and also asked about the attributes. Culpepper said you can choose the level of classification and attributes based on the purpose of use. There are exceptions to the 5-acre rule, which makes it flexible. The process saves many hours of time and can be replicated quickly if necessary. Beth asked about the natural color and IR. Shelby discussed the partnership opportunity with USDA, which the state turned down. He said there could be a chance to procure contracting for IR in the summer. Culpepper said the "band" really helped them with the water areas. Some discussion ensued about how aquaculture would benefit from this model. There was more discussion between Shelby and Kasey about appraisal costs. Randy mentioned that digitizing may conflict with accuracy, but "it's a very worthwhile project."

Tracy asked for more questions. There being no more discussion, the presentations continued.

### **Guy Lowes, FEMA Region 6 - FEMA RiskMAP Program Activities in Arkansas**

Shelby thought it would be important for the Board to be updated on FEMA's new program. Lowes talked about the old MAPMod program bringing the maps into the digital world. The "RiskMAPS" are for insurance purposes. The three objectives of the program are, "Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning." Lowes explained that, "RiskMAP will deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property." In 2010, focus areas will be coastal, levee and other engineering. Funding is based on trifecta of risk, need, and availability of elevation coverage. In 2011, funding will be based on superfecta of the above factors plus partner contribution.

Culpepper asked a question about the levees that led to a short discussion. FEMA has created new standards. Lowes said that "lack of elevation data will hinder creation of Risk MAP products... FEMA would attempt to coordinate with federal, state, tribal and local partners to identify and use the increasing supply of existing high-quality geospatial data." There was some discussion about mapping Arkansas levees, and ways that Arkansas could receive more FEMA funding. The Risk profile is based on population, structures, and elevation. Lowes showed a map of the update on county project studies conducted by FEMA.

The Board took a break for lunch and a tour of the Arkansas Tech University Emergency Management Program Emergency Management Operations Center, and learned about GIS usages in the Emergency Management Degree Program. Ed Leachman hosted the tour.

Returning from lunch and the tour, the Board continued with presentations.

### **Glen Dabney, Update on Recent High-Res Digital Ortho Imagery Projects in AR**

A handful of counties in east Arkansas plus Drew County now have 1-foot res aerial photos with ½-foot res in select cities.

Arkansas had a lot of imagery collected last winter; unfortunately, not all of it will be made public because they were created by private acquisitions. Everett said that private industries often need the data as soon as possible and don't want to go through the obstacles that would be in place with state regulation. Money is often not the issue. Dabney said liability is the biggest reason why they do not release it to the public. The private industries can or will only sell licenses to the imagery, but they will keep the rights to it. If the imagery taken by the private sector could be used, about 1/3 of the state would have 1-ft res aerial imagery. Shelby opened up the discussion of how the AGIO can either access this data, or set up the argument for the legislation or governor to approve funding for such work to be done by the state.

### **Bill Sneed, USGS Elevation Data Coordination and Update**

Bill Sneed, USGS updated the Board on elevation data coordination and other Arkansas activities. He showed Lidar elevation data collected along the Buffalo River. Discussion followed about how Lidar imagery can be funded. Guy Lowes mentioned FEMA's "silver jacket program" to coordinate with counties to get it all done at once and reduce duplication.

There were no additional comments from Guests or GIS Board members.

\*The next meeting was scheduled for September 1, 2010 in Mena, AR; however, Kasey Summerville requested that another date be considered due to the a conflict with a conference.

September 22<sup>nd</sup> was discussed as a possibility and the Chair proposed surveying the other Board members on their availability for the new date.

The meeting will be hosted by County Assessor June Wiles and will include a presentation and examples of work being completed by the County on the parcel grant that was awarded to them by the Board.

Next meeting dates

Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

There were not enough members present to vote on adjournment. Tracy adjourned the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 02:50 PM.

Minutes prepared by Rachel Hood, AGIO.