



**Wisconsin Land Information Council
Minutes 2021-02-26**

Meeting Date: Friday, February 26, 2021
Time: 10:00–12:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom Meeting
Remote ID: <https://zoom.us/j/94804962775?pwd=bEdPeFEva3prbVJaaFV1eExmWnlUUT09>
 Meeting ID: 948 0496 2775 | Passcode: 538058 | +1 929 205-6099

WLIC Appointees (Y = present; N = not present; all participated via teleconference)					
Kim Christman	Y	Cori Lamont	N	Colter Sikora	Y
Adam Derringer	Y	September Murphy	Y	Nathan Vaughn	N
Kelly Felton	Y	Mark Netterlund	Y	Howard Veregin	Y
Sarah Hedtke	Y	Dawn Neuy	N	Cindy Wisinski	N
Jim Giglierano	Y				

Other Attendees
 Ann Buschhaus, Cody Kamrowski, Davita Veselenak, Jeff DuMez, Larry Cutforth, Mike Friis, Peter Herreid.

1. Welcome and Introduction (Adam Derringer)

2. Approval of previous meeting’s minutes from 2020-10-14 and 2020-11-18

- [2020-10-14 minutes](#)
 - Motion to approve by Felton, seconded by Sikora. Abstaining – Veregin.
 - Minutes approved.
- [2020-11-18 minutes](#)
 - Motion to approve by Murphy, seconded by Felton.
 - Minutes approved.

3. WLIC Business (Mike Friis)

WLIC Appointments

- Mike Friis reported that applications for three Council positions, including one for a new utility industry representative, have been forwarded.
- Mark Netterlund shared the news that he is retiring on June 11th. Friis will later discuss the transition with him and the Wisconsin County Surveyors Association will recommend a replacement.

4. WLIP Program Update (Mike Friis/Peter Herreid/Jim Giglierano)

2021-23 Executive Budget update

- Friis stated that the 2021-23 Executive Budget proposes to continue to fully fund the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP).
- It also includes an item for the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) relating to Next Generation 9-1-1, in which there is a line of connection between the WLIP and proposed DMA GIS grants to counties. The language indicates there will be coordination between DMA and Land Information Program on the grants.
- Another of the Governor’s recommended items that has been of interest in the GIS community relates to snowmobile trail mapping.

WLIP grants and program status

- Herreid reported on WLIP grant and program status, where there have not been any significant changes to the program.
- In January, the annual parcel data request was made to counties, who are asked to submit parcel data in a standardized format called the Searchable Format.

- The final product for the statewide parcel map database will be made available on June 30th. In November of 2021, an updated statewide PLSS database will also be made available.
- This year, counties are required by statute to update their county land information plans. DOA will release updated instructions for the plans by March 31st, with draft plans due September 30th, and final plans due by December 31st, 2021.
- For the 2021 grant year, all counties are eligible for WLIP Strategic Initiative grants, which were able to be funded at the \$50,000 level. Counties are also eligible for Base Budget grants.
- County-signed grant agreements are due back to DOA by February 28th.

Lidar status and hydrography updates

- Giglierano gave a report on county lidar status and 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) projects.
- A different process has been used for recent lidar projects, where, instead of collecting funds from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and sending it to counties, the money is collected from counties and sent to USGS. This required new agreements and legal contracts.
- There are 10 remaining counties who do not have official USGS data that is at least Quality Level 2 (QL2) who are still eligible for 3DEP funding: Burnett, Douglas, Iowa, Green, Jackson, Oneida, Polk, Trempealeau, Vilas, and Wood.
- Projects in-progress include FY20 3DEP projects (8 counties), a two-county FY20 FEMA project, and a three-county FY19 3DEP/US Forest Service project.
- The WisconsinView archive has a backlog of data due to the pandemic but the plan is to update it.
- SCO maintains an index map for accessing WisconsinView and other lidar data sets: www.sco.wisc.edu/data/elevationlidar
- There is an index that now offers the ability to download the data through the map tiles.
- Giglierano also spoke about hydrography updates.
- The USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD or “24k hydro”) is out of date. Both USGS and DNR (the state data steward for NHD) realize this and are moving toward an update of the NHD.
- USGS is starting with an intermediate process called “Elevation Derived Hydrography” (EDH) to collect basic hydro features, like streams, lakes, and watershed boundaries.
- The process is dependent on availability of QL2 lidar or better, and is based on specifications released last July (www.usgs.gov/news/usgs-specifications-deriving-hydrography-elevation-data-are-now-available).
- There is no funding available yet, but there is potential for a funding process similar to 3DEP. NSGIC/USGS have started a working group for EDH.
- DNR was awarded a grant from the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program to do a hydrography pilot project in Kewaunee and Manitowoc Counties.
- DNR wetlands inventory mappers have a new process that requires a hydro layer, and DNR has a need for a Wiscland 3 land cover product to address elements of their climate change plan.
- Giglierano would like to bring together a brainstorming session to explore ideas for new hydro layers extracted from lidar, but also integrated with high resolution data sets. There will likely be a need to inventory existing lidar-derived datasets such as culverts, hydro-enforced DEMs, flow networks, catchments, et cetera, from counties, tribes, NGOs, and other groups.

5. New opportunities for collective action for state, local, and federal land information partners (Jim Giglierano)

Updating the Wisconsin Emergency Management's State Hazard Mitigation Plan (Cody Kamrowski)

- Cody Kamrowski from the Wisconsin Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Section gave a presentation entitled, “Hazard Mitigation Planning and the Role of GIS.”
- Reference – Slides: [Kamrowski_WLICMeeting2021_WEM_2021-02-26](https://www.wisconsin.gov/files/emergencymanagement/2021-02-26/WLICMeeting2021_WEM_2021-02-26)

Local Land Information Data Success Story: Brown County Lidar and Hydrology (Jeff DuMez)

- Jeff DuMez, Brown County GIS coordinator, spoke about Brown County’s land information efforts related to lidar data and hydrology.
- DuMez demonstrated a view of the county GIS mapping site: <https://browncounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=61fba3fd419045e48aa6ba759838387c>
- In 2010, Brown County did its first USGS lidar project for a QL2 product. Upon an opportunity to partner with FEMA for a 2020 flight for a QL2 product, DuMez went to municipalities and county departments who use the product, in order to gauge interest in buying up to a QL1 product.
- The county was able to buy up to county-wide QL1 coverage, by bringing together resources from all of the county’s incorporated municipalities, a few developing towns, county departments like the Land and Water Conservation Department, and grant funding from the WLIP and USGS.

- The county and locals are eager for the data to be delivered. The county has been subject to a lot of flood events, high lake levels and coastal flooding, and issues that involve watersheds, including the problem of hypoxic blobs in the bay linked to nutrient runoff that result in fish kill.
- Lidar modeling will likely be part of some possible future solutions that utilize lidar and hydro data, such as more accurate modeling of watersheds with flat areas and improved culvert inventories.

Ashland County Building Inventory for Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation (Howard Veregin)

- Howard Veregin and Ann Buschhaus shared a pre-recorded video presentation entitled, “Creating a Building Inventory for Northern Ashland County to Facilitate Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation.”
- Reference – mp4 file:
[wlic-feb2021.mp4](#)

GIS needs for Wisconsin DNR's Climate Task Force and Related Initiatives (Larry Cutforth)

- Larry Cutforth, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources GIS Section Chief, spoke on “DNR Blueprint for Climate Action.”
- Reference – Slides:
[Cutforth_WLICMeeting2021_DNR_2021-02-26](#)

Discussion of possible collaborative projects and funding sources

- Giglierano led a discussion, “Discussion of possible collaborative projects and funding sources.”
- Reference – Slides:
[Giglierano_WLICMeeting2021_Discussion_2021-02-26](#)
- Discussion focused on what roles the Council might play with regard to possible future collaborative efforts, where there could be opportunities related to the intersection of the importance of GIS data and the policy priorities of federal and state policymakers surrounding climate planning, risk assessment, and resilience activities.
- Veregin pointed to a precedent of verbal support of policymakers but a lack of funding that gets translated into initiatives for real-world activities, suggesting there is a need to follow the money. He stated that in terms of statewide initiatives, outside of the WLIP and 3DEP, and a small number of state and federal agencies, the examples of statewide initiatives are few.
- Derringer suggested one option might be for the Council members to play an educational role, perhaps educating on the importance of GIS data at conferences and engaging in advocacy. Council members could talk to different groups to start a conversation. He pointed to similar communication efforts by WLIA and the Wisconsin Spatial Reference System 2022 Task Force (WSRS), making the point that a demonstration of the need for GIS data and return on investment is how to get to funding.
- Giglierano will try to invite relevant speakers to future Council meetings and will seek to continue the conversation.

6. Next Steps/Action Items

7. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.