



# DRAFT

## Wisconsin Land Information Council Minutes 2026-05-18

**Meeting Date:** Monday, May 18, 2026  
**Time:** 3:00–5:00 p.m.  
**Location:** [WLIA 2026 Spring Conference](#) | Ashland, The Union, 100 Main St W  
**Remote ID:** [Click here to join the meeting](#) | Meeting ID: 262 297 780 328 447 | Passcode: Hp9uk7hc  
 Or call in (audio only) +1 608-571-2209 | Phone Conference ID: 673 777 364#

WLIC Appointees (Y = present; N = not present; some participated via teleconference)					
Adam Derringer	Y	Sarah Hedtke	Y	Colter Sikora	Y
Kim Christman	Y	Chris Carrillo	N	Joe Tew	Y
John Grams	Y	Christina Muller	Y	Howard Veregin	Y
Steve Schauer	Y	Cody Brommerich	Y	Rachel Thompson -	N
GIO (Vacant)					

Other Attendees
Mike Friis, Peter Herreid, Nik Anderson, Nick Gamroth, Kelly Felton, Davita Veselenak

1. **Welcome and Introduction** (Adam Derringer)
2. **Approval of previous meeting's minutes** from [2026-02-25](#)
  - Motion to approve by Christman, seconded by Sikora.
  - Minutes approved.
3. **WLIC Business** (Mike Friis)
  - a. **Council membership for WLIC positions – Land Information Officer vacancy**
    - John Grams from Columbia County has been approved for the Land information Officer position.
  - b. **Geographic Information Officer position update**
    - Friis reported on the Geographic Information Officer (GIO) position at the Department of Administration (DOA), which is currently vacant.
    - It is in the queue with Human Resources. There are a number of vacant positions in the division, including a Bureau Director, a surveyor, and a Coastal Management position. These other positions do not necessarily trump the GIO position, but they do require HR attention. Hiring has already occurred for yet other positions in the division that were vacant.
    - There was discussion of what council members could do to support staffing of the GIO position. Stakeholder groups could write the DOA Secretary on the WLIP and the importance of the GIO.
    - The Wisconsin Counties Association was mentioned as another potential audience to which stakeholder support for staffing the GIO position can be directed.
4. **WLIP Program Update** (Peter Herreid)
  - a. **WLIP grants and program status**
    - Herreid provided updates on the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP).
    - The annual grant cycle is underway. GIS data for parcels was collected from counties in the spring. The State Cartographer's Office is putting together the next iteration of the statewide parcel map and uploading other county GIS layers to [GeoData@Wisconsin](mailto:GeoData@Wisconsin).
    - Annual expenditure reports from counties are due June 30th.

- Document recording fee revenue is up about 10 percent from this time last year. If the revenue trend continues, this could increase Strategic Initiative grants, up from \$20,000 to approximately the \$35-40,000 level.
- The Land Information Fund appropriation still has a balance of about a million dollars from funds saved from administrative expenses that statutorily cannot be distributed as grants to counties for land information. The appropriation does accrue interest and this interest revenue goes into the appropriation that funds grants.
- Some administrative savings from unexpended funds do not go to waste, because they are able to be put toward the statutorily-permitted expenses of municipal boundary review and annexation in the Division of Intergovernmental Relations.
- There have been attempts to make a fix to the appropriation structure in past budget cycles that did not make it all the way through the legislative process. There are hopes for a fix to the issue for the upcoming state budget cycle.

## 5. Project Updates

### a. 2025 Wisconsin Regional Orthoimagery Consortium status and lidar projects (Adam Derringer)

- Derringer reported on the Wisconsin Regional Orthoimagery Consortium (WROC) imagery program.
- Imagery for the 2023-2025 cycle focused on data older than three years, with the majority of data 3-inch resolution orthoimagery.
- Datasets have been sent to counties and state agencies. A statewide 12-inch product has been delivered. There were at least 15 significant funding partners for the program, some of them multi-tiered funding partners.
- The rebate checks that go back to counties went out about a week ago, with some nice partner funding amounts going back to counties. About 64 counties participated in the program. The 3-inch resolution brought in some new partners. Some counties are moving to acquiring data on a more regular basis.
- In 2026, there are 19 counties flying imagery this spring.
- Regarding the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 3DEP lidar grant program, the 2025 application by SEWRPC (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission) was for data at the 30 points per meter lidar data standard. The DOA's application for Langlade, Menominee, Outagamie, Shawano, and Waupaca was at the Quality Level 1 project level with 8 points per meter and was flown in the fall of 2025.
- In 2026, there are 8 counties with collection in the spring at base level Quality Level 1 standard.
- Planning is underway for the 2027 3DEP lidar grant due in September or October, as well as for future collections of imagery.
- Herreid noted that DOA also submitted an application for 2026 funds from the 3D National Hydrography Program (3DHP), a program similar to 3DEP but with focus on hydrography and project areas defined by watersheds. The proposed project is for elevation-derived hydrography data in northeast Wisconsin with partner funding from DNR.

### b. WLIP Program Plan discussion (Adam Derringer)

- Derringer led a discussion on the WLIP Program Plan ([https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/WLIP\\_Program\\_Plan\\_2016-2021.pdf](https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/WLIP_Program_Plan_2016-2021.pdf)).
- The plan was the first major task that the Council took on when it was first created several years ago.
- The document is now five years out of date. It provides historical context for the WLIP, but there are questions about the currency of the goals, spending numbers, and some other content.
- An update could feature accomplishments and successes based on items in the original plan that have been achieved.
- An update could also focus on the vision for the future and what is next.
- Stakeholder groups represented by a Council representative might be invited to contribute their feedback on the plan and their organization's goals.

### c. GIO PD (Colter Sikora)

- On the 2014 [Geographic Information Officer position description](#), the Land Information Office Network (LION) and State Agency Geographic Information Committee (SAGIC) have both provided feedback to DOA in the form of a letter. The letters were broadly in alignment on the idea of the GIO as a leader for coordinated GIS work across the state.
- Because counties collect the funds for and therefore fund the WLIP, there was discussion of the need for balance between the position focusing on state government and local/county government, with some inclusion of the private sector as well.

- Some elements of the position description could be updated to be more current and for relevancy.
- All stakeholder groups should have a chance to weigh in, so that all groups are represented.
- Members could take this out to their communities, producing something like a one-page letter on what they would like to see the GIO do.
- Friis said DOA will take feedback on the GIO position description as soon as the Council can turn it around.

## **6. Other Business**

- Anderson and Gamroth provided legislative updates. At this time, there is not a lot going on legislatively. Later in summer, the Wisconsin Land Information Association (WLIA) plans to engage in more proactive work, before the election. Work on the legislation that deals with building, fixtures, and improvements (BFIs) continues in preparation for next legislative session.

## **7. Next Steps/Action Items**

- Council members to review the [WLIP Program Plan](#) and provide their organization's feedback; with Derringer organizing a tentative September meeting
- Council members to review the [GIO position description](#) and provide their organization's specific feedback
- Letter of general support from Council for the GIO position may be provided to DOA
- Next WLIA meeting – [WLIA 2026 Fall Conference](#): October 12-15; Milwaukee

## **8. Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned at 4:27 pm ###