



DRAFT

Wisconsin Land Information Council Minutes 2024-02-28

Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024
Time: 2:00–4:00 p.m.
Location: [WLIA 2024 Annual Conference](#) | Green Bay, Hyatt Regency & KI Convention Center, Riverview 3
Remote ID: [Click here to join the meeting](#) | Meeting ID: 289 281 641 306 | Passcode: ooQfxj
 Or call in (audio only) +1 608-571-2209 | Phone Conference ID: 623 643 599#

WLIC Appointees (Y = present; N = not present; some participated via teleconference)					
Adam Derringer	Y	Sarah Hedtke	N	Colter Sikora	Y
Kim Christman (proxy)	N	Chris Carrillo	Y	Jim Osborne	Y
Kelly Felton	Y	Christina Muller	Y	Howard Veregin	Y
Scott Hand	Y	Cody Brommerich	Y	Cindy Wisinski	Y
Jim Giglierano	Y				

Other Attendees
 Mike Friis, Peter Herreid, Nick Gamroth (proxy for Kim Christman), Zach Hassler, Nik Anderson, Richard Kleinmann, Jaime Martindale, Joe Fleischmann, Zach Nienow, Zach Robinson, Sara Chiamulera Adam Grassl
Remote: Norm Bushor, Heather Dums, Scott Godfrey, Justin Meyer, Brittany Goudos-Weisbecker, Davita Veselenak, Emily ---, Paul ---, 715-***-*801.

1. **Welcome and Introduction** (Adam Derringer)
2. **Approval of previous meeting’s minutes** from [2023-10-18](#)
 - Motion to approve by Derringer, seconded by Veregin.
 - Minutes approved.
3. **WLIC Business** (Mike Friis)
 - WLIC membership is full (https://doa.wi.gov/DIR/WLIC_Members.pdf).
4. **WLIP Program Update** (Mike Friis/Jim Giglierano/Peter Herreid)
 - a. **Lidar status and hydrography updates**
 - Giglierano provided updates on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) lidar grants.
 - The state reached a milestone with the FY22 3DEP project of 12 counties, which completed coverage of federal standardized 3D elevation data for the state. The data is in the process of delivery.
 - The USGS rules have changed. There will be a need to pay more attention to where federal agencies want to go with coverage, and a need to be more contiguous in the area of the flight pattern in the future.
 - Work with partners, like the Forest Service and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service will continue, as will planning for the next generation USGS 3D National Hydrography Program.
 - Muller asked, would the future hydrography data be incorporated for use by the National Weather Service/River Centers for forecasting? That is an ongoing concern for emergency managers to share and compile data for the best forecast.
 - Giglierano replied that if the data is acquired by federal agencies, it will be available to the public, should they choose to incorporate the data into their models.

b. WLIP grants and program status

- Herreid provided updates on WLIP grants and revenues.
- Recording levels last state fiscal year were at 30-year low. Recording levels have not noticeably picked up as of December 2023. There may be regional variation, but this was not analyzed.
- The 2025 Strategic Initiative Grant projection is at the \$10,000 level. This estimated projection is based on Register of Deeds recording revenues, and also considers how much Base Budget funding will be needed for grants to get all counties to the minimum Base Budget level of \$100,000.
- This year of the 3-year update cycle for [county land information plans](#). The instructions are about to be finalized. The draft instructions were sent out for public review.
- The process will work like previous years, where after the release of the final instructions, counties have six months to submit a draft plan. DOA reviews the draft plan, county land information councils must approve the plan, and then the final plan is submitted to DOA. There will be a voluntary peer review process in which two counties review another county's plan, but DOA does not see the peer reviews.
- Herreid encouraged county land info council members to participate in the plan updates, as it is an opportunity to have a voice in the county's land information planning process.

5. Project Updates

a. 2025 Wisconsin Regional Orthoimagery Consortium status (Adam Derringer)

- Derringer gave updates on WROC, the imagery program that dates back to the 1990s. It is managed by regional planning commissions, the primary one being the North Central Wisconsin RPC (NCWRPC).
- Contractors work with counties to get orthophotography, usually on a five-year cycle, but some counties like to collect more frequently. The program opened up a window so people can collect in 2023, 2024, and 2025 for the 2025 cycle.
- Flights for 2024 include 19 counties flying in spring 2024 and several municipalities. All at least 6-inch resolution, all will be 4-band, for various uses. There is a countywide 3-inch imagery trend.
- This cycle expects to see more counties participate.
- There has been an expansion of what people are using the data for. The data is not just utilized by counties and municipalities, but partners at state and federal level, private sector, small and larger utilities, and co-ops.
- Significantly more partners have come in. There is a WLIA presentation scheduled for Thursday, February 29th, by Zachary Nienow, WROC Program Manager at Ayres Associates, and Andy Faust of NCWRPC. Nik Anderson also represents WROC for about a third of the state.
- As partners come in to the program, counties may get rebates on their original contribution amounts. The partner money is redistributed equitably to the counties when the data is distributed.

b. WLIA update/ Register of Deeds Recording Fee ([Assembly Bill 915](#)) (Adam Derringer)

- Derringer reported WLIA updates, beginning with [Assembly Bill 915](#), concerning fees for recording and filing instruments with the registers of deeds; the portion of such fees used for the land information program; and the minimum state grant amounts under the program.
- The bill was introduced by Representatives Novak, Tranel, O'Connor, Rozar, Subeck and Melotik; co-sponsored by Senators Ballweg and James.
- As it stands, no legislative action was taken on AB915.
- The substance of the bill is the recording fees that fund the WLIP Program.
- WLIA worked with the WLIA lobbyist to arrive at the proposal to raise the number for the document recording fee.
- A motivating factor is the observation that counties are falling behind in resources to meet land information needs.
- WLIA formed a task force to look at the issue, considering factors such as NextGeneration9-1-1, spending on education, and inflation, which puts the \$30 amount from the year the fee was instituted to \$42 today.
- The task force determined to write legislation to increase it to 45 dollars, so that there would be more resources for DOA's WLIP grants and more retained by the county.
- Multiple organizations were [in support of AB915](#), such as the Wisconsin Land Surveyors Association, Wisconsin Real Property Lister Association, Wisconsin Land Title Association, and the Land Information Officers Network (LION). Many organizations wrote letters of support for the program.
- The hearing materials, including the letters of support, are all combined in one PDF document (https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lc/hearing_testimony_and_materials/2023/ab915/ab0915_2024_01_09.pdf)
- The Wisconsin REALTORS® Association opposed AB 915, with the caveat that land information should be funded, but in a different way.

- The bill has not passed out of committee.
- WLIC Council discussion focused on the need for the increase in funding, justified by the expenses counties have, the increase in workload for the land information office, and the shrinking dollars devoted to land information over the years.
- The proposed version of New Jersey’s “Daniel’s Law” ([Senate Bill 927](#)), requiring privacy protections for judicial officers, if passed, would add to county demands. Some local data availability might be at risk, as counties might turn off public access to their apps and take parcels offline.
- Veregin pointed out that counties are not the only ones to be impacted by SB927, as state agencies and UW-Madison are also affected. They also hold data and would likely need to comply with the terms of the law as a data broker. Like with local governments, it is an unfunded mandate for state agencies and the University too.
- Gamroth commented on the discussion of user fees by legislators, maintaining that user fees would have a negative effect on counties and users. Land information programs are funded by a “tax”—it is like a tax for the recording fee. To charge a user fee would be to tax again, by subscription or fee. This point was not made to the legislature. The county data, currently available for free, offers users accuracy and timeliness, and users are not likely to pay for access to the county’s website.
- There are other users of the data in other industries, such as surveyors and certified survey map makers.
- For AB915, the WLIA Legislative Committee thinks that 15 dollars is not going to prevent a prospective homebuyer from buying a house.
- Carillo stated that home affordability is a serious problem in the state. Interest rates are still high. The Fed indicates no change this year. Realtors are sensitive to anything that affects a homebuyer. The income needed for a loan, with low housing inventory, and other costs can impact homebuyers.
- The point was made the counties cannot realistically go for levy dollars (or dollars that go to the general fund), so a recording fee increase may be the only place to go to raise revenue.
- Gamroth pointed out one major software company produces most of the state’s computer assisted mass appraisal (CAMA) data in the state.
- Derringer pointed out that multiple entities could benefit from the increase in revenue, including listing services and realtors, and encouraged continuing the conversation with realtors.
- On the topic of [Senate Bill 1002](#), WLIA registered in support of SB 1002, which concerns school district boundary adjustments for lots in newly created subdivisions and school district boundary mapping.
- This affects where kids go to school and taxation issues. The bill would require land information officers to submit school district boundaries on an annual basis. Real Property Listers would need to assign a property to the appropriate school district.
- If a property is split across multiple districts, the bill provides a list of things to determine how to assign it. The state superintendent will have to create a statewide map, compatible with the Department of Public Instruction’s map. The legislation puts local governments and the state on a path for statewide school district boundaries.
- The Bill was referred to the senate but will likely not be passed this session.
- Wisconsin Real Property Listers Association was neutral on SB 1002.
- Gamroth encouraged working with the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and the Association of Wisconsin School Superintendents, educating them of the need for a change in Chapter 117 of the statutes relating to how school board goes about altering their school district boundaries.
- Discussion touched upon how the school district boundaries are not integrated in statewide parcel data. Some parcels fall in more than one district. Legislation could help to make the boundaries official and then determine the process for how adjustments are made, based on a recorded subdivision plat.

c. AB966 / SB927 (Nik Anderson)

- Anderson spoke on Wisconsin version of New Jersey’s Daniel’s Law, proposed as AB966/SB927 ([Senate Substitute Amendment 2](#) of SB927 was most current at the time of meeting).
- A group of people from different sectors led by Wisconsin Property Records Industry Association (PRIA) met on Tuesday, February 27th to discuss how the bill is going to be implemented.
- The Legislation concerns judicial security and privacy. It shields their information on public facing websites and in register of deeds documents.
- This would involve submission of a form through the Wisconsin [Director of State Courts](#).
- The information is shielded, not redacted, so the information is still there, but people do not have access to it. It protects the judicial officer from having their name searchable or displayable.
- If the bill passes, there will be 12 months after the governor signs it to come up with a communication plan.

- WLIA will create a task force to find the best solution possible.
- The intent is to provide roadblocks for someone who wants to cause a judge harm. There must be malicious intent for the aspect of the bill that makes it a felony to share shielded information.
- A county's corporation counsel will have to determine what their interpretation of the law is.
- Anderson stated that one statewide plan for implementation will be crucial.
- Herreid read from "Part 7" of the bill which states that a government may not post or display information that includes "personal information," which is defined to include address. This could be interpreted to mean not only taking off the name from search, but also address.
- It would be hard to selectively edit multiple files, documents, and databases upon each request.
- There are dozens of archived versions of land records held by local and state governments.
- Herreid pointed out that the bill as written leads to the potential of taking out owner name, mailing address, and site address fields from *all* records in the statewide parcel map.
- For change in software, software vendors will need to make a change. This may or not be covered under the local government's existing contract with the vendor, including ROD software and GIS software.
- An indeterminate amount of money will be required to comply with these changes. For some local governments, the easiest thing to do may be to turn it *all* off.
- There were questions about implementation and logistics. For example, how the communication chain and information flow to affected entities will work once a shielding request is made for agencies to be able to comply.
- Anderson stated that the bill's authors are open to additional legislation to help clean up the legislation.
- Veregin asked, if WLIA has a plan to amend, how can organizations get involved? There is difficulty for state agencies to get involved in legislation.
- The WLIA task force, which will fall under the WLIA Technical Committee, has not been created yet. There was a request to have someone from the State Cartographer's Office on the task force.
- Discussion also touched upon privacy laws in other places like the European Union. Other states have done it. Herreid mentioned the New Jersey example, where they have had issues, such as a class action lawsuit against data brokers by police officers and conflict between complying with the law and journalists' work to hold government officials accountable.
- Veregin questioned the certainty that the bill would pass. Anderson said it was on the fast track with a big appetite to push this through.
- The bill's status at the time of meeting was "Available for scheduling."

d. NG9-1-1 update from Department of Military Affairs (Zachary Hassler)

- Hassler provided updates from the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) on NextGeneration9-1-1, including the project for the state's AT&T Emergency Services IP Network (ESInet) contract.
- All counties have signed up, either with AT&T or with other 9-1-1 providers.
- There are 65 active public-safety answering point (PSAP) projects. 8 PSAPs are live with AT&T.
- OEC will be holding several NextGeneration9-1-1 stakeholder outreach sessions.
- Email [Zach Hassler](#) or [Jessica Jimenez](#) for more information, or view the [OEC calendar](#) on the website.
- 9-1-1 grant program funding increased for FY25. GIS grant availability is at 6 million, up from 1.5 million for 2024. For FY25, PSAP grant amounts will be at 18 million, up from 6 million.
- [Grant Grywalsky](#) from OEC will be hosting online workshops in April, one for PSAPs and one for GIS, with question-and-answer sessions.
- Hassler also provided GIS updates. For NextGen9-1-1, GeoComm and DMA have signed a contract for data management services.
- GeoComm will be providing data in mid- to late March, working with state and county governments to update the standards. By the end or middle of March will wrap up. GeoComm will provide the standards to participating GIS providers.
- Intrado is the data subcontractor. Counties are using data services such as GeoComm and others.
- GeoComm will be providing data once the GIS data tool is up and running.
- There is an option for a base approach to i3 deployments, where local governments can submit polygons and provisioning boundaries, without road centerlines and address points. This is to give them more time with the more detailed layers.
- Hassler still maintains a working layer of provisional boundaries across the state.
- OEC is still holding statewide GIS NG9-1-1 calls. They are focusing on interactions between GIS and NG9-1-1 datasets. They are working to better craft workflows and best practices on these issues, to add to the Wisconsin GIS and NG9-1-1 data standards.

e. Brown County OneMap Project (Jim Giglierano)

- Giglierano gave an overview of a project in Brown County and Outagamie County to develop a multi-layer map where similar but distinct federal layers are harmonized, with the same base imagery and lidar.
- Funding is from the DOA Wisconsin Coastal Management Program. The contractor is NV5.
- They are employing new federal standards for 3D hydrography, adding a wetlands inventory on top of that, and using data from a NOAA program called C-CAP (Coastal Change Analysis Program), which is a one-meter land cover.
- The contractor will harmonize the data for like features.
- A goal is getting federal agencies to recognize there is a different way to do things, to not have a mishmash of layers. Andrew Brenner from NV5 and Jeff DuMez are involved with this pilot effort. Wisconsin is hoping to do other areas of the state and secure more partners.

f. 2022 Coordinate System Update

- Veregin from the State Cartographer's Office update and Richard Kleinmann gave a 2022 coordinate system update. They co-Chair [WSRS2022](#), the Wisconsin Spatial Reference System 2022 Task Force.
- Modernization of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) modernization is occurring through the National Geodetic Survey (NGS).
- The WSRS2022 Task Force was started in 2018, organized under the Geospatial Committee of the Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors, to look at statewide implementation of the new NSRS, legislative requirements, et cetera.
- NAD 83 and NAVD 88 will be replaced with new horizontal and vertical reference systems known as the North American Terrestrial Reference Frame of 2022 (NATRF2022).
- A milestone for Wisconsin was attained, as agreement has been reached with NGS on low distortion projection parameters.
- There is an updated 2022 State Plane Coordinate System (SPCS) which will be available in the future, along with other NATRF2022 materials. Right now, only preliminary data is available for testing. Various pieces will continue to be rolled in until about 2026.
- The task force is now focusing on other things, like legislation for the new datums. WSRS2022 has a legislative group led by [Eric Damkot](#).
- Legislation could, but does not have to, require or force users to use the latest NGS implementation of NSRS. The details of legislation will be important so as to not unnecessarily box people into the highest levels of accuracy for survey grade coordinates and associated overhead.
- Although transformation tools will be available, NGS will tell users they have to reshoot all coordinates, rather than perform a transformation.
- There was a worthwhile NGS webinar in February 2024. The [NGS website](#) features "[Recorded Webinars](#)."
- The Wisconsin Department of Transportation will be making a switch to the new datums. Change is coming.

g. PSC Broadband update (Colter Sikora)

- Sikora gave a broadband update from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.
- For broadband [grant programs](#), PSC is wrapping up recommendations for announcements of the Capital Projects Fund Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program but a date is not known.
- They are starting to work with the broadband fabric point data, reconciling the data providers sent. This makes use of a lot of locally sourced data.
- This year's activities will include the federal challenge process, which will occur in the next few weeks. This is for broadband stakeholders from the provider community and broadband planners. Then PSCW project deployment will be assigned later this year. They will continue working to arrive at areas to cover the whole state and intelligent broadband project areas.
- There will be a local broadband planning outreach effort in March through May across the state for mappers and other stakeholders.

6. Discussion (Jim Giglierano)

- (Due to time a separate discussion did not take place.)

7. Next Steps/Action Items

- Next WLIA meeting – [WLIA 2024 Spring Regional Meeting](#): June 5-7, Marshfield

8. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 4:06 pm