



**Agenda / Minutes
Nevada Geographic Information Society (NGIS)
July 2009 Board Meeting
Telephone Conference Call – July 22, 2009**

NGIS Board Members Present:

Eric Ingbar, Gary Johnson, Art Ehrenberg, Sonya Wilson, Mark O'Brien, Matt Krok, Richard Wells

NGIS Board Members Absent:

Karin Hagan, Pat Guiberson, Moni Fox, Adam Johnson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by NGIS President Richard Wells. It was determined a quorum was present.

Old Business:

- **Approval of Minutes of NGIS Board Meeting at the Conference in May 2009**

The first order of business was the Approval of Minutes of NGIS Board Meeting at the Conference in May 2009. It was determined that the meeting occurred on May 19, 2009 and the only business was the new slate of officers. Karin needs to check with Jan Gould to see if she has any notes – no minutes of the meeting were taken. The item was tabled until some notes can be developed.

New Business:

- **Report on the NGIS Conference held at the Atlantis in Reno May 18-20, 2009**

Mark O'Brien gave a report on the NGIS Conference held at the Atlantis in Reno May 18-20, 2009. The conference went very well given the tough economic times facing the state and the nation. The facility worked well and was able to accommodate the smaller numbers. There was positive feedback on the quality of presentations, the vendors in attendance and especially the panel session with ESRI President Jack Dangermond. Eric indicated he would be mailing the

Board some notes on the Plenary Session and recommended that they be reviewed by the Board and released to the membership.

- Discussion of the creation of a NGIS Calendar for meetings and recurring events

The next item was the discussion of the creation of a NGIS Calendar for meetings and recurring events. Eric voiced the need for NGIS to explore establishing a calendar function to help coordinate and schedule events. There was good discussion and agreement that it would be beneficial. The Board agreed that the NGIS Secretary would manage the content of it. Matt mentioned that Facebook might also be a good way to go with this. An ad hock committee consisting of Eric, Matt and Karin will explore the options and different offerings available.

- Update / Inventory of existing NGIS committees and membership

Richard started the discussion on the next item regarding an update / inventory of existing NGIS committees and membership. There currently is a Web Committee (Chaired by Gary, Adam, Jennifer Mauldin and Safa Eglimez), a Membership Committee (Mark, Gary and Eric), A Historic Committee (Chaired by Art, Jan), a Newsletter Committee (Richard, Editor Debbi Taylor, Tim Spear) and a New Officers Committee (Pat Guiberson). There was some good discussion about the existing committees and Richard asked if there were any new ideas for committees that do not exist but should. Eric mentioned the Plenary notes from the May 2009 Conference might spark some ideas.

- Discussion and approval of new NGIS webmaster

After many dedicated years of service to NGIS, Adam Johnson indicated that he was ready to pass the torch of NGIS Webmaster on. Safa Eglimez, a crime and intel analyst for the City of Henderson Police Department, joined the conference call and indicated an interest in serving as the new NGIS Webmaster. Safa has previous experience as a webmaster for other organizations. Has reviewed the NGIS website and is open to suggestions. Gary mentioned the main thing is to maintain consistency of all the webpages. He also explained how the conference pages have been set up over the years to ensure a consistent look as the event jumps back and forth between north and south. When Adam gets back in town he will get with Gary and Safa and work out the details for the transfer. Gary mentioned that Adam has been paying the fee and the Board agreed that NGIS should start paying for that service. Safa will look at the web site and see if the hosting service has a calendar option and if not help explore Facebook and Google calendar as other possible options.

Gary made the motion to approve Safa as the new NGIS Webmaster. A second was made by Matt. There was no further discussion. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Safa Eglimez is the new NGIS Webmaster.

- Discussion of a statewide approach to GIS Day – November 18, 2009

Richard discussed a possible statewide approach to GIS Day this year. The idea was to make available some basic materials (drawing on the ESRI templates available on www.gisday.com) to the membership and encourage participation to head out into the community. Matt suggested the Board send out a letter of endorsement to the membership. Geospeak was also brought up as a way to help get the word out. Sonya mentioned that the College of Southern Nevada has GIS

facilities and might be able to participate. She will talk with Shruti and explore further. Chris Ryan in Carson City at WNCC was also mentioned as a good resource up north. Gary suggested touching base with Jan to see if we could get a Proclamation from the Governor. The Board agreed that all participants would have the autonomy to conduct whatever type of event desired but have the backing and support of NGIS. Gary mentioned that outreach to some of our members in Elko should also be explored and possible sending out packets (or making them available for download on the website) to some of the rural parts of the state.

- Update and Discussion on the status of NGIF

Gary has been trying to get a hold of the Foundation Group and has been leaving messages. The IRS had questions on the relationship of NGIS and NGIF. Gary stated that NGIF is a way to continue to support funding for scholarships and that the purpose of NGIS is membership in a professional organization that holds annual conferences. The Board agreed. As far as processing the money has been paid and the application has been accepted – there is just some clarification still needed for the IRS. Gary will provide additional updates once he knows more. Gary mentioned that once everything has been approved and 501c3 status has been achieved, the NGIF board needs to meet and vote for a new president. He also mentioned that the \$7000 donated from the 2008 conference is still in a savings account. Eric suggested we circulate the NGIF charter to the incoming NGIS Board to get everyone up to speed as far as where things are going with NGIF.

- Discussion of items for the July 2009 Issue of GeoSpeak

The Board would like to see articles on GIS Day, a 2009 Conference Wrap up that includes testimonials from the attendees, and a possible article / bio for new officers.

- Discussion to revisit possible Membership Dues

Gary feels membership dues is something we should really look at instead of letting the annual conferences pay for the funding of NGIS. He stated that if we are trying to reach the status of a professional organization we must as professionals, be willing to pay a membership fee. The membership committee will meet again and come up with something for the next board meeting. Eric mentioned that the positions the team had developed earlier could be restated. Art asked who was on the committee and volunteered to participate.

- Report on the efforts of the 2010 Conference Planning Committee

Matt has been sending out meeting minutes to the Board to keep everyone informed. He is pleased with the direction things are taking. It is looking like the event will occur in the third week of June. Richard, Matt and Art will be looking at some alternate locations and choose one. There will be a teambuilding session on 8/27 at the ballpark for the committee and all NGIS members featuring a matchup of the AAA Reno Aces and Las Vegas 51's. So far about 40 have committed to the event. Gary asked about the proposed date and its relationship to the ESRI Conference for budget and planning purposes. Matt also inquired about the Digital Mapping Conference dates. Gary mentioned that it usually occurs in the third week of May so there should not be a conflict. Sonya mentioned for planning purposes a need to get access to the constant contact list. Gary said he will email that information to the whole board and said there are some things we need to address and clean up with the databases in constant contact and RegOnline. There needs to be

some governance developed on how these functions are handled and by whom. It was agreed that the Board should have access along with a point of contact from the Conference Planning Team.

- **Open Discussion / Next Meeting Date and Time**

A tentative date for the next board meeting was set for Tuesday, September 22 at 11:00.

The meeting was then adjourned.