

**SAVANNAH AREA GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (SAGIS)  
FEBRUARY 22, 2011 MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES**

**MPC JERRY SURRENCY CONFERENCE ROOM  
110 EAST STATE STREET**

**February 22, 2011**

**9:00 AM**

**Voting Members**

Dr. David Frost

Russ Abolt

James J. Collins, III

Truitt Eavenson

Paul Hinchey

Joseph Ross, Jr.

Rochelle Small-Toney

**Representing**

Georgia Tech

Chatham County

City of Savannah

Georgia Power

St. Joseph's/Candler

American Society of Civil Engineers

City of Savannah

**Present**

Absent

X

X

Absent

X

Absent

Absent

**Voting Member Alternates**

Susan Cooler

Cam Mathis

Julian Pafford

**Representing**

Chatham County

City of Savannah

Georgia Power

**Present**

Absent

X

Absent

**Others Present**

Noel Perkins

Mary E. Mitchell

**Representing**

SAGIS

MPC

**Present**

X

X

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Vice-chair Russ Abolt** called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

**II. ACTION ITEMS**

The November 23, 2010 meeting minutes and the January 31, 2011 Special Called meeting minutes were approved upon motion of Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Hinchey and carried.

**III. REPORTS**

**A. Budget Report**

Mr. Perkins gave the 2011 budget report in the absence of Ms. West being ill today. SAGIS is expecting a \$200,000 shortfall mostly in indirect costs. Everything else appears to be on track.

## **B. Update on Aerial Photography Flight**

**Mr. Perkins** reported that on February 1, 2011, SAGIS formally entered into the agreement with USGS for the acquisition of six inch aerial photograph to include the IR band (four band product). It is currently in the contracting phase where the vendor is signing their documents and doing their flight preparation. The Statement of Work (SOW) stipulates quarterly billing. Therefore, SAGIS first bill will not be due until June 2011. SAGIS is on track per its agreement with USGS.

**Mr. Perkins** said they asked USGS why they were giving SAGIS more than a year and a half to make the payment on something that is being done in actually just a few months. They were told that this is the way it works. If a bill is submitted for work completed for flight and Quality Assurance Quality Control (QAQC), but if USGS finds that the QAQC was not completed, USGS will not pay them for any of the work. Therefore, the company knows up front that they are only paid for what is actually performed.

## **C. Update on ESRI Discovery Workshop**

**Mr. Perkins** reported that the workshop is scheduled for March 22, 2011, but ESRI's Regional Manager will be out the country. Therefore, the workshop needs to be changed. He anticipates the workshop will be held on March 29, 2011. Mr. Perkins will forward the change date to the Board members. Top level management will be conducting this very important workshop. There will be one morning or afternoon session for senior leadership. Everything else will be worked out with the technical personnel. ESRI has devoted this entire week to SAGIS. This is at no cost to SAGIS. This is a \$25,000 savings and the training is very beneficial.

The ESRI Discovery Session, as stated, is a free workshop to review Savannah Area GIS and the participating agencies implementation of the ESRI technology platform in support of the business operations. The meeting is comprised of an onsite assessment and validation of the deployment of ESRI technology as it relates to the four core GIS patterns and best-practices. The workshop is designed for board members and stakeholders to learn about the ESRI platform that SAGIS employs and to discuss their vision for moving forward.

## **D. SAGIS Update**

- 1. Activities Update (November 2010 – February 2011).** **Mr. Perkins** reported that SAGIS completed the activities outlined below in the past three months:

a. Receipt of LIDAR data. The staff is reviewing for payment the final receipt of the lidar and contractors before submittal for payment. They are ensuring that all the data is complete. Mr. Perkins said one lidar issue was found, but he was told that the error has been corrected and the data is being sent to SAGIS. Once they review it for payment and accept the data, SAGIS will post the data and begin conversation with Sanborn regarding the discounts.

**Mr. Collins** asked if the data was flown two years ago.

**Mr. Perkins** answered that it was flown one and one-half years ago. The original project was to be six months from start to finish. But, it has turned out to be 18 months. The company was supposed to fly the imagery simultaneously with the lidar. But, the company had caramel functions and could not fly some of the imagery. SAGIS was told that another plane would be flown behind the lidar plane. Therefore, SAGIS was told that it could only be a few seconds or minutes behind. SAGIS was looking at more heights and a few minutes would not make that much of a difference, but the company experienced internal problems. SAGIS received high resolution imagery as they flew it lower and slower, but it still was not in accordance with the contract. SAGIS did not stop the lidar on behalf of the imagery because not knowing a certain date when the company would get a plane was bad. When it was actually flown, it worked to SAGIS's benefit as some of the marsh grass was laid over. It was low tide and many of the live oaks had already lost a lot of their foliage.

Consequently, SAGIS will request the discounts. SAGIS has only paid the company \$100,000 for the flight and everything else has not been paid until everything is ready to go. SAGIS is now reviewing it for payment and if accepted, they will let the company know.

b. Centerline improvement – This is the removal of all zeros (O) (where possible) addresses as well. SAGIS expects to have this project completed March, 2011. Ms. Hall is working specifically to maintain the centerlines.

**Ms. Mathis** stated that they are planning significant upgrades to CAD. The E-911 calls can be mapped and also first suggestions on how to dispatch resources, staffing and vehicles. Therefore, the centerline file needs to be current and accurate.

**Mr. Perkins** stated this is very good as the first call is on a point base for the addressing. This is really the idea approach to take with addressing for 911. They know exactly where the address is located on the map, etc. With the road ranges, they are always left with the measured distance, Therefore, if someone's house is 50 feet and it is the first ten feet of the road, you would

actually dispatch the police or emergency services to the middle of the road. But, he was pleased to say that this will make Mr. Anderson's issues in the county very obvious.

**Mr. Abolt** asked how many rural routes are still remaining.

**Mr. Perkins** answered that they don't have any. But there are a lot of private roads which will create issues such as the fire on Ogeechee Road. The address is off of Ogeechee Road, but he lives a half mile down a private road. It is the resident's responsibility to put up the sign on a private road and they cannot name the road whatever they want to. He does not know how this can be resolved. The issues they face within the city are back in the day a person was allowed to move and take your address with you, but now it is very hard to dispatch to these addresses as there could be a 3000 address in the middle of a 2000 block. However, these issues will work themselves out a little better, but on the zero addresses, they are assigned to squares, we have the roads with no residences on them and, therefore, will become more evident and more difficult to deal with along with missing addresses and incorrect addresses. These will become prevalent, but he believes that when the Tiburon system upgrade is completed, the first couple of months will be "all hands on deck" just to try to work through these. A lot of people believe their address is one thing, but it could be something else. These issues will become very obvious. However, Mr. Perkins believes that in the long run, this is a better system and cuts time off the response time.

**Mr. Perkins** stated that they have created map books for every Savannah Fire truck. Therefore, if they get an address that they are unsure, they are able to find it by using the map. However, he knew this would be rare with the fire department as he knew the department rookies walk to learn their district. Nevertheless, if needed, they can consult the map book. SAGIS will work with Southside in their upgrading process.

- c. The Pictometry Tool to replace the Java tool is no longer supported. This tool will also be utilized in the upgrading of the internal map viewer. Mr. Perkins reported that a talented programmer (David Petrillo) is on staff who wrote a tool to do what Pictometry wanted SAGIS to pay them to do.
- d. Working with E-911 call center for Tiburon upgrade. The data was sent to Tiburon in preparation of new software.
- e. Mr. Thomson, Ms. Jackie Jackson Teel and he met with the new City Administrator of Bloomingdale, GA outlining SAGIS and services that can be provided to Bloomingdale.
- f. QA/QC the premium site for SAGIS.org that is being built by Binary Bus. He has enlisted some outside assistance to provide input into this process.

g. Working on internal preparation of databases for migration for ArcGIS 10.

**2. Upcoming Activities (February – May). Mr. Perkins** reported on the following activities that SAGIS will be doing. An update of the activities will be provided at the May 24, 2011 SAGIS Board meeting:

- a. Lida data publishing to all users.
- b. QA/QC images for image collection.
- c. Centerline improvement. This is an ongoing project.
- d. Rewrite of all tools for migration to ArcGIS 10.
- e. Strategic Partner Integration. Working with local municipalities on becoming SAGIS partners.
- f. Working with E-911 Call Center to support Tiburon upgrade.
- g. UZO tool building and support.
- h. Continued working on data preparation for migration to ArcGIS 10.
- i. Release of premium [www.sagis.org](http://www.sagis.org) site.
- j. SAGIS will support the governor's grant for the City.

Mr. Perkins reported that he has been selected as the co-chair of the USGS Coastguard Data Management Committee which is one of the five committees' cabinet courts.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice-chair Abolt adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is May 24, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Noel Perkins

NP:mem