

**SAVANNAH AREA GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (SAGIS)  
MAY 24, 2011 MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES  
MPC JERRY SURRENCY CONFERENCE ROOM  
110 EAST STATE STREET**

**May 24, 2011**

**9:00 AM**

<b><u>Voting Members</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Dr. David Frost	Georgia Tech	Absent
Russ Abolt	Chatham County	Absent
James J. Collins, III	City of Savannah	X
Truitt Eavenson	Georgia Power	Absent
Paul Hinchey	St. Joseph's/Candler	Absent
Joseph Ross, Jr.	American Society of Civil Engineers	X
Rochelle Small-Toney	City of Savannah	Absent
<b><u>Voting Member Alternates</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Susan Cooler	Chatham County	Absent
Cam Mathis	City of Savannah	X
Julian Pafford	Georgia Power	Absent
Gelas Nielsen	City of Savannah	X
<b><u>Others Present</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Tom Thomson	MPC	X
Noel Perkins (Arrived at 10:20)	SAGIS	X
Jason Lee	SAGIS	X
Mary E. Mitchell	MPC	X

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Mr. James Collins** called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**II. ACTION ITEMS**

The February 22, 2011 meeting minutes were approved upon motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Ms. Nielsen and carried.

**III. REPORTS**

**A. Budget Report**

**Mr. Thomson** gave the budget report in the absence of Ms. West. He said the audit

examination for the year ending 2010 has been completed. SAGIS is on track with expenditures at 75%. The County's reduction is 3.5% for 2011-2012. There is no increase in the City's budget for SAGIS this year.

## **B. ESRI Discovery Workshop Follow-up**

**Mr. Jason Lee** reported that as the Board is aware, on March 29-30, 2011, ESRI visited the City of Savannah and Chatham County GIS users to review their GIS implementation and workflows. Mr. Lee presented **Ms. Natalie Culpepper, Mr. Kevin Armstrong and Mr. Mike Dyer.**

**Ms. Culpepper** stated that when they were here they met with quite a number of departments from the City of Savannah, Chatham County and MPC. From the information they obtained from each agency, they have provided some recommendations.

**Mr. Dyer** said when they met with the departments they focused on five aspects: 1. Business Architecture which comprises the day-to-day work flows; 2. The Information Architecture which is the flow of data within and through the departments; 3. The Physical Hardware and Networks; 4. The Governing Structures; and 5. Best Practices.

**Mr. Dyer** reported that they recommend five patterns of business behaviors. He said the following are the five ways in which GIS is implemented within a local government or organization: 1. Data management; 2. Planning and Analysis; 3. Field Mobility; 4. Operational Awareness and 5. Citizen Engagement. They learned how each department supports these functions and the challenges they face.

**Mr. Armstrong** stated that SAGIS has a variety of ESRI's software. This core of software technology can be used in many beneficial ways. Three resources are available online that he believes can be adapted to SAGIS's applications and base maps.

In summary, SAGIS has been successful in creating a collaborative environment among city and county government and promoting the use of GIS across many departments. ESRI recommended that for GIS to provide an increased ROI and gain more relevance within government and with the public, SAGIS should begin moving into the mobile and web environment. The ArcGIS for Local Government resources are designed moving into the mobile and web environment. The ArcGIS for Local Government resources are designed to facilitate this process. The powerful analytical and collaborative tools within GIS will be available to a much larger audience and provide greater efficiency and effectiveness.

They recommended the use of the following five (5) business patterns as a framework for SAGIS to move forward with its implementation of the ArcGIS platform:

1. **Asset Management:** Managing and distributing authoritative GIS data;
2. **Planning and Analysis:** Transforming data into actionable information;
3. **Field Mobility:** Getting information into and out of the field;
4. **Operational Awareness:** Providing information on the health of an organization;
5. **Citizen Engagement:** Communicating directly with stakeholders and enlisting their participation.

**Mr. Perkins** reported that he believes that as soon as the chief appraiser is hired in the Tax Assessor's office, they will come on board as he believes the current layer fits the tax assessor office needs 100 percent.

### C. SAGIS Update

1. **Activities Update (February – May, 2011).** **Mr. Perkins** reported that SAGIS completed the activities outlined below in the past three months:
  - a. Lidar data publishing to all users.
  - b. Working with USGS and DAS on image collection specifics.
  - c. Centerline improvement – this is an ongoing project;
  - d. Rewrite of all tools for migration to ArcGIS 10.
  - e. Redistricting and other census related work.
  - f. Strategic Partner Integration – Working with local municipalities on becoming SAGIS partners.
  - g. Working with E-911 call center to support Tiburon upgrade.
  - h. UZO tool building and support.
  - i. Continued working on data preparation for Migration to ArcGIS 10.
  - j. Release of premium [www.sagis.org](http://www.sagis.org) site and outreach to the community on the site and its use.
  - k. Training with CEMA on search and rescue maps and documentation.
2. **Upcoming Activities (May – August, 2011).** An update of activities will be provided at the August 23, 2011 SAGIS Board meeting:
  - a. Migration of database and internal viewer.
  - b. QA/QC images for image collection.
  - c. Centerline improvement – this is an ongoing project.<sup>4</sup>
  - d. Working with City of Savannah for Energov implementation as well as utility billing address clean-up.
  - 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 rollout.
  - h. Support of premium [www.sagis.org](http://www.sagis.org) site and marketing of site to interested users and groups.

**Mr. Thomson** reported that he has gotten some complaints about the new site. He realized the new site takes some adjustment, but it takes usage on the part of the individual who is trying to retrieve the site. The individual when contacted by staff is asked if he or she used the new site and they explain that both sites were available. The person has not learned the new site and now the old site is no longer available. The staff then asks the person if they have utilized the “help menu.” Most times the answer is no. Mr. Thomson believed, however, that the complaints will go away.

**Mr. Collins** stated that the vast majority of the feedback he has received has been positive.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Collins adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is August 23, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Jerry Surrency Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Noel Perkins

NP:mem