

**SAVANNAH AREA GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (SAGIS)  
MAY 22, 2012 MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES  
MPC JERRY SURRENCY CONFERENCE ROOM  
110 EAST STATE STREET**

**May 22, 2012**

**9:00 AM**

<b><u>Voting Members</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Dr. David Frost	Georgia Tech	X
Russ Abolt	Chatham County	X
G. Holmes Bell, IV	Hussey, Gay, Bell and DeYoung	Absent
James J. Collins, III	Resident-at-Large	X
Truitt Eavenson	Georgia Power	Absent
Paul Hinchey	St. Joseph's/Candler	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
<b><u>Others Present</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>
Tom Thomson	MPC	X
Noel Perkins	SAGIS	X
Laura Hall	SAGIS	X
Mary E. Mitchell	MPC	X
Tiffany Phaire	MPC	X
George Fiddler (Guest)	Savannah/Hilton Head Airport	X

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Dr. Frost** called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**II. ACTION ITEMS**

**A.** Upon motion of Mr. Abolt, seconded by Mr. Collins, and carried the meeting minutes of February 28, 2012 were approved.

**B. SAGIS Open Data Initiative**

**Mr. Perkins** reported that the Board in their February 28, 2012 meeting approved the release of the SAGIS catalog to the public through a project entitled "Savannah Area

Geographic Information System Open Data Initiative (SAGIS ODI).” Staff has been working on the first steps of implementation and the Board’s recommendations of pop ups for a disclaimer and annotation of credit. The staff has been working on the automation of delivery of the data layers in four formats: Shapefile, XML, KML (Google Earth), and CSV. Staff has completed the process for XML, CSV and Shapefile, the fourth, KML, has given the staff some issues and will take longer to roll out. However, Mr. Perkins said he does not see this as a reason to the delay the initial release of the project.

**Mr. Perkins** explained that the purpose today is to get the Board’s approval, get all the agreements in and the first of June will do a soft run. They will make a small webpage, work out the “bugs” with the production level and on June 15, 2012, staff will do some marketing so everyone will know where to go to get the information.

**Mr. Perkins** reported that the current parcel digest has been excluded as well as all homeland security data and proprietary third party data. They are still working with their partners on the individual layers that they edit. They will be able to add their layers as they finish up the process.

**Mr. Perkins** stated that if an individual chooses, they can download our logo on any master they want. However, they do have to reference SAGIS.

**Mr. Perkins** reported that staff recommends approval of the item to release its GIS catalog via the internet to the public. The roll out will be done after adding the data and the KML issues are resolved.

**Dr. Frost** asked about the technical issues with the KML.

**Mr. Perkins** explained that it says that you can export directly out of the KML, but you actually have to symbolize it and set up the entire data layer like you want to view it. But as everybody knows, how one person may want to view could be different from how someone else might want to view it. They are working on the color issues and ESRI is providing technical support.

**Mr. Abolt** asked staff who do they seek legal advice from regarding the disclaimer.

**Mr. Perkins** answered from Attorney Hart. The disclaimer that they are using is actually one that Attorney Hart gave staff a couple of years ago.

**Board Action:** Upon motion of **Mr. Abolt**, seconded by **Mr. Collins** and unanimously carried, approved to release its GIS data catalog via the internet to the public.

## I. REPORTS

### A. Budget Report

**Mr. Perkins** reported that Ms. West was absent due to her daughter graduating from John's Hopkins University.

**Mr. Perkins** reported that SAGIS is on schedule with the budget. The only thing that is not listed is the contract revenue as it is scheduled to come in later during the year. The adopted budget does not contain the funds for the Information Technology Outreach Services (ITOS) funds, which are the parcel project. This will require a policy and change of regulations.

**Mr. Thomson** reported that Chatham County will provide the same level of funding as last year. The SPLOST funds have been a tremendous help with pictometry. These funds are pending.

### B. GIS Parcel Data Project

**Mr. Perkins** reported that this is the contract with ITOS to repair all the parcels. He showed the Board the verified areas. The green color coded areas have been corrected and completed by ITOS in the last three weeks. They have not tackled anything downtown. This will be the biggest areas and will cause a tremendous slow down in the progress. They are not doing any other work presently because they have to finish the annotation. Once this is done, they will be given the final approval for QA/QC. He explained the reason the Board sees a disjoining in an area on the northeast of the county is because there are some questions that need to be answered by the Board of Assessors, which deals with multiple owners such as one person owns the parcel and someone else owns the building. There are also questions about condominiums. The Board of Assessors is leaning towards stacking, which makes it doable for SAGIS because of the lidar that has been done. The lidar gives SAGIS great elevations and they are in the process of finishing the digital surface model which will give height for all the buildings. They are in the process of taking all the property record cards and incorporating the building height and number of stories of each structure as well. The end result will give them a complete three (3) D model of the entire county. The condos will be edited and when the digest is done, they will be included in the dataset.

**Mr. Perkins** said this will be a big change in the way the Board of Assessors will be doing business. They were editing one layer, but with the new change they will be editing two layers and merging them. This is actually more than two layers because of annotation. Therefore, it will be a total of six (6) layers that the Board of Assessors will edit and maintain. This will give the real picture of how things are. Tybee is a good example as some of the condos are scattered somewhat into the ocean. However, this will resolve that issue.

**Mr. Thomson** asked Mr. Perkins to give an example of what annotation is.

**Mr. Perkins** explained that annotation is for the majority of the parcels and they have boundary measurements such as distances, acreages and different panel numbers that are used by the Board of Assessors to track their information. There is also the wording for right-of-way. Mr. Perkins thanked Mr. Al Bungard for paying for this. The SPLOST funds were used to pay for this project.

**Mr. Fiddler** asked if this includes easements also.

**Mr. Perkins** answered no; it only includes right-of-way. They are hoping at a later date of tackling easements, but they are complicated.

**Mr. Thomson** asked if a property is identified if an easement is on it.

**Mr. Perkins** answered that some do and some don't. This is the big issue. He said that Highway 17 is a prime example; right-of-way work is nicely done along here, but the easements that extend out are not attached to the road layers. They see some documents where the easements are written thereon. Therefore, it would be easy to attract these easements. But, the problem with this is on a city block you can have three parcels of easements and they may not be written, but you know they are there.

- C. Mr. Perkins** reported that Ms. Lara Hall has been selected as the Senior Analyst for Jason Lee's position. He said that Ms. Hall will still do the GIS data. The Board welcomed Ms. Hall in her new position.

**Mr. Thomson** said the position was advertised locally and internationally. Interviews were held. Ms. Hall's old position will not be filled at this time.

#### **D. SAGIS Presentation**

1. **Activities Update (February 2012 – May, 2012).** **Mr. Perkins** reported on the activities outlined below that SAGIS has been working on over the past three months:
  1. Making the final adjustments to the internal map viewer for the CEMA map viewer. This project is about 95% complete with the changes being the way the site query and report data.
  2. Assisted CEMA with St. Patrick's Day celebration and provided mapping support to SCMPD and USCG in support of the Tall Ships challenge.
  3. Centerline improvement – This is an ongoing project. This project is currently supporting the Tiburon upgrade of the E-911 dispatch center. Continue to make adjustment to centerline layer as requested by SCMPD for 911

dispatching. Staff has completed about 80% of the work with the remaining work being the addition of theoretic ranges to the data.

4. Provided support to Board of Elections on data and maps need for precinct adjustments as well as redistricting efforts (Federal, State and Local) that has an impact on their business. Staff is waiting on Department of Justice preclearance of maps for local reapportionment effort.
5. Continue outreach in support of [www.sagis.org](http://www.sagis.org) and the premium version. Over the next six (6) months he will revisit how SAGIS is doing business because approximately one year from now they will have to start paying for a webpage data. Presently, it is free. The income from this source is very low. A possibility is bringing this in-house. But no decision has been made. The original agreement was for two years and thereafter, we pick up the cost.
6. Strategic Partner Integration - Working with local on becoming SAGIS partners. This is an ongoing project.
7. 2013 Regional Ortho-Imagery six-inch 4 band flight. NOAA and DNR are contributing funds to the cost. Discussions were held with U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, and Georgia Power and indirect discussions have been held with Georgia Port Authority, Sapelo and Fish and Wildlife. This project will continue over into the next quarter as we continue to look for partners to provide match for our initiative. The next step is finding commitment and the signing of contracts.

**2. Upcoming Activities (May 2012 – August 2012).** Mr. Perkins outlined the upcoming activities that SAGIS will be working on in the next three months:

1. Create internal map viewers for customers design and development. This also includes maintenance for existing web viewers. City of Savannah is setting priorities and time line for them waiting on Chatham County for next project.
2. Begin formal discussions with City of Savannah Aldermen for redistricting of Aldermanic boundaries.
3. Assist SCMPD with requests in support of 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration activities.
4. Continued support of board of Elections as needed in preparation of reapportionment and precinct realignment. This also includes outreach support to the public through the publication of maps and web viewer.
5. Centerline improvement – discussion on workflow with SCMPD dispatch to handle new roads and required timelines.

6. Continue on-going outreach in support of [www.sagis.org](http://www.sagis.org) and the premium version.
7. Strategic Partner Integration – Working with local municipalities on becoming SAGIS partners. This project is on-going.
8. SAGIS Open Data Initiative – Roll out and marketing of web pages. Soft launch of web page will be June 4, 2012 and the press release will be issued June 18, 2012.
9. 2013 Regional Ortho-Imagery six-inch four band flight. DNR and NOAA are contributing funds to the cost, with some of the funds a direct fund for Chatham County. Staff will continue direct discussions with U.S. Army, U.S. Corps of Engineers, Georgia Power and indirect discussions with Georgia Port Authority, Sapelo and U. S. Fish and Wildlife. July 1, 2012, the flight planning and specifications must be complete. Money must be sent to NOAA by October 1, 2012. The project kick-off meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 8, 2012.
10. Seeking commitments for the 2013 Pictometry flight, projected to fly January, 2013.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Dr. Frost adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, August 28, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Jerry Surrency Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Noel Perkins  
SAGIS Director

NP:mem