

# MAGIP Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Robert Peccia & Associates, 825 Custer Avenue, Helena, MT

10:00 AM

## Attendance:

Leslie Zolman  
Valentijn Hoff  
Meghan Burns  
Karen Coleman

Hunter Simpkins  
Rob Ahl (called in from 10:10 -10:40 am)  
Jennie Stapp from MSL  
Evan Hammer from MSL

Meghan Burns called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM and asked for any revisions to the agenda. Jennie Stapp and Evan Hammer are coming to discuss a MAGIP donation to aid in updating the MSL Computer Lab and providing support for legislature that affects MSL funding and programs. Gerry Daumiller requested a Board decision on whether to allow out-of-state job announcements on the MAGIP List-Serve. Lee Macholz requested discussion of an outstanding item from the 2014 Billings Conference and how to handle it.

## ***Review of January 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Minutes – Presented by Hunter Simpkins***

There were no changes to the meeting minutes.

**No quorum; will be presented and voted on at the June 2015 BOD Meeting**

## ***Committee Reports***

- **Web Subcommittee Report – Presented by Valentijn Hoff**
  - Address question about the List-Serve and out-of-state job announcements – should we only allow Montana jobs?
    - the job posting in question was located in Vermont
    - Board agreed that jobs in other states are nice to have posted, but if it gets overwhelming in the future, it will be revisited
  - Rob mentioned that the USFS brought up the MAGIP “Did You Know” emails as being helpful
  - Submit any future “Did You Know” email topics to Valentijn
  
- **Education Committee – presented by Rob Ahl**
  - 3 grant applicants, 10 scholarship applicants
    - Need committee to review the applications – Maya Daurio, Stephanie Anderson, and Rob Ahl
    - Since John Hogland applied for a grant, he will not be part of the review committee
    - Information is on Google Drive > Education Committee > Scholarships > ...
    - Winners to be announced on May 1, so need decision by April 29
    - Rob had questions about how to provide the money to winners
    - Money will be dispersed in June; goes into their student account
      - Questions about tax implications for MAGIP if we paid out cash to the student instead of paying money to the school?
      - Valentijn will discuss with UM school admin office
      - (Rob left the meeting at 10:40 am)

- **Professional Development Committee – presented by Leslie Zolman**
  - 2016 Intermountain Conference Planning Meeting summary
    - Vendor prospective done and online registration option will be available
    - Public night will focus on vendors and will include Lightning Talks
    - Joseph Kerski will be the Keynote Speaker
    - Hotel contract was signed, but it did not include any prices so must be redone
    - Track chairs needed
    - Corey Richardson is handling workshops with help from Stuart Challender at MSU
  - Professional Dev. Committee Meeting
    - Discussed 2015 Spring Meeting – 25 people registered (45 in 2013)
    - Mentoring – use Google Analytics to determine how much activity website; Meghan provided those statistics
      - Perhaps send a “Did You Know” email to List-Serve to promote Mentor/Mentee program?
  - GISP Professional Certification
    - Exam date set for July 1, but uncertain whether beta testing will be over
    - Costs increasing and renewal term decreasing
  - Esri Technical Certifications
    - Five certifications exist; all cost \$225 and take 2.5-4.5 hours
    - Should MAGIP members who have taken the Esri Tech Certification Exam be recognized as done for GISP?
  - Master Degree Programs in GIS
    - Discussed the options and availability of accredited courses
  - Spring Meeting 2015 in Miles City – 2.5 days, using Miles Community College’s computer labs for workshops
- **Tech Committee Report – Presented by Leslie Zolman**
  - At present, tentatively scheduled for September at Fairmont
    - MAP Conference is scheduled for last week of September at Fairmont
    - Big Sky is too expensive; since survey results were split, go with Fairmont as the less expensive option
    - Perhaps schedule for October 1-2 – the end of the MAP conference – may gain some attendance from planners? MAP has indicated that they would like to hold a joint conference with MAGIP and the Floodplains group in the future...
    - Discuss the Honorarium Policy at the June BOD Meeting – why are some people paid and others are not?
- **Elections Committee – Presented by Meghan Burns**
  - Elections open on May 1 – ballots sent out via SurveyMonkey
  - Open for 30 days – closes May 30
  - Board conference call will be held to ratify candidates/winners
- **Treasurer’s Report – Presented by Karen Coleman**
  - Status - \$38.96 net income
  - Bank account = \$70,282
  - No budget yet for Spring Meeting, anticipating a small loss (\$100-150)
  - Address Lee Macholz’s question about the outstanding item from the 2014 Billings Conference
    - TetraTech had agreed to sponsor a break (\$200-300) but no payment received
    - Meghan will contact them to discuss

- Taxes are done, due May 15
  - Leslie will review with Karen and Gerry Daumiller
  - Questions – any special reporting for the scholarship money?
  - Must we file with the state? No previous records or history of doing so...

### **Lunch and Presentation by Jennie Stapp and Evan Hammer – MT Legislative Report and MSL Computer Lab**

Evan provided a summary of MAGIP's history concerning a Legislative/Policy Committee

- In May 2008, the GIS Summit at the Intermountain Conference identified specific public policy issues
- Following the GIS Summit, Janet Cornish wrote a proposal to create a MAGIP Legislative and Policy Committee
  - The proposal provided examples of activities that could be undertaken, including review of legislation, updating MAGIP membership on legislation, oversee lobbyists, work with the State Geographic Information Officer, work with other professional organizations to identify common areas of interest (surveyors, planners, county clerks, etc.)
- While some comments were received on the proposal, it did not come into effect and disappeared
- There are actions that MAGIP could take that are not considered "lobbying" – provide information, serve as witness to legislature, etc.
  - Current options are limited by how MAGIP is set up
  - Evan will scan the 2008 proposal and send to MAGIP BOD
- Jennie commented that MAGIP involvement would benefit the entire GIS Community by reviewing legislative and policy issues
  - MLIAC has upcoming studies that could use GIS professionals' input
  - A significant funding decrease is anticipated which will affect local governments GIS departments
  - MAGIP could provide LOCAL input that legislators would recognize as more important than from a state advisory council or opinion
  - The need for the GIS community to help shape legislation will escalate
  - GIS professionals would have a greater 'presence' and could provide correct information that would carry more weight than a 'librarian' serving as a witness
- MAGIP BOD doesn't have the expertise to lobby or provide input on political issues
  - Suggestion to form a committee to discuss MAGIP involvement, as per the 2008 proposal, with Jennie and Evan as resources
  - Consider how to handle opposition or disagreement with MARLS, MAP, MACO

### Discussion of MSL Computer Lab

- Computer Lab needs updating – warranty is running out, do they renew or buy new computers?
  - Three labs – none of them can run ArcGIS Pro
  - MSL has a \$5000 donation, needs a total of \$10-15k to purchase new computers
  - MSL also has a tablet lab that is in more demand than laptops
- Question – does MAGIP make one big contribution or consider an ongoing lending pool to keep pace with the rapid changes in technology?
  - MAGIP often uses the laptop lab – for free – at conferences
- MSL will find out how often the laptops are used
- If new computers are not purchased, the warranty can be extended
- Purchase wouldn't occur until June/July 2016 without a donation (2016 Intermountain Conference would use the old labs = no ArcGIS Pro...)
- MAGIP BOD will discuss further at BOD Retreat

### **Board Action Items – Meghan Burns**

- **Awards for Service and Volunteers – discuss at BOD Retreat**
  
- **BOD Retreat**
  - Keep in September or move to June and conduct New Board Member Orientation simultaneously?
    - Keep in September, summer is too busy
  - Valentijn will investigate Lubrecht as the tentative location
    - Check with Lee Macholz when she might be available
    - Send a poll about which weekend
  
- **Request for Assistance – Earth Science Colloquium in Bozeman, May 1, 2015**
  - Who can attend?
  - Scheduled for May 1, 4:00-4:30 – judge posters and provide prize money

### **Upcoming Calendar Events**

- MLIAC Meeting on May 28, 2015
- MAGIP 2015 Elections end May 30 – Board needs to hold a conference call to ratify new members
  - Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm
- The next Board meeting will be held on June 10, 2015 in Missoula
  - Valentijn will find a location at UM
  - Discuss a possible MAGIP Board of Directors Self-Evaluation at the BOD Retreat

***Meeting Adjourned at 2:06 pm***  
**(No quorum)**