

Regional Basemap Committee

Minutes

Friday ~ June 17, 2016 ~ 2:00 P.M.

WASHOE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

BUILDING A – MOUNT ROSE CONFERENCE ROOM

1001 EAST NINTH STREET, RENO, NEVADA

MEMBERS

Valerie Johnson, Chair
Jon Walker, Vice-chair
Neil Bandettini
Doug Campbell
Matt Gingerich
Mike Gump
Quinn Korbolic
Rebecca Reid

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL [Non-action item]

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

PRESENT: Matt Gingerich, Mike Gump, Valerie Johnson, Quinn Korbolic and Jon Walker.

ABSENT: Neil Bandettini, Doug Campbell, Rebecca Reid.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS [Non-action item]

There were no public comments.

3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 18, 2016, MEETING MINUTES [For possible action]

Hearing no public comment Chair Johnson asked for Board discussion or a motion.

It was moved by Member Gingerich, seconded by Member Korbolic, to approve the February 18, 2016, minutes, as submitted. The motion carried with Members Bandettini, Campbell and Reid absent.

4. WASHOE COUNTY'S NEW IT MANAGER-REGIONAL SERVICES [Non-action item] – *Introduction of Washoe County's new IT Manager-Regional Services.*

Craig Betts (Chief Information Officer) – Washoe County Technology Services, introduced Quinn Korbolic as the new IT Manager of Regional Services who will be replacing Kobe Harkins on this committee.

5. BASEMAP COMMITTEE FUND UPDATE [Non-action item] – *An update and discussion regarding the Basemap Committee fund.*

Chair Johnson noted that Member Korbolic would be providing the fund update at future meetings. As of June 16, 2016, the fund has a balance of \$16,098.47 and this amount reflects the encumbrance of funds for the orthophoto project. The balance includes \$10,928 from sales of data since January 1 of this year, which does not include fees from annual subscribers.

6. UPDATE ON THE 2016 ORTHOPHOTO PROJECT [For possible action] – *A review of and discussion regarding the 2016 orthophoto project being conducted by Geophex Surveys.*

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Chair Johnson noted the flight delays due to snow caused by El Nino as well as rain and windy weather conditions. It is hoped that snow in the higher elevations will melt soon and allow the placement of the remaining controls targets so that flights may resume and finish the photography.

Member Gump noted that snow levels are being closely monitored with the information being conveyed to Geophex.

Chair Johnson commented that once the remaining control targets are set, weather permitting, the remaining areas should be flown within a few days. Chair Johnson noted that a partial invoice had been received from Geophex Surveys for \$34,394.79, out of the total project cost of \$92,063.76 agreed to in the contract. This partial invoice includes an additional amount for flying the area along the top of Mount Rose Highway and ski area requested by and paid for by the Incline Village General Improvement District. Chair Johnson distributed a handout (copy on file) showing the areas that have already been flown, which includes the urbanized areas where leaf coverage might present an issue.

No specific action was taken.

7. QUALITY CONTROL METHODOLOGY FOR REVIEWING THE 2016 ORTHOPHOTO AND ELEVATION DATA DELIVERABLES [For possible action] – *A review of and discussion about the quality control (QC) methodology to be used to review the orthophotos and elevation data deliverables submitted by Geophex Surveys.*

Matt Lawton - Washoe County GIS, narrated a PowerPoint® presentation (copy on file). Mr. Lawton then outlined the quality control check methods for horizontal and vertical accuracy that were used in past orthophoto projects and that will be used for the 2016 project. He pointed out examples of errors identified in past projects of missing imagery, poor color matching, banding, unacceptable building lean and obscured streets, distorted features, and poor edge matching. Examples included: an image of a bridge where pixels had been manipulated to create fake bridge shadows; an image where the angle of the camera caused tall buildings to lean and obscure the adjacent street; and images of banding and colors not matching in adjacent image tiles. Mr. Lawton then pointed out that the quality check tool to be used will generate a text description of the differences in the X and Y coordinates, and where applicable, the Z coordinates between each surveyed accuracy check point and the corresponding feature clicked on in the imagery. If errors are found to be outside of acceptable tolerance levels, the images can be sent back to the vendor for correction. Mr. Lawton commented that there are 1.5 FTE staff at Washoe County GIS, which includes a half-time intern, who will work on the quality control check, with additional staffing available if needed.

No specific action was taken.

8. INVOICING [For possible action] – *A review of, discussion and direction regarding the annual invoicing of members and subscribers.*

Chair Johnson outlined the agenda item explain that invoicing of members and subscribers is typically performed at the end of July each year.

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A brief discussion resulted in a consensus that the July invoicing schedule worked for all parties. Other discussion confirmed that subscribers such as TMWA, RTC and Stantec would be invoiced at the current rate of \$10,000.00. As the discussion continued it was suggested that Quinn Korbolic distribute reminder notices to the subscribers thanking them for their ongoing subscriptions and date of annual subscription renewal. Other discussion noted that there had been some consideration of increasing the subscription rate for new subscribers to \$20,000.00.

It was moved by Chair Johnson, seconded by Member Walker, to keep the subscriber rate at \$10,000.00 annually. The motion carried with Members Bandettini, Campbell and Reid absent.

9. **PURCHASE OF 2013 LIDAR DATA BY FEMA** [For possible action] – *A review of, discussion and direction regarding the spatial data licensing agreement and price to charge the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the purchase of 2013 lidar data for the Honey Eagle Lake watershed.*

Chair Johnson provided an overview of the FEMA request and previous action to sell data to the USGS (United States Geological Survey) in the past. Of some concern is that the data becomes public domain when purchased by a federal agency. Drawing attention to the map of the data being requested (copy on file), Chair Johnson explained that the USGS purchased orthophotos in 2003 and 2006 and that the BMC charged a somewhat higher fee than regular subscribers that are not allowed to share the data. The lidar data being sought by FEMA is from the 2013 flight and includes the northwest section of Washoe County. Of some concern is the potential impact to lidar data sales once the lidar data is in the public domain. Chair Johnson asked for board discussion to identify the pros and cons of the data sale.

Member Walker commented that the first consideration is whether or not the sale should be allowed before determining a cost.

Member Korbolic suggested that perhaps a royalty fee should be imposed once the information is in the public domain.

During the discussion it was noted that the data being requested would not rise to the level needed for engineering purposes. As the discussion continued it was noted that once the data was in the public domain it would then be free to others. Other discussion noted that once the data is free of charge a fee needs to be implemented to cover time and materials incurred by Washoe County Technology Services-GIS during the distribution process. Additionally, it was noted that the agreement should limit the sales to only the 2013 flight without precedent. Other discussion noted that Graham Kent of UNR (University of Nevada, Reno) had reached an agreement to use the lidar data for graduate students in the Seismology Laboratory.

Additional discussion focused on the percentage (e.g. 20 percent) of purchase price to be charged for distribution. Other discussion noted that email correspondence from FEMA indicated an “intense interest” in the data as soon as possible. It was suggested during the discussion that it may be necessary at some point in time to develop a methodology, precedent and rate structure for future data sales. Other discussion noted that FEMA provides flood plain information that benefits the

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region. Discussion then suggested that there may be a way to identify grant funding for the orthophoto and elevation flights, but it was further noted that much smaller communities typically qualify for such grant funding and not communities such as Washoe County which has a funding mechanism in place. Discussion then noted that the purchase price of \$5,100.00 should come directly to the Basemap Committee with any future handling fees being credited to Washoe County Technology Services-GIS.

Chair Johnson recapped the discussion: 1) Contact FEMA on the proposed purchase price of \$5,100.00 for 2013 lidar data only, without precedent for future purchases; 2) Contact UNR for an update on the use of previously provided lidar data; 3) Determine fee structure for data distribution; and 4) Direct that all funds collected for the data sale go directly to the Basemap Committee fund, with distribution fees allocated to Technology Services to cover staff time and materials.

It was moved by Member Walker, seconded by Member Gump, to direct Washoe County to reach out to the FEMA representative to confirm their desire to purchase the 2013 lidar data at a cost of \$5,100.00 for the entire 2013 lidar data set only, with the understanding that the data will become part of the public domain; and that any future lidar data purchases will require payment of distribution fees charged by Washoe County Technology Services at a price set by Washoe County Technology Services. This sale is limited to the 2013 lidar data only. The motion carried with Members Bandettini, Campbell and Reid absent.

10. SET NEXT MEETING DATE [For possible action] – *A review of, discussion and possible action to select a date for the next Basemap Committee meeting.*

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at 2:00 p.m.

11. REGIONAL BASEMAP COMMITTEE MEMBER AND/OR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS [Non-action item] – *No discussion among committee members will take place on this item.*

The next meeting is set for Tuesday, September 13, 2016. The agenda may include, but is not limited to: 1) Discussion on revisions to the Interlocal Agreement; 2) Update on data sold to UNR Seismology Laboratory; 3) Open Meeting Law presentation.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT [Non-action item]

There were no public comments.

13. ADJOURNMENT [Non action item]

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting 3:13 p.m.

AS APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL BASMAP COMMITTEE IN SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2016.