



TIPS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 3, 2009

09:30 – 10:30 AM CENTRAL TIME

ATTENDEES:

: Henry Austin, Bill Card, Dave Agnor, Mike Richmond, Tom Cunningham, Karyn Evans, Lou Hamm, Dawn Trudeau, Duane Matt, Jessica Villanueva, Matt Moore, Eric Perry, Corey Miller, lessha Moore, Susan Stoyek, Stephanie Self, Mike Dunn, Debbie Dale, Tonya Buckmaster, Steve Trujillo, Dianne Osborne, Aldo Plascencia, Alan Wilhelm, Robert Welsh, Cathy McNish, Bill Joseph, Paul Ehret, Min Kim; Note Taker: Matt Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIPS Attention – Remote sensing we have more remote sensing requests than can be handled by staff, pilot project in remote sensing trying to figure out how they are going to get imagery, we do not have enough people to complete this work. Trying to spread out the work people are helping throughout all the regions. Even with all the help we still need more help, if you hear from Bob Welsh or Dianne Osborn for example for geo process we need the help.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Issues with Training, many of the states cannot travel. There have been more requests for onsite training because state people are not allowed to travel, unless there is enough interest in the particular class the state is requesting it can sometimes happen but there is also a problem with instructors for classes. Some requests for classes have been turned down.

Trying to get the TIPS website in shape but we are relying on each success team to put together and monitor their own parts of the TIPS website. We want everyone to keep their part of the website up to date; Tonya Buckmaster is keeping track of the overall site itself.

Action Item: Need a list of all the equipment that TIPS has checked out including the GPS cameras, RTK's, FLIR camera, Downhole camera, Trimble Decimeter Handheld, and the Trimble ProX RT. People that are responsible for this equipment please get with Tonya so we can get information concerning these items on the website.

The new INSITE for the team, Cathy McNish has been working on this and getting it into shape for team issues and new information for everyone to know about.

Cathy – Sent out an email a couple weeks ago with links to all the sites in this portal. Please check out the links. All the documents for the SharePoint site are there; please check to see if any documentation

in the site is not needed if so please delete it. Address is <http://wrspsites/TIPS>. IT is working on trying to get TIPS Teleconference Line up and running hopefully will be complete after the TIPS Monthly Meeting.

Susan – Looked at the OSM Insite Sites and saw the section for the Western Region underneath that a section for TIPS believes that the TIPS section is blank can is there any way to redirect that out to Cathy's site. If you're going to be maintaining the TIPS site on a separate SharePoint maybe Washington can click on the TIPS link and go to the Western Region TIPS SharePoint site.

Cathy – That is where we started to place all the TIPS information but decided not to move the information there but I will delete that site because if there is anything on that site it will be going to our new site. Before I delete it I will put a link the new WR site.

Eric Perry – question about the lack of instructor to fill the training needs is that across the board in all the software or is it more severe in certain areas?

Karyn – It is more severe in CAD, in the CAD arena and we are working on recruiting additional instructor getting into the instructor training course but we need CAD instructors.

Lou – We do have the instructor training course coming up this month and there are a couple of CAD instructors scheduled to be in there.

Budget

The success team should have received their budget by now if you have not Lou needs to know. So everyone should know how much money they have and what they are scheduled to spend it on. You should know that any requisition sent in should have a reference number on it for that budget and the item you are spending the money on. You are free to move the money around as you see fit. Lou will ask for some sort of justification for change like that but you still need to put on a reference number. Please remember to put on reference numbers.

Action Item: By April we need to get the spending done.

Steve – If you all are traveling and using TIPS money and your organization is doing the TA and/or Vouchers we still should be getting a copy of that Voucher. Please remember to send us a copy of those Vouchers for tracking.

Lou - One concern that I have is those folks planning new course and development courses need to work though Karyn Evan. It takes a while to get those courses going, the money we need to spend to make the courses happen take a significant amount of time. The spending for these kinds of courses need to be done before the end of April. Please get with Karyn with issues like that.

TIPS Steering Committee Meeting

Eric Perry - Last week I was in Denver for another business as well as Stephanie Self. We took advantage of that and had a quick meeting in the WR office the agenda is pretty much worked out now in a fair amount of detail. The logistics has been worked out with the hotel with Jessica Villanueva and Dawn

Trudeau in Denver. Thought that all the announcements were going to be sent out but that has been delayed will be sent out soon. The team leaders are going to be asked to provide a briefing on the activities of their team via live meeting so you will be hearing from Eric soon with the expectations for that. Things are moving along.

Lou we are still looking for nominees for the TIPS Outstanding Contributor for this past year. We do have a nice pod cast on the TIPS website all about that, so please nominate that person that you think has really contributed to TIPS this past year and we need to get that award going as fast as we can.

Federal ESRI Conference

Min Kim - about two weeks ago myself and about 15 managers attended this Federal ESRI Conference in Washington D.C. there was two main things happening at the conference one is where government entities come together to share their experience in sharing geospatial data and strategies so they can have all this government data available to all the government agencies where they can accomplish their functions effetely and efficiently. Lou is going to talk about that because OSM Manager had this OSM Geospatial Strategy Meeting but, I'm going to talk about other things that happened at the ESRI Conference. There are several things that have been happening at the ESRI Conference one of them is ArcGIS Desktop 9.3.1 that will be coming out sometime in the spring is it not going to remove and reinstall your program it will just be an add on the current program. There will be new features one is easier text your lavers to share with others. You will be able to do what is called a layer packet where you zoom in to a project area and want to share with others there should be a button that you can press to capture that area and that will include a cropped version of the area you have captured.

There will also be another software coming out called ArcGIS 4900 it's a free download for ArcGIS is doesn't anything capability but they made it have the ability to link to ArcGIS resources so you can do 2D and 3D analysis of GIS layers. This will be out spring 2009.

Summer of 2009 they will be coming out with ArcGIS Desktop 9.4. There is another program currently available that has to do with AutoCAD some of us are running ArcGIS Desktop SCE where we can share Geospatial data currently it is very hard to upload Arc data into it, this new extension will help this it is called ArcGIS for AutoCAD.

If you would like any other information about ESRI please log into ESRI.com.

OSM Geospatial Strategy Meeting

While in Washington D.C. there were many managers there and they talked about a Bureau Geospatial Policy and whether or not it was needed. We have a presentation from the new Interior Geospatial Office Karen Siderellis, we had presentations from the Geospatial Manager from BLM and EPA about how they value geospatial data and how they use it conducting their everyday business it made an impression. Right now they are working with the CLT and developing a strategic plan etc. of how the agency should go forward on a geospatial policy. So that is in the works and the core leadership of this

bureau is meeting this week and will be getting a visit to that new geospatial center at the Interior building to get more information about it. Lou gave out several examples.

Lou - service manager package we are putting together for all the service managers to spread the word and help get in contact with all of their customers, Jessica is putting together a package for them. Any information about that Jessica.

Jessica - all the information is being put together and being shipped out next week. We are just waiting on a few things to put in the packets.

Henry Austin - I want to go back in time here can you please comment on the National Park Service and getting this 15 million abandon mine site reclamation and do they have a GIS special data that shows and prioritizes these AML sites?

Lou - the only other AML site that we know of is BLM's.

Bill Card - I would like to weigh in on that I know that some National Parks are doing comprehensive inventories of the mine area within the boundaries of the parks. I don't know about outside the boundaries but they are very interested with what is on the inside of the boundaries.

Lou - do they have a data base?

Bill Card - I can tell you for Big South Port they do, they have dedicated GIS people. I don't know about the Smokey Mountain but I know they are very aggressive on making data bases about whatever is in the parks.

Lou - another thing we are working on is the new State Memorandum of Agreement and that is in its final stages. We are waiting a reference source from Steve Trujillo that will be coming out shortly. It will be replacing the existing the current MOA. This new MOA will be correcting the old MOA stating that the states are responsible for taking care of the software and hardware. It will state that they now own the hardware that we send out with the exception of that hardware that we loan out. That is in the works.

ROUND TABLE:

Corey - some of the customers were requesting some software they based on our inference we just did not have I am working with Cathy to get us caught up with this.

Mike Dunn - Ohio may be voting on whether every employee will be taking 2 weeks of unpaid leave. I don't know when this will happen. We may be seeing less Ohio people.

Lou - they have some requests in for onsite training.

Dave Agnor - He is having the same kind of problems that Mike Dunn is having. We were able to have our Service Manager Meeting which went well. We had it with about 4 or 5 staff members of the state about what was going on such as training issues, staff issues stuff of that nature. We agreed to have a quarterly meeting scheduled to over service manager issues with them. We are going out to their office shortly to install software and making sure everything is in order.

Lou - I want to remind everyone that is teaching class that if you see someone performing well and has the personality to be a good teacher to please talk to that person. You should always have that information with you to show them how to proceed with being an instructor. Please keep that in mind.

Bill Card - National Coal Mining Geospatial Committee will be holding a meeting in April. Nothing permanent yet. Also we are sending a questionnaire to the Smacra Geospatial Data Steward sometime in the near future to quarry the status of the various programs in geospatial development.

Stephanie Self - Getting ready for our first class in midcontinent got a map class I think and in three weeks we have an onsite class in Charleston WV and then another in May. Just getting ready for all those classes.

Debbie - Finished our website as Lou had mentioned and submitted it to Veronika on like Fed 17 but haven't heard anything on when it going to be up. We are working on fosfering the geochemist workbench the groundwater modeling and water shed modeling this year. We have been trying to get in our authorization and vouchers in for different training. And we have been spending. Has a progress been made on RockWorks and Ground Water Vista problems?

Lou – Keep doing what we have done in the past

Tom Cunningham - There is going to be an Ohio, Pennsylvania, OSM, West Virginia, Maryland combined staff meeting in May I hoping to get some time on that agenda and I'm still working with our OSM inspectors in Pennsylvania.

Eric P - Ground Water Vista we had a couple machines that were affected. I think we have largely repaired them. There was a class here last week on ERMapper I did get some feedback and it was favorable.

Bob W - ERMapper they are looking to try and license this software. Is going to take the place of some software

Janine - The International ESRI User Conference is coming up its July 13 - 17. We still have a few complimentary passes as long as you present a paper at the conference you can get one.

Karyn - We released our slots to students our opens seats to our classes and we now have about 1/3 of our classes filled with wait lists. Only one class is in danger to being dropped. Classes are still in high demand.

Duane Matt - Both Henry Austin and I attended the Society of Metrological of Mining Engineering/Colorado Mining Associations Convention this last weekend and even with the economy the way it is it was still very busy we had many visitors. Stephanie was there and I wanted to say thank you for everyone that stopped by our booth. It went very well.

Dianne Osborne - The week before last we switched over to a new port to deploy ERDAS 9.3 and ERMapper 7.2. All of the known users were personally phoned primarily by Aldo and some by myself to let them know the deployment was occurring and how to download the software. By new Wednesday they will have an instruction letter out to all managers along with instructions to download and use both software's. Many thanks to Like Munette for the instructions. Please let us either Aldo or I know if you have any questions. A suggestion that you should download this software at night for how large the software are. Susan Styoek went above and beyond to get the ERMapper up and running.

Henry Austin - Joint ASMR Billing Land Reclamation Symposium in Billings starting in May 30 through the first week in June. May 15 is the early registration. Dianne Osborne is putting on all day remotes sensing workshop.