



**NY State Geospatial Advisory Council**  
**March 27th, 2018 Meeting**  
Pride of NY Room, 10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY

*Mission: Advise the State on effective use of geospatial technology resulting in tangible benefits to NYS.*

**Attendance**

*In person:*

Frank Winters, Ross Baldwin, Heather Weller, Douglas Freehafer, Randy Rath, David Richardson, Matt Owen, Richard Reichert, Alex Chaucer, Todd Nelson, Eric Herman, Sheri Norton, Kate Buss, Christina Croll, David Jorgensen, Chris Rado

*Via Phone:*

Lindi Quackenbush, Jonathan Mayr

*Invited Guest:*

Jeff Barth (DOT), Dan Martin (NGS Northeast Regional Advisor), Tim Ruhren (GPO)

*Not present:*

Colin Reilly, Michael Ross

**10:00 Welcome / Agenda Review / Approval of Minutes (Baldwin)**

- Introductions of new and existing members.
- Ice Breaker
- Approve previous meeting minutes:
  - Correct the spelling of Randy Rath's name
  - David Richardson motions with the noted corrections to approve the minutes of December, Heather Weller seconds the motion, unanimously approved.
- 2018 GAC Member photo will be taken after lunch

**10:30 Datum and Coordinate System Working Group Findings (Dan Martin, Tim Ruhren, Alex Chaucer, Jeff Barth)**

As chair of the workgroup, Tim Ruhren led the discussion proposing edits for the Datum and Coordinate System Standard. Tim displayed updates to the wording of the existing state standard. Limiting the use of a few coordinate systems is less important than in the past because many of the software platforms re-project on the fly. It is very important however

for data creators to understand, document and communicate the datums referenced.

Discussion ensued:

Questions were asked regarding the changing of the NYS standard and what edits should be made by the Coordinate Systems and Datums Workgroup. GAC has a published standard in place.

A recommendation to use NAD 83 Datum was mentioned.

- Dan Martin-An invited guest from Vermont, is the National Geodetic Survey's Northeast Regional Advisor. Dan discussed NAD 83 – there have been several versions (realizations) of it, so it is important to know which was used.
- Lindi Quackenbush-Questions who is the targeted audience for this document?
- Frank-responds: GIS practitioners of the state throughout all the sectors. We need to be clear that we are not passing into the realm of the licensed surveyors.
- Lindi-Should standard indicate which realizations of the datums were available and when were they first adopted?
- Jeff Barth-invited guest from DOT Photogrammetry Unit mentions that DOT uses a mixture of CAD and GIS. The differences between realizations may not show up in GIS data, but it will in CAD work.
- Ross Baldwin-GAC chair-How do we get all the information out; do we go through user groups?
- Dan-Is it targeted to state data creators or statewide government? What is the date of the standard, what model should be used?

**Frank motions:** To task the workgroup with making some refinements to the edited document Tim showed. These revisions would add a date each datum realization was created and a date it was superseded. The document will also include a history of updates to the standard. Motion was seconded, unanimously approved.

- Frank explained that the GAC can define standards and best practices and communicate them to the GIS community. ITS has a process for approving Statewide standards and policies which we will also pursue.
- Frank-Purposed explaining the use of Web Mercator auxiliary sphere using the WGS 84 datum for published web services.
- Dan- Vermont has a standard and it is very explicit, a metadata file goes with the data set and documents how it was collected, and processed, and the datum and coordinate system used.
- Frank- Proposed that the GAC take on a separate effort to outline metadata best practices.
- Tim to the council-it is your standard and what you say is up to you.

## 11:30 Dan Martin

Dan presented a power point “New Datums are coming in 2022”

In 2022 NGS will publish a new datum and define new coordinate frames.

Here are some referenced terms from the presentation:

- NATRF2022 The North American Terrestrial Reference Frame of 2022
- NAPGD2022 The North American-Pacific Geopotential Datum of 2022
- GRAV-D Gravity for the Redefinition of the American Vertical Datum

Discussion ensued:

- The chair questioned-What does the military use?
- Dan-WGS 84, but no control stations exist.
- David R-What exactly is Zero, will it be a transformation?
- Dan-Zero is gravity potential, VDatum is used around the coast.
- Chair-What are different tectonic plates of transformation?
- Dan-you can use coordinate velocities measure until a tectonic event happens.

## **ACTION:**

Dan Martin was asked to share his power point with the GAC.

Dan’s slides can be found here:

[https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/web/science\\_edu/presentations\\_library/files/datum\\_changes\\_ny\\_gac.pptx](https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/web/science_edu/presentations_library/files/datum_changes_ny_gac.pptx)

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## 12:30 Break for lunch

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## 1:40 3D Nation effort (Dan Martin, Doug Freehafer & Tim Ruhren)

Doug Freehafer discusses background of 3D nation

Since 2002, USGS is the lead Federal agency in providing terrestrial elevation data for the nation. NOAA also became the lead for coastal elevation and bathymetric data. 3D Nation is a concept that serves as a unifying structure for all national elevation efforts.

There is upcoming elevation requirements and benefits study that will define the 3D Nation concept.

The Study sponsors are USGS (NGP) and NOAA (Office of Coastal Survey and National Geodetic Survey). This will include inland, coastal nearshore and offshore bathymetric data requirements and benefits. The NEEA study (National Enhanced Elevation Assessment) will refresh the initial 8 yr. acquisition program. There have been state champions chosen. In NY the champions are Tim Ruhren for terrestrial elevation data and Jeff Herter as Co-Champion for nearshore and offshore bathymetry requirements. Champions provide outreach to State Agencies to nominate participants in local, county, regional, tribal and academic.

Also in Doug's discussion he described the programs and applications that support Federal elevation initiatives. The National Elevation Dataset (NED), National Enhanced Elevation Assessment (NEEA), 3D Elevation Program (3DEP), Broad Agency Announcement (BAA), US Interagency Elevation Inventory (USIEI) and SeaSketch, which supports 3DEP and BAA process.

The Study is expected to be completed in 2019 with a final report available to Federal and State agencies and other stakeholders. The results will be used by USGS and NOAA for justification to obtain funding from Congress to improve the Nations elevation data.

Upcoming workshop

- Nation study workshop scheduled for Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 – 4:00 pm.

Discussion ensued:

Chair-New Liaisons will be identified in May.

- Tim-Doug/Dan-Are we including private sector or tribal?
- Frank-There is a protocol for collaboration with tribes.
- Dan-Private sector ties in to municipal data, would be hard to get good representation

### **Council returns to the discussion on 2022 Datums**

- Dan-Datums committee of NYSAPLS (NYS Association of Professional Land Surveyors) NGS (National Geodetic Survey) has a plan to work on updated state legislation to recognize the new and future datums using the NRS model legislation template. Rather than specifying a datum the language would suggest using the officially accepted datum of the US.
- Frank- suggested we engage with NYSAPLS and get GAC's voice heard either for

workgroup or with whole group in our June meeting.

- Dan- consideration of opportunity in program to redefine state plane zones, location boundaries.
- Dan-consensus would be needed.

**Frank motions:** Tasking the work group to work with NYAPLS to understand where they are on this issue, offer to help and report back to the GAC. Motion was seconded, unanimously approved.

## **2:00 Chair report (Baldwin)**

- Chair Updates
- Nomination Process – Discussion on giving GAC opportunity to comment on nominees before Nomination Committee made final slate.
  - Sheri-Use survey monkey for nominated candidates, should we look at our process differently, where and when would a discussion take place? by phone, email?
- Eric Herman read previous minutes comments by Jeff Herter
- Sheri questions asymmetry, Tim responds asymmetry is very important, hopefully to get representation across the four categories.

## **2:15 Reports**

- State Agency Advisory Group (Herman)

The State Agency Advisory Group meeting was held on January 9, 2018. The GIS Program Office was in attendance. Topics discussed were:

- GPO Data updates
- Building Footprint Mapping
- Federal Activities
- Changes with Datum and Coordinate Systems
- ITS Organizational changes
- ShareGIS phase 2 status
- DOT System of Engagement
- ArcGIS Collector for Sign Information.
- Thruway Authority's Incident Response Dashboard.

To view the minutes of this meeting, they can be found at:

[http://gis.ny.gov/coordinationprogram/workgroups/wg\\_7/meetings/2017-09-meeting-minutes.pdf](http://gis.ny.gov/coordinationprogram/workgroups/wg_7/meetings/2017-09-meeting-minutes.pdf)

- GIO/GPO Report (Winters)

- ITS – 9 ITS clusters are becoming 18 Portfolios, 4/1/18 is when supervisory changes will happen. More details to come, the rationale is to more closely align with the needs of the NYS agencies.

### **3:00 Census 2020 (Winters)**

Frank gave a brief status update of New York's participation in the Census Local Update of Census Addresses Program. Every county, many cities and the State have all registered as LUCA participants.

### **3:15 Geospatial Data Act – Update (Winters)**

- At NSGIC Conference Geospatial Data Act was discussed. The act is with committee in both houses, NSGIC is in full support of.

### **3:17 NYS GIS Strategic Plan Update (Winters)**

Will be shared on SharePoint for GAC members, more to come.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

June 12<sup>th</sup>

September 11<sup>th</sup>

December 11<sup>th</sup>

Geospatial Summit will be held in Skaneateles, NY on 9/25/2018

### **3:22 Meeting adjourns**

- A motion to adjourn was passed.