

Wyoming Geospatial Organization (WyGEO)
2nd Quarter Meeting Minutes
Cody, WY
June 6, 2016

Board Members Present (8):

Shawn Lanning – WyGEO President, University of Wyoming, WYGISC Research Scientist
Nicholas Graf – WyGEO Vice President, WYGISC
Joy Hill – WyGEO Secretary, Big Horn County, Land Planner/GIS Manager
Jeff Sun – WyGEO Director at Large, Casper College, GIS Instructor
Cathy Raney – WyGEO Past President, NE Region Director, Campbell County, GIS Coordinator
Nyssa Whitford – WyGEO NW Region Director, Wyoming Game and Fish, Sage Grouse GIS Analyst
Steve Vossler – WyGEO SE Region Director, SEO, GIS Specialist
Angie Rudolph – WyGEO SW Region Director, Greenwood Mapping, GIS Specialist

Board Members Absent (1):

Paula Reece – WyGEO Treasurer, Natrona County, GIS Specialist

Professional Members Present (8):

Dan Blaney – Sage Civil Engineering, Draftsman
Brian Clarkson – GDA Engineers, GIS Project Manager
Pam Fromhertz – NOAA, Rocky Mountain Regional Advisor
Shane McCreary – WYCRO/WYSHPO, Manager
Deb Shirley – Farm Service Agency, GIS Specialist
Tyler Theis – Anadarko, GIS
Susan McClendon – STM Consulting
Gary Welling – Uinta County, GIS Coordinator/Planning Department Head

I. Meeting Called to Order

Shawn Lanning, WyGEO President, called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

II. Welcome and Introductions/Remarks

Shawn welcomed everyone to the WyGEO 2nd Quarter Meeting of 2016 and allowed time for attendee and sponsor introductions.

III. Review of Last Meeting Minutes

Shawn entertained a motion to approve the 4th Quarter meeting minutes of 2015. Cathy Raney, NE Region Director, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Nyssa Whitford, NW Region Director. All in favor. Motion passed.

Shawn entertained a motion to approve the 1st Quarter meeting minutes of 2016. Cathy Raney made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Angie Rudolph, SW Region Director. All in favor. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's Report

In the absence of WyGEO Treasurer, Paula Reece, Jeff Sun (WyGEO Director at Large) presented budget details. The amount currently in the WyGEO bank account is \$24,340. There are currently 69 paid professional members and 89 unpaid members. Jeff mentioned that Paula submitted the paperwork and payment of \$850 to the IRS. Paula is going to send an email to everyone to let them know that Wave emails were sent out to make sure members look for the email in case it is caught by spam.

V. Old Business

1. Report on WyGEO presence at UAV Symposium

WyGEO sponsored the symposium. Shawn said it was well attended (~100 attendees + ~15 sponsors) and he gave away several mugs. He spoke to at least 20 people who didn't know about WyGEO and made contact with several people who could be sponsors for future events. He said many attendees were from Wyoming, but there was national representation. Shawn said that it is unlikely that it will be an annual event, however there may be discussion about collaborating with other organizations, like WyGEO, to do a combined event in the future. When asked about the value of the conference to other sponsors, Brian Clarkson, professional member, mentioned that there are a lot of start-up businesses for UAVs and until the regulations are adjusted it is going to be a difficult market to break into. A broad spectrum of topics were discussed with the first day focused on legal aspects of UAV use and the second day focused on specific, unique applications.

2. Annual conference planning update

- The Annual Conference will be held at LCCC Conference Center, Cheyenne, WY, from October 5-7. Shawn said the 6th and 7th will likely be the prime days for activity. A National Guard contact may be a keynote speaker. We have a soft confirmation from Mike Thompson who has done some mapathons in Colorado and elsewhere to give a talk about mapathons and possibly do a mini-mapathon as a workshop. Ramesh is available to do a remote sensing workshop as well. Nyssa asked if we have considered doing any paid workshops to get more participation.
- Steve Vossler, WyGEO SE Region Director, mentioned that we booked rooms at the Radisson to be held through September 7 for WyGEO. Spring Hill Suites was eliminated because they did not have enough rooms. Steve mentioned we could be bumped on a particular day because there is a chance that faculty has access to facilities ahead of planned events/visitors. We have started talking with Visit Cheyenne about helping with registration. Cathy asked about the faculty bumping dates – is there a window within the window where they cannot be allowed to bump other events. Steve said it is just in their contract agreement. Because we are not paying a nominal fee, we are more at risk. Angie asked about the agenda. Shawn said the agenda is not yet defined, but Shawn is thinking the meeting activities would mostly occur all day Thursday with a half day Friday. Noon meeting and then workshops would possibly be the afternoon of Thursday. It is possible

the evening of the 5th could be used for registration and set-up. Cathy mentioned that Visit Cheyenne actually sent a representative to man the registration area at a previous conference. Steve will ask if that will be the case at our event. Shawn mentioned that he needs to get back in touch with Esri about sponsorship and the learning lab. Cathy encouraged everyone in the room to think about presenting or reaching out to others to consider presenting. Shawn is hoping that the location of the conference will allow for the large local membership to attend.

3. Update on IRS and 501(c) status

Shawn updated the group about the status of our IRS paperwork. Paula has filed the paperwork and required payment to the IRS to become a 501(c). Hopefully by the annual conference we will have more details on that.

VI. New Business

1. Joint Conference Opportunities

There have been some discussions about partnering with other groups on conferences. GIS Colorado (GISCO) mentioned that they would like to explore a joint conference with Wyoming. Additionally, Shawn and Nick talked with the Wyoming Planning Association (WYOPASS) about a possible joint conference in fall of 2017. Nyssa mentioned that a partnership with WYOPASS would be valuable. Shawn mentioned that their conferences are set up very similar to ours. There are good opportunities for keynotes about planning and GIS, as well as presentations and workshops. Joy Hill, WyGEO Secretary, mentioned that WYOPASS

2. GeCo West Dissolution

- Cathy mentioned that GeCo West dissolved. There was a regional, 5-state user conference many years ago (SWUG). A few years back, it morphed into GeCo West. The five states were struggling to get the volunteers together to help. At one point, Arizona turned it over to Esri. The five states agreed to dissolve GeCo. GIS Colorado has discussed the possibility of a shared conference with WyGEO with Cathy. Possibly it could be a bi-annual event – perhaps in an off-year of a joint conference with WYOPASS. Locations for joint conferences would have to be near the state borders. GISCO usually offers first day free or low-cost training. They do their board meeting the night before. The last day is the plenary, presentations, break-out sessions, etc. They mentioned the joint proposal – when GISCO did their last conference it was joint with GIS in the Rockies. GISCO would like to send a proposal to do a joint conference with GIS in the Rockies that includes WYGEO in the next event planning. There is a bit of concern about GIS in the Rockies holding an event outside of the front range. Pam Fromhertz mentioned that a lot of organizations participate in GIS in the Rockies – and each association is responsible for a track. There is a concentration of GIS professionals in the front range so better attendance is likely there. Cathy mentioned that fall of 2017 could possibly work for a joint event – but she wonders if it would be better to do joint conferences on alternating years. Angie mentioned having a joint meeting with Wyoming PLS (could be fall). Pam mentioned the Wyoming Engineers

Society that meets in February. Nyssa had a question about the GIS in the Rockies, WyGEO and GISCO – would the event be separate from GIS in the Rockies or would it be the same. Cathy said there are two possibilities: 1.) GISCO + WYGEO and 2.) GISCO + WYGEO + GIS in the Rockies. Shawn mentioned that it would be unlikely for GIS in the Rockies to cater to a Wyoming location for an event, it would be more like WyGEO riding the GIS in the Rockies train. Nyssa asked if we should be considering a joint quarterly meeting with GISCO. Shawn mentioned that a MAGIP representative at the UAV Symposium was possibly interested in a joint event. Shawn entertained a motion to continue discussion on potential collaborations with other organizations in the future. Cathy made a motion, Angie seconded the motion. There was discussion about the failure of other regional collaborations and the collapse of several Esri user groups. All in favor. Motion passed.

- There was further discussion on the value or lack thereof of collaborating with out-of-state organizations following the dissolution of GeCo West. It seems that a mix of collaborative efforts with out-of-state and in-state organizations could be ideal. WyGEO could look at sponsoring one other even each year (similar to the UAV symposium).
- Shawn mentioned that as a result of GeCo West dissolving, WyGEO received a \$4,100 share. At this time, it will be deposited in the general account. Shawn suggests that we earmark the money for scholarships. Joy asked how we are looking financially long-term. Shawn indicated that we haven't had any financial struggles in our five years as an organization. Cathy mentioned people are interested in donating to a scholarship fund and maybe it would get that ball rolling if we could get the scholarship account established. Angie made a motion to earmark the \$4,100 for scholarships. The motion was seconded by Nyssa. Jeff said we should be proactive and get some rules set up. Jeff mentioned that the ad hoc committee can meet at their discretion after the IRS paperwork is approved and present ideas to the membership. All in favor. Motion passed.

VII. 10-Minute Break

At 2:22pm, Shawn paused the meeting for a short break. Session resumed at 2:32pm.

VIII. New Business (continued)

1. 2016 Election

Positions up for election this year include:

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Director at Large
- SE Regional Director
- NW Regional Director

Joy announced that the election will occur at the annual conference (October 6th). We need to open nominations at least 4 weeks before the election. We need to establish an ad hoc committee 6 weeks before the election. Shawn shared how elections have been done

previously and said we can hold an online election if we so choose. Cathy said we know that we won't have 100% participation at the conference so an online election may allow for more voting participation from the membership as a whole. Nicholas asked if we gain non-profit status would we possibly qualify for non-profit membership status with Survey Monkey (since our Survey Monkey subscription expired). Joy will work on establishing an ad hoc committee to work on election details.

IX. Member Presentations

1. Pamela Fromhertz of NOAA presented on the National Geodetic Survey update and overview.
2. Nicholas Graf of WyGIS presented on the Lek Based Tracking Tool: Tracking Disturbance, Disruptions, Reclamation and Peak Males.
3. Shawn Lanning of WyGIS presented on the National Park/Historic Sites Viewshed Project.
4. Cathy Raney of Campbell County presented on the Rock Pile Museum Story Map.
5. Tyler Theis of Andarko presented a UAV video of Pathfinder Reservoir and its practical uses.

X. Meeting Adjourned

Shawn adjourned the meeting at 4:30pm. The group will meet at Adriano's for dinner.