

Wyoming Geospatial Organization (WyGEO)
3rd Quarter Meeting Minutes
Cheyenne, WY
October 6, 2016

Board Members Present (9):

Shawn Lanning – WyGEO President, University of Wyoming, WYGISC Research Scientist
Paula Reece – WyGEO Treasurer, Natrona County, GIS Specialist
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

Professional Members Present (50):

Jackie Alexander – WYGISC, Research Scientist
Wendy Berelson – WYGISC, GIS Research Scientist
Brad Brackel – Sanborn, Director, Strategic Accounts
Matt Bullock - Esri
Jennifer Corso – Cheyenne MPO, MPO GIS Coordinator
Sam Cox – BLM
Destry Dearden – Lincoln County, IT/GIS Director
Jordan Evans – Laramie County, GIS Programmer
Pam Fromhertz – NOAA, Rocky Mountain Regional Advisor
Troy Gerhardt – Wyoming Game and Fish, GIS Specialist
Joyce Gilligan – Laramie County Government
Rich Greenwood – Greenwood Mapping
Jeff Hamerlinck – WYGISC, Director
Virginia Harris – State of Wyoming Military Department, GIS Principle
Rosemary Hatch – Water Resources Data Systems
Paddington Hodza – WYGISC, Assistant Director
David Holdstock – Geographic Technologies, CEO
Susan Hunter Norman – BLM, GIS Specialist
Richard Immell, Sheridan County, GIS Coordinator
Chuck Jarnot – Unmanned Aircraft International, Operations Manager
Denise Jensen – Wyoming Game and Fish
Jim Kelly – Ayres Associates, Project Manager Geospatial Services
Wayne Kemp – WRK Geospatial, LLC
Joshua Lemli – WYGISC, Research Scientist
Sandy Leotta – MapAid, Manager
Steve Lowman – Morrison-Maierle, Inc., GIS/CAD Designer
Pat Madsen – WYGISC, Research Scientist
Andrew McCown – University of Denver, Graduate Student
Jalynda McKay – WYGISC, Research Scientist
Trip McLaughlin – North Line GIS, GISP
Chris Nicholson – University of Wyoming WRDS, Director

Kirk Nordyke – Wyoming Game and Fish, Geospatial Technology Supervisor
Karl Osvald – BLM/Department of the Interior, Senior Geologist
Drew Pearson – Wyoming Game and Fish, Metadata Rancher Emeritus
Joe Peters - Esri
Mel Philbrook
Michael Proctor
Mike Robertson – Wyoming Game and Fish
Karen Rogers – Wyoming Game and Fish, Staff Biologist
Ben Saunders – Srednaus Mapping, LLC., President
Steve Shivers – USGS, National Map Liaison
David Siddle – Compass Tools, Senior Account Manager
Garrace Sims – State of Wyoming Military Department, GIS Manager
Ryan Sirdoreus – Wyoming State Parks, Historic Sites and Trails, GIS Specialist
Jim Stafford – Wyoming State Geological Survey, Natural Resource Analyst
Mike Thompson – OSM, Volunteer
Kelly Vlastos – Wyoming Pipeline Authority, GIS Manager
Gary Welling – Uinta County, GIS Coordinator/Planning Department Head
Esther Worker – Esri, Education Accounts Manager
Josh Zeeb – Wyoming Game and Fish, Geospatial Technology Analyst

I. Meeting Called to Order

Shawn Lanning, WyGEO President, called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

II. Welcome and Introductions/Remarks

Shawn welcomed everyone to the WyGEO Annual Conference/3rd Quarter Meeting of 2016 and allowed time for board member introductions.

III. Review of Last Meeting Minutes

Shawn entertained a motion to approve the 2nd Quarter meeting minutes of 2016. Nyssa Whitford, NW Region Director, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Steve Vossler, SE Region Director. All in favor. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's Report

WyGEO Treasurer, Paula Reece, presented budget details. Paula said we've had the largest number of sponsors we've ever had. She thanked all sponsors and attendees. The amount currently in the WyGEO bank account is \$31,441. We received extra funding for the dissolving of GECO \$4300. There are currently 76 paid professional members. On July 15, 2016, we received 501(c)(6) status.

V. Election

Joy Hill, WyGEO Secretary, reported on the result of this year's election. 37 members voted for Vice President, Treasurer and Director at Large. We didn't isolate votes for the NW director since it was not contested – nor did we have any write-ins. After an error in the preliminary electronic

ballots, we sent out a second electronic ballot for SE Region members to vote for SE Region Director. We received 16 votes from SE Region members.

Election results:

- Vice President – Nicholas Graf
- Treasurer – Paula Reece
- Director at Large – Jeff Sun
- NW Region Director – Nyssa Whitford
- SE Region Director – Jordan Evans
 - We need to add Jordan to the list of invitees for all future board meetings in 2016 (non-voting member).

VI. New Business

1. Tag Update

Ryan Sirdoreus, TAG Chair, gave an update on the organization. It is made up of 7 groups/14 members from private industry and federal, state & local governments. They develop standards for the state and assist the Governor with special issues. They are currently working on the structure for oversight. For the past 4 years, they have been trying to get the oversight committee reinstated (last meeting in 2012). This summer they made great effort this summer and developed a letter to send to the Governor. They got a meeting with the Governor before they needed to send it. The letter was reworked and should be in the Governor's hands soon. He hopes to have an update on the new CIO (Chief Information Officer) soon. There is no news on the GIO (Geographic Information Officer) position. Cathy Raney asked for input from the group regarding getting a message to the new CIO regarding the need for a GIO. Cathy also added that in 2007 when the new governance structure was established (it took over WGIAC), the design was a three-legged stool which needs TAG, oversight committee and a GIO to work. Nyssa suggested that we create a letter from WyGEO encouraging the governor to move forward with assigning a new GIO. Karl Osvald said in the past a member's term was limited to 2 years, but a change in administration led to disorganization. Ryan is uncertain as to why the group/governance structure fizzled out years ago. Nyssa asked who the five agency heads are; State Lands, Game and Fish, Wyoming Water Development Commission, DEQ and SEO. Karl Osvald mentioned that in the past there were public and private representatives on the advisory committee and on the TAG. Ryan encouraged people to attend the next call-in meeting of the TAG. Karen Rogers mentioned the proposed organization. Karen Rogers made a motion for WyGEO to write a letter to the new CIO asking for consideration about a GIO. Cathy Raney seconded the motion.

2. 4th Quarter Meeting

The Southwest Region is set to host the 4th Quarter meeting. Angela Rudolph, SW Region Director said that historically the 4th quarter meeting has been poorly attended. Nyssa Whitford said she would love to have a meeting in the region, but she agrees that we're in the

4th quarter and maybe we should reconsider holding an earlier meeting next year. Jeff said that in years past, distance to travel hindered attendance, as well as cost and time away from work. When asked how many people would try to make it to a 4th quarter meeting in the southwest, few people raised their hands. Shawn asked if people would be interested in a web meeting. Joy Hill made a motion that we have the 4th quarter meeting as a web meeting. Cathy Raney seconded the motion. Angela Rudolph asked if we could make the 4th quarter meeting a web meeting for years to come. Nyssa Whitford mentioned past discussion about how many meetings we hold annually and the concept of having two meetings per year with NE/SW having meetings one year and NW/SE having meetings another year. Shawn asked that we table the discussion on the number of meetings and location for them until the next meeting (December web meeting). Shawn asked again about Joy's motion; all in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.

3.Scholarship Committee Update

Shawn mentioned that GECO in the West has dissolved. Wyoming received \$4300 from that action. Cathy Raney said there are 5 members on the ad hoc committee for scholarships. They have been meeting on and off over the past year, and now that we have 501(c)(6) status, we can move forward with offering scholarships. With the GECO money, we have earmarked it for scholarships. The ad hoc committee decided to make formal recommendations to the WyGEO Board by no later than December of 2016 for 2 scholarships (\$1000 for undergrad/\$1000 for graduate) with a deadline of December 2017 to be awarded in 2018. We are looking to model our application after the GISCO application.

4.Joint Conference Opportunity

WyGEO has discussed collaborating with other groups for conferences (WYOPASS, Surveyors, and others) to save money and increase participation. GIS Colorado is interested in collaborating with WyGEO on an annual fall conference in 2017. They have asked that the WyGEO sign a letter of agreement to start planning the event. Shawn welcomed the group to discuss the concept. GISCO suggested places that are likely to draw people from both states (Saratoga and Steamboat were mentioned). Sandy Leotta mentioned that John Ferrell, Director of the Esri Petroleum Users Group, asked about getting more people involved in their Casper meeting. Shawn mentioned that we would likely benefit from arranging a meeting where their dinner-type meeting could be incorporated. Karl Osvald mentioned the chance of increasing our membership by offering a partnership opportunity. He also mentioned the Wyoming Geologic Association and others who have not really participated in WyGEO up to now. Jeff Hamerlinck asked if GISCO was part of GIS in the Rockies – it is, but this event would not include GIS in the Rockies. Jeff wondered if this event could lose steam following GIS in the Rockies. Cathy Raney said the plan for the joint GISCO/WyGEO meeting is an every-other-year event, whereas GIS in the Rockies is annual. Nyssa asked if GIS in the Rockies would continue to be on the Front Range – it will be in Denver. So this joint meeting will attract more of the mountain members who don't want to travel to Denver. Pam Fromhertz asked if we were aware of the Intermountain GIS Meeting is happening in West Yellowstone from April

18-21, 2017. Idaho is hosting it and they meet with Montana every other year. Steve Lowman voiced concern about a conference being held too far into Colorado and how it might be too far for Wyoming folks to make it; Montana's fall meeting is on November 19th in Billings. Sponsors chimed in: Fall is packed with events. David Siddle said GIS in the Rockies was well attended this year, though they made more money in Grand Junction with a lower-attended event due to higher expense of holding an event in Denver. He mentioned considering spring for conferences. Nyssa Whitford said when we considered the MOU with GISCO, Saratoga was recommended, even a venue was suggested. Joy asked when we have to decide by. Cathy said the MOU is written for Fall of 2017 for a single event. Karen Rogers made a motion that we join with GISCO for a joint conference. Nyssa seconded the motion. Paula Reece interjected a few concerns about the MOU as written. She feels the finances should be jointly controlled. She said there is no mention about an estimate of costs or a breakdown of costs. Nicholas Graf asked if we could agree that we have an MOU and that the board work on the specifics. Karen Rogers amended the motion accordingly. All in favor. Motion passed.

VII. Special Award

The WyGEO Board of Directors decided to offer a new annual, traveling award for professional members. It is an award of merit to be passed on to an individual in the Wyoming GIS community to honor their efforts and dedication to the GIS profession. The irony is that this great honor comes with a humorous, if not tacky, award: The Jade Jackalope. The jackalope was chosen because it is a popular mythical creature celebrated in our state. The color jade was chosen because jade is our state mineral.

The Board voted to give the award to Gary Welling, who has been a member since the organization's inception. Gary has been very involved in GIS and is very supportive of GIS user groups as a means to spread GIS education and involvement. Gary has missed very few meetings since the start of WyGEO.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned

Shawn adjourned the business meeting at 1:21pm.