

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Larry Powell at 3:30 p.m. on February 25, 2009, in Room 783 of the Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Rocky Fund - excused

Committee staff present:

Mike Corrigan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Pat Matzek, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Tracy Streeter, Director, Kansas Water Office  
Kenneth Nelson, Section Manager, Geographic Information System (GIS) Support, Kansas Geological Survey

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Powell introduced Tracy Streeter, Director, Kansas Water Office, (Attachment 1) who, in part, presented information on the State of Kansas Geographic Information System (GIS) Initiative, stating that part of the job of the Water Office's responsibilities is also to chair the Geographic Information System Policy Board established in 1989 by Executive Order. Specific points of interest introduced by Mr. Streeter included:

- Strategic Planning Efforts - Help to connect GIS not only at the city and state level, but nationally; specifically, the United States Geological Survey, a major player in the GIS effort in Kansas.
- Elevation Data Business Plan - The most current maps available for elevation data are the United States Geologic Survey Topographic Maps which are accurate within up to 10 feet vertically, typically used for preliminary planning and are not accurate on some things; subsequently, there is a big need for improved elevation data.
- Light Imaging, Detection and Range (LIDAR) - Can be used for flood forecasting, flood plane mapping, transportation, precision agriculture, and urban planning. Other states working toward gaining this technology include North Carolina and Iowa.

Kenneth Nelson, Section Manager, GIS Support, Kansas Geological Survey, spoke on other points of interest in the presentation:

- Height Modernization - The primary goal is to increase the vertical accuracy of elevation measurements, while also densifying high accuracy horizontal positions to provide an improved foundation for positioning and mapping applications.
- Kansas Road Centerline Database - The project goals are to develop a comprehensive statewide road centerline database, and develop and maintain long-term partnerships with local government to support the maintenance of the database.
- Data Access & Support Center (DASC) - Online resources for GIS data, documentation, standards, and web services. Its web site is located at <http://www.kansasgis.org>.

Questions were asked and comments were made.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Chairman Powell requested Committee members to approve meeting minutes dated 2-09, 2-10, 2-11, 2-12, 2-16 and 2-17. Representative Svaty made a motion to adopt the meeting minutes. Representative Hayzlett seconded the motion. On majority vote of the Committee, the motion was carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.