

Kankakee County GIS Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting of December 4, 2009

Members in Attendance

Steve Beatty, Kankakee County Supervisor of Assessments
Laurie Cyr, Village of Bourbonnais
Kim Dickens, Village of Bradley
Kelly McLaren, Kankakee County Board
Zack Newton, City of Kankakee
Jim Piekarczyk, Kankakee County Engineer
Mike Van Mill, Economic Alliance of Kankakee County
George Washington, Kankakee County Board

Others in Attendance

Mike Bossert, Kankakee County Board Chairman
Roger Diercks, Kankakee County GIS Manager
Lori Gadbois, Kankakee County Recorder
Jim Greenstreet, Kankakee County Planning Department
Josh Kalov, Kankakee County GIS Technician
Diane Redwitz, Kankakee County Highway Department

Meeting commenced at 9:04am

There was no public comment

Mr. Diercks asked for a nomination for Committee Chairman. Mr. Piekarczyk nominated Mr. Washington, seconded by Mr. McLaren. The motion carried.

Mr. Diercks asked for a nomination for Committee Vice-Chairman. Mr. Piekarczyk nominated Mr. McLaren, seconded by Ms. Dickens. The motion carried.

Mr. Piekarczyk made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2009 meeting of the GIS Committee, seconded by Mr. McLaren. Motion carried.

Mr. Diercks reported four new website subscriptions and three new renewals. There was one data sale. Subscriptions and renewals totaled \$1496.80.

Mr. Diercks informed the Committee that a satisfactory draft contract with Ayres had been developed and was being reviewed by the State's Attorney's Office. Even if the full County Board does not vote on the contract until its February meeting, Mr. Diercks felt that the project was still in good shape in terms of timing.

Mr. Diercks discussed some of the issues surrounding recorded documents, mostly deeds, being accessible via the GIS website. With the Recorder's Office having implemented its website, recorded documents after November 9, 2009 are not being added. Mr. Diercks said that recorded documents had originally been added as a sort of incidental product and that the site was never intended to be a complete or comprehensive source of recorded documents.

Ms. Gadbois said that better notification probably should have been made, but that she was also trying to assess which offices were putting information online along with the sorts of information made available online. She explained the various options for accessing her office's new system.

Ms. Dickens asked Mr. Diercks about the availability of ownership and property records on the GIS website and whether that would be changing. Mr. Diercks replied that portion of the website would not be changing.

Mr. Diercks demonstrated the website under development intended for public use.

Mr. Van Mill left the meeting.

Mr. Diercks discussed some of the issues related to the current fee structure and data distribution policies that were affecting GIS. He said that he felt that the current subscription-based system created an amount of administrative overhead and expectation of technical support that was not offset by the revenue it generates, as well as consuming an increasing amount of GIS' resources. He also discussed Freedom of Information Act issues as related to GIS data.

Ms. Dickens asked if Mr. Diercks was proposing to raise fees. Mr. Diercks replied that his recommendation would be to abandon the current subscription-based system and eventually replace the current website with a website or websites intended for public use and an internal replacement for the County and Foundation Members.

Ms. Cyr asked how a group subscription option for groups such as the Realtor's Association came about. Mr. Piekarczyk replied that it had emerged from discussion among the GIS Committee and County Board four or five years ago. Ms. Cyr asked if the Realtor's Association subscription could be parceled out to individual offices. Mr.

Diercks replied that it was a possibility, but that he had concerns about an increase in administrative overhead under such a scenario.

Mr. Beatty spoke about some of the discussions he and Mr. Diercks had had as well as his observations of public access to data.

Mr. Piekarczyk said that in light of the significant financial contributions made by the municipalities, he wanted to be sure that they felt comfortable with ending subscriptions. He made a motion to phase out subscriptions, seconded by Ms. Dickens. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Dickens: Yes

Mr. Newton: Abstain

Mr. Piekarczyk: Yes

Mr. Beatty: Yes

Mr. McLaren: Yes

Ms. Cyr: No

Mr. Washington: Yes

The motion passed 5-1 with one abstention.

Mr. Washington said that he felt it was important to note that services to Foundation Members were not being degraded.

Mr. Diercks said that he would also recommend to the Committee that the cost of physical copies of GIS data be reduced to the cost of the media containing the data. He said that based on counsel from the State's Attorney's Office and his understanding of the new Freedom of Information Act, he felt that it was necessary to do so. Ms. Dickens made such a motion, seconded by Mr. Beatty. The motion carried in a voice vote with Ms. Cyr voting against.

The Committee set its next meeting for Friday, February 5, 2010

Mr. McLaren made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Newton. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:18am.