

eGIS Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021
1:30pm – 2:25pm
Facilitator – Jamie Munro, GIS Manager

In Attendance

Committee Members

Mike Twitty – Chair – Pinellas County Property Appraiser - ABSENT
Jason Malpass – Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Bryan Zumwalt – Vice Chair – Office of Technology and Innovation – ACTING CHAIR
Marc Gillette – Supervisor of Elections
Tom Almonte – Assistant County Administrator

Attendees

Jared Austin – Forward Pinellas
Joe Borries – Emergency Management
Thuyen Buendia – Business Technology Services/eGIS
Jeremy Capes - Utilities
Marcia Colby – Public Works
Mike Dawson – Business Technology Services/eGIS
Kelly Dickie – Business Technology Services/eGIS
Renee Duffey – Emergency Management
Jim Fogarty – Safety and Emergency Services
Allison Goldberg – Business Technology Services/eGIS
Christy Kretschmann – Business Technology Services/eGIS
Susan Leverette – Office of Asset Management
Blake Lyon – Development Review Services
Jamie Munro - Business Technology Services/eGIS
Curt Nielsen – Pinellas County Property Appraiser
Eric Pieniak – Utilities
Elle Piloseno – Human Services
Morgan Pyle – Safety and Emergency Services
Jeff Rohrs – Business Technology Services
April Rosier – Business Technology Services/eGIS
Alan Shellhorn – Planning
Penny Simone – Public Works
Toni Smith - Business Technology Services/eGIS
Nicole Sokolowski – Supervisor of Elections
Jacob Stephen – Supervisor of Elections
Jeremy Waugh – Office of Asset Management
Judith Weshinsky-Price – Safety and Emergency Services

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Citizens to be Heard
4. Approval of Minutes from the March 4th, 2021 meeting
5. Working Group Presentation
 - a. Aerial Contract Discussion
 - i. Aerial Contract Extension – **Voting Item**
 - b. GIS Projects Overview
 - c. Pinellas County GIS Governance
6. Open Discussion
7. Next Meeting
8. Adjournment

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm by Bryan Zumwalt.

Citizens to be Heard

The opportunity was offered for citizens to make comments. None were present.

Approval of Minutes

Bryan Zumwalt asked if there were any changes to the March 4th, 2021 meeting. Motion to approve minutes from Marc Gillette, seconded by Jason Malpass, all in favor. Minutes approved.

Working Group Presentation

GIS Projects Overview

Jamie Munro presented a project update. One project not yet officially on the BTS Pipeline is the Countywide Computer Aided Dispatch initiative to upgrade the system and eGIS will be involved to support the project. 3D Basemap Enhancements project will be wrapping up soon. ArcGIS 10.8.1 upgrade is mostly completed. This was about a year-long project starting with Pinellas County Sheriff's Office servers, Enterprise Asset Management servers were completed over the summer 2021 and Enterprise servers were completed within the last couple weeks. The ArcGIS Desktop software package is ready. eGIS encourages everyone to go to your Software Center (for BTS managed computers) and download the ArcGIS Desktop and ArcGIS Pro packages.

Aerial Contract Discussion

Jamie Munro discussed the presentation that occurred about a year ago with the Steering Committee about Aerial Contracts. The anticipation was to secure another aerial contract for the following years; however, this contract has not happened due to challenges with documenting the County requirements due to the introduction of a new imagery product that would not be ortho rectified. Jamie plans to survey the Working Group members and stakeholders to determine what the requirements are for the Request for Proposal.

The anticipation is for 2 RFPs, some years may include ortho corrected imagery, some years may not include corrected images. Bryan Zumwalt asked about the use cases and possible statutory requirement from the Property Appraiser for new images every few years. Jamie mentioned continuing the partnership with Southwest Florida Water Management District to receive imagery every 3 years. Bryan mentioned the post disaster imagery requirement and ensuring that requirement was included in one of the contracts. Penny Simone mentioned that Survey/Engineering is not the only group that uses the orthorectified aerials.

As a point of clarification, Bryan mentioned that not all imagery will be used for survey grade accuracy, most will be used for visualization. Bryan suggested adding a standard to the contract to ensure the data is within a level of accuracy and detail. Curt Nielsen mentioned that the Property Appraiser's Office does not tie any parcel data to the imagery because the data changes so often. Jeremy Capes stated that aerials as accurate as possible would be necessary to locate assets around the county. Jamie reiterated that the stakeholder survey is necessary to determine the requirements throughout the county departments. Jamie requested an extension of the current aerial contract for another year due to time constraints and pending feedback.

Aerial Contract Extension – Voting Item

Motion: Tom Almonte motioned to support aerial contract extension for 1 year during RFP process.

Motion seconded by: Marc Gillette seconded.

All in Favor

Pinellas County GIS Governance

GIS is expanding throughout the county, and because of this growth there is a need for additional governance. Historically, there were many siloed GIS areas around the county and the formation of the Steering Committee and eGIS was meant to help alleviate this. There are easily 8-10 new GIS positions around the County and eGIS team within BTS is becoming outnumbered. The eGIS team has been working with Esri for guidance and organizational best practices to move forward and empower users, while establishing consistent practices for the entire County.

Currently the County is performing a lot of weekly schema, application, and other changes to our GIS environments. Esri recommends that an organization of our size should be assembling/packaging these into deployments that are less frequent than the current practice. This will result more efficient use of staff time, allow testing/QA during specific windows of time, and establish more formal change process.

Jamie Munro presented the concept of Access Gates which allows the users to have certain rights to publish new and update existing GIS content. However, before that GIS content becomes public, there are several checkpoints that must be fulfilled. Jamie wants to be able to bring standards from the Working Group to the Steering Committee in December for approval.

Jamie envisions the eGIS team empowering the end users to build their own GIS applications that leverage data sources that are administered by the eGIS team. Departments will still manage their data; better processes need to be established to identify and administer the authoritative content so it can be leveraged by other GIS stakeholders.

Marc Gillette and Bryan Zumwalt had a conversation about the GIS siloes at Pinellas County and how the County resolved those past problems by providing centralizing GIS services. Jamie stated the eGIS team wants to establish additional standards and best practices that will allow users to build GIS upon going forward. Recently, there have been many new GIS staff hired around the County (especially through EAM) and the eGIS team is working with Esri to assist the County with recommendations to develop best practices.

Open Discussion

- Jason Malpass mentioned the Countywide CAD and RMS initiative. Currently, each jurisdiction maintains individual information and data. The Law Enforcement portion of the RFP has been completed and the Fire/EMS response will be returned September 7th. There is a need to determine how the GIS data flows throughout the system and Jason suggested working with Jim Fogarty with Safety and Emergency Services. Jim Fogarty stated that this is a once in a lifetime collaborative event to consolidate the CAD system and the GIS component is critical for success. Bryan Zumwalt echoed the importance of this project because the consolidation is a huge deal. This project will also illuminate any duplication of efforts throughout the County including with the Municipalities.
- Marc Gillette complimented eGIS with the work on the Supervisor of Elections discreet point project and mentioned all this data and information has implications for everyone. There were over 740,000 voter addresses geocoded ending with a few hundred with issues. Jamie reiterated that eGIS, Supervisor of Elections, Safety and Emergency Services/911 and even the Postmaster were involved in bringing this project to a finish.
- Jamie mentioned that Esri has been engaged to make improvements with our use of the Esri routing solution. The Esri routing solution was incorporated into our Esri contract when it renewed in April of 2019. Workflows are being developed that will allow us to customize the solution to our needs.

Next Meeting / Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for December 2nd, 2021.

PowerPoint Presentation



