



December 14, 2007

Milo Robinson
Federal Geographic Data Committee
590 National Center
Reston, Virginia 20192

RE: Final Report for 2006 "Fifty States Initiative" CAP Grant: Formation of a New GIS Coordinating Structure in West Virginia

Dear Milo:

I am pleased to present to you the final report for the 2006 Fifty States Initiative grant as well as inform you that the primary objective to form a new GIS coordinating body in West Virginia has been achieved. The successful completion of this project would not have been possible without the financial support of this grant program.

I would also like to thank Bill Burgess, the NSGIC leadership, and others who make this grant program possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kurt Donaldson'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kurt Donaldson
President, WV Association of Geospatial Professionals /
Manager, WV GIS Technical Center

Project Title: Formation of a New GIS Coordinating Structure for West Virginia

Award Number: 06HQAG0107

Contact: Kurt Donaldson, Manager, WV GIS Technical Center, Department of Geology and Geography, West Virginia University; President, WV Association of Geospatial Professionals.

(1) Project Narrative: <http://www.fgdc.gov/grants/2006CAP/Category3/WV>

The State of West Virginia Fifty States project will organize a new statewide coordinating structure for advancing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure in West Virginia. The vision of the new coordinating structure is to have a broader representation that includes the private sector, academia, and all levels of government. It will strive to include high-level champions who understand geospatial technologies and funding issues in the form of elected officials or executive decision makers in the coordination process. The new coordinating body will develop the strategic and business plans necessary to leverage resources and minimize redundancies in the integration and publishing of standardized geospatial data from multiple sources. Lastly, it will seek formal political recognition, either through executive level or legislative action, and identify a source of sustainable funding from state government.

(2) Key Accomplishments:

The primary objective of organizing a new geospatial coordinating body, named the WV Association of Geospatial Professionals (WVAGP), was successfully completed.

- *Coordination Meetings:* There were a total of 4 organizational and 9 committee meetings to create WVAGP.
- *Coordination Business Plan:* In August 2006, the GIS Coordination Committee completed a business plan recommending that a new GIS coordination body be formed.
- *WVAGP Charter Meeting:* On 15 March 2007, the WV Association of Geospatial Professionals approved its bylaws, elected officers, and enrolled new members.
- *Nonprofit Designation:* In August 2007, WVAGP was designated a 501(c)(3) nonprofit by the IRS.
- *Website and Branding:* In September 2007, WVAGP unveiled a new website (<http://www.wvagp.org/>) and logo.
- *Formal Authorization:* Since March 2007, the WVAGP leadership has met with the Governor's Office, Chief Technology Officer, and WV Legislative Joint Committee on Technology to inform high-level decision makers about the new association. In the near future WVAGP hopes to be formally recognized by executive order or statute.
- *WVAGP Meetings:* The WVAGP membership has held three regular membership meetings since being organized in March 2007 (see website for minutes). The 11-member board of directors which governs the association meets monthly.
- *WVAGP Resolutions:* In June 2007, WVAGP approved resolutions endorsing Imagery for the Nation and for NGS to publish WV State Plane Coordinates in feet.

(3) Next Steps:

- Two immediate goals of the new association are to organize a successful GIS conference in June 2008 and to adopt a State GIS Plan.
- Other goals include formal recognition by the State, clearly identifying relationships between WVAGP and other GIS organizational elements in the State, and identifying and paying for administration support for WVAGP.

(4) Helpful Assistance from CAP Program:

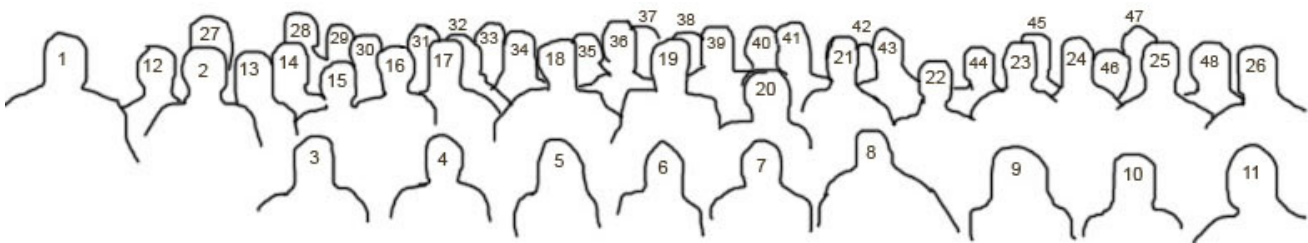
- *Financial Assistance:* The new association would not have formed without the financial assistance from FGDC / USGS. The funding has been instrumental in paying for the following expenses:
 - Meeting expenses
 - Parliamentarian fees for drafting bylaws
 - Legal fees to attain nonprofit status
 - Website development
 - Branding / graphics development
- *Resources:* The Fifty States Initiative resources were very informative, specifically:
 - GIS Governance: Models and Best Practices (Lea Shanley)
 - NSGIC Fifty States March 6 Newsletter (Bill Burgess)
 - NSGIC post cards and GIS treasure map

(5) Attachments:

- Business Plan for New Geospatial Coordinating Body
- Bylaws Committee Report and Certified Bylaws
- WVAGP flyer
- WVAGP invitation and history
- WV GIS Governance
- WVAGP Membership List

Appendix A: Photos of WV Association of Geospatial Professionals

Charter Members



- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Hussein Elkhansa | 20. Terri Funk | 40. Kevin Kuhn |
| 2. J.D. Adkins | 21. Mark Holmes | 41. Dave Sypolt |
| 3. Chandra Inglis-Smith | 22. Chris Eurice | 42. Rich Binns |
| 4. Jennifer "Nicki" Barnett | 23. Matt Mullenax | 43. Jeff Stephens |
| 5. Nancy Osborne | 24. Peter Villa | 44. James Wolfe |
| 6. Andrea Griffith | 25. Kurt Donaldson | 45. Douglas Shahan |
| 7. Jennings Starcher | 26. Shaik Mohiuddin | 46. Mike Shank |
| 8. Everett Perry | 27. Craig Neidig | 47. Sam Lammie |
| 9. April Savage | 28. Eric Hopkins | 48. Joe Bentley |
| 10. Connie Ervin | 29. Matthew Beckett | |
| 11. Pete Dailey | 30. Sang Yoo | |
| 12. Theresa Litteral | 31. Tim Ransom | |
| 13. Brandie Yalniz | 32. Andrew Steel | |
| 14. Juan Guterrez | 33. Jim Kompanek | |
| 15. Michael Orr | 34. Diane Eldridge | |
| 16. Katherine Paybins | 35. Rick Lawson | |
| 17. Shane Taylor | 36. Scott McColloch | |
| 18. Marshall Burgess | 37. John Bocan | |
| 19. Tony Siemental | 38. Frank LaFone | |
| | 39. Robert Schaffer | |



Presentation by David Doyle, Senior Geodesist of NGS



Past (Bruce Bauch) and present (Craig Neidig) USGS Liaisons for West Virginia



Conference Committee



Outreach Committee



Technical Issues Committee



Communication Committee



Statewide imagery presentation by Bob Hickey, VP, Photo Science



Statewide imagery presentation by Jeff Lovin, VP, Woolpert, Inc.



CORS presentation by Hussein Elkhansa, WV DOT GIS Section Head



WV DOT GIS Strategic Plan by Sean Litteral, WVDOT GIS Manager



WVAGP member Matthew Mullenax recognized for GISCI certification



Website committee meeting during break-out session



WVAGP Board of Directors