

ITAC Conference Call
May 15, 2013

Attendance:

Scott Gain
Michael Lewis
Nate Booth
Terri Moore

Kris Lund
Pete Cinotto
Kate Flynn
Dane Ohe (for Susan Trapanese)

Gary Krammes
David McCulloch
Gary Fisher
Bob Kimbrough
Kim Martz

Agenda:

- Introduction of Nate Booth, OWI Chief
- Summer meeting
- Transition to ESRI Maps
- Webinars
- Update of Action Items

Minutes:

Scott opened the call with a brief overview of today's agenda and welcomed Nate to ITAC.

Introduction of Nate Booth –

Nate introduced himself and discussed his background. Nate noted that he has a personal interest with advancing OWI in the area of informatics/geoinformatics – look at new ways of mining data. He sees this as a growth area for WSCs, noting there are things that we can do to provide tools in this area. Nate shared several examples with ITAC.

- Terri commented that it would be good to discuss Nate's ideas at the summer meeting.
- Scott commented that Nate's ideas are positive and hopeful. He looks forward to ITAC's role in bringing these ideas out to the WSCs.

Summer meeting –

Terri commented that she is hoping ITAC may be able to have a live F2F meeting this summer as we have missed the past two meetings. We lose a lot when we are unable to visit a center. Terri asked Scott and Michael for their thoughts as Center Directors. Scott responded that he is sure that ITAC can be re-invited to New Mexico, however, travel restrictions still exist. Michael suggested that we hold off on a decision until next week, noting the sequester exercise that the Centers just went through. Scott's added that if we have furlough days, then it's not a good idea to travel.

Nate added that if ITAC is interested in having a true F2F meeting, he will advocate for that with Jerad.

Scott asked ITAC about the availability of videoconferencing equipment if we do another meeting by WebEx. Terri responded that there is equipment available in California, Reston, and Denver. Scott noted that Tennessee has equipment. Michael responded that the Bureau of Reclamation (across the hall) has equipment he could probably use.

Scott suggested that ITAC identify hubs and brought up the idea of desktop licenses.

- Michael asked about the cost of the license with Scott responding that he thought it was about \$250/seat for a certain number of seats. Michael asked Scott to send him the details. Scott added that it may be possible to allow use of a couple of their licenses.
- Kris will check with Iowa to see if they are interested.

The meeting will be held July 16-17, 2013. This gives us a target date. ITAC should arrange connections ahead of time to see how the technology works – verify that California, Reston, Colorado, etc... can talk together.

Gary Fisher suggested that Scott contact Bob Hainly.

Scott noted that if the budget issues ease, ITAC may still be able to have a F2F meeting.

ACTION – Kim to check on Reston contact

ACTION – TERRI – test equipment in the next 2 weeks – Contacts: Rick Jenkins (TN), Gary Krammes (CO), Kim (Reston), Bob Avery (CA), Michael Lewis (ID)

Transition to ESRI Maps –

Is there a solution yet? What can ITAC help with? David McCulloch responded that on a search, there were no Google Maps API sites. It appears that migrations have been done. This is complete and can be removed from ITAC's "radar." Scott commented that he needs to check on Mississippi. David offered his assistance if it is needed.

Webinars –

Scott asked ITAC for ideas. Terri noted that there will be a network webinar next week.

Other ideas –

- High performance computing – Centers are interested in this topic. Should we bring this back? Nate suggested contacting Mike Fienen (WI)
- GIS webinar – David McCulloch and Martyn Smith can do a webinar soon.
- Nate – Mobile App that NWISWeb is developing
- Gary Fisher – SIMS planning to do webinars

Review/update of Action Items –

- **Lead for WebEx presentations –**
 - Network webinar next week
 - High performance computing – Centers are interested in this topic. Should we bring this back? Nate suggested contacting Mike Fienen (WI)
 - GIS webinar – David McCulloch and Martyn Smith can do a webinar soon.
 - Nate – Mobile App that NWISWeb is developing
 - Gary Fisher – SIMS planning to do webinar
- **Stream View** – Terri suggested that ITAC invite Jared to one of our upcoming calls. Our agreement with Below the Surface ends in August, and Jared would like for us to sign another agreement with them. We are not able to do so at this time. Centers can, however, decide to work with Jared directly through CRADAs. Jared is currently on board as a volunteer in the VA WSC. In this manner, Shaun Wicklein is able to loan the camera to Jared. Terri commented that we have the camera and Shaun is willing to sign it out to be used by other Centers (SC has contacted Terri about using the camera). Terri also noted that it would be good to talk to Nate about the possibility of CIDA putting geotagged images up. Have they done this type of activity?

Scott expressed interest in using the camera in Tennessee. Terri recommended that Scott contact Shaun to discuss this further.

- **Archiving Electronic Data** – Kate commented that the Task Force is actively meeting.
- **Inventory of geotagged photos** – We need to talk to CIDA. Gary Fisher suggested that he and Nate meet to talk about this. Gary will keep Shaun in the loop.
- **Programmers Forum** – Not much progress has been made since our March meeting. Nate asked for some background information on the forum with Pet Cinotto responding. Nate noted that one tool being used is GITHUB. Nate offered to organize a GITHUB webinar.
- **Cloud Hosting** – we are still waiting for an announcement. This is anticipated in mid-June.

Other Issues –

- **GIS regional databases** – nothing has been done beyond talking about this. David McCulloch noted there are some grass roots efforts; CDI has struggled with this. David offered to give his presentation again. This may allow the precipitation of more ideas and it would be good to have Nate's input. Nate commented that ITAC should address this soon.
- **IT Transition** – there is not a lot of influence that ITAC can put on anything yet. Michael recommended that ITAC have Paul Exter or Rich Frazier provide an update. Terri took the action to have Paul call in to the June meeting.

New Business –

No new business

Next Call – June 19, 2013