

DRAFT Minutes of a Meeting of the
Cadastral Mapping Specifications Advisory Committee
Held March 21, 2005 in Red Deer
At the Aquila Employee Development Centre

Attendees:

John Alai, Martin Newby Consulting
Jim Chorel, AltaLIS
Pat Drinnan, FortisAlberta
Wolfgang Janke, SDW
Leah Lilley, AltaLIS
Michael Kartusch, Lacombe County
Leigh-Ann Khoshaba, City of Red Deer
Bill Martin, AltaLIS
Craig McBride, ALSA
Mike Michaud, Sustainable Resource Development
Marc Morin, ATCO Gas
Wayne Newby, AltaLIS
Bill Tkachuk, ISL

1. Introductions

First time attendees for this meeting included Michael Kartusch from Lacombe County and Leigh-Ann Khoshaba from the City of Red Deer. Michael has replaced Keith Boras and Leigh-Ann was filling in for Tony Wood.

Dan Shannon will be replacing Brent Gannon as the Telus Geomatics representative on the committee. Stephen Pelech will be retiring from the City of Edmonton in June and his replacement will be named at a later date.

2. Minutes From February 24th , 2004 Meeting

No changes were suggested for the draft minutes from the meeting held on February 24, 2004. These minutes will therefore be considered final.

3. SDW Update

SDW was licenced to distribute the base features mapping data effective May 1, 2004.

Both the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and the Alberta Forest Products Associations became members of SDW last year and now have representation on the SDW board.

Topo stakeholder forums were held in September 2004. Subsequently a topo external advisory group was struck and the initial EAG meeting was held in December.

SDW and AltaLIS engaged Fujitsu Consulting to conduct a cross Canada base mapping assessment. See agenda item 4 for more details.

Alberta DEM data is being provided to GeoConnections, so it can be made available at no cost to interested parties. This data does not contain the same detail as the DEM data available through AltaLIS.

A provincial mapping user workshop will be held in conjunction with the upcoming GeoAlberta conference. The workshop will be in the afternoon of May 9.

The SDW board will be meeting tomorrow for a planning session to set priorities for the future.

4. Fujitsu Benchmark Study

Fujitsu Consulting conducted a study comparing base mapping across Canada. Alberta ranked at the top of the list for the quality of its cadastral mapping and its responsiveness to user requirements. Alberta topo data was seen as of only average quality. Any EAG members wanting an electronic version of the study can contact SDW or AltaLIS.

5. Titles Mapping Update

The complete titles mapping data has been available since the end of 2003. There are now 106 municipalities that are subscribers. 77% of the MDs and Counties, 9 of 13 cities, a third of the towns and 7 villages now subscribe to the titles mapping data.

A template has been developed for rural addressing. This template has been cleared with Canada Post and will be available to municipal titles mapping subscribers at no cost. The cost of signage may be an issue for municipalities and AAMD&C is looking at the possibility of a collaborative effort to make a deal with manufacturers.

With some of the remaining project funds, a prototype for online submissions will be developed by this fall.

6. Active Issues

- a. Shifting Base and Synchronization of User Data - The process for cadastral updating is being changed so that any cadastral stations shifting by less than 1 decimeter will not be moved. This will greatly reduce the number of stations that will move as a result of more accurate data being available.

Although the shifting base does not appear to be a major problem for many users, there is still the issue of keeping user value added data in sync. In future, moving cadastral data into a geo database may help users with this issue.

By next month, users will be able to track the movement of cadastral stations by referring to the AltaLIS website.

- b. Federal Land Polygons – Indian reserve, Metis settlement and park boundaries are available. The federal government has still not made the Banff and Jasper data available.
- c. Base Features Data – A licence for base features data has been in place since May 2004. Some of the revenues from topographic mapping sales will be going toward topo updating. This issue will be removed from the active issues list.
- d. Overlapping Linework Between Parcel and MISAM – Any common linework is stored in the MISAM files. This is still an issue for rural municipalities who need to order the adjacent MISAM files to get complete linework for their area. Unfortunately working in a CAD environment has these type of limitations. It was generally agreed that producing duplicate linework is not the solution, since it creates another set of problems. AltaLIS will investigate the possibility of putting this data onto another layer.
- e. Real Time Updates of Cadastral and Titles Data – All cadastral and titles mapping data is available within a matter of days. Most municipal subscribers now produce their own merged shape files. For those who do not, the service is available from AltaLIS. This issue will be considered closed.
- f. Road Allowance and Hydrography Polygons – There has been little interest from municipalities in getting polygons for road allowances and hydrography. As a result the data is not being offered as a separate product. Some municipalities are having difficulty with some road allowance and hydrography information. Bill Tkachuk will provide Bill Martin with some examples, so they can be investigate further.
- g. Evolution of Cadastral Data to GIS Ready –There are still no plans to upgrade the cadastral data to be GIS. The geo database product may prove useful in future.
- h. ATS – A March 2005 reference version of the ATS will be available in April. This version will be used by the AEUB and used to update base features. The MATS (3 points per quarter section) and MATSCOR (16 points per quarter section) text files of the March 2005 version will be available at no cost. Linework to the quarter section level will be available for \$750 and to the LSD level for \$1,000.

Up-to-date versions of the MATS and MATSCOR will still be maintained and are available for sale to interested parties.

Craig McBride will look into having something put into ALS News to inform surveyors of what they should do if they find discrepancies in the ATS values. The discrepancy reporting template available on the AltaLIS website can be used.

- i. Roadway Name Changes – There is still a need to have some communication with municipalities to remind them that they are the only ones who can authorize roadway

name changes in the cadastral data. Wolfgang Janke will speak to AAMD&C and AUMA about having something put into their newsletters.

7. User Forum Issues

Only 4 of the original 42 issues identified at the October 2003 user forums are still active. The only issue that is not covered by the above list of active issues is geo-administrative boundaries. The topo EAG is currently reviewing the list of over 100 geo-admin boundaries to see which ones may be of interest to users.

8. Public Land Dispositions

The Government of Alberta (GOA) wishes to get started with the digital mapping of public land dispositions. It is expected to take about 4 years to build the historical data. A filing fee will cover the cost of digitizing the historical data and the cost of integrating new dispositions. The filing fee is expected to be \$125. Digital submissions will become the standard for the filings of new dispositions.

Dispositions could be mapped on either the cadastral, ATS or base features. A decision has not yet been made.

9. Other Matters

Title mapping of condominium plans can be confusing for users. Although all of the linc numbers are included, there is no standard spec for the mapping of condo plans. SDW will look into the possibility of forming a committee to establish a standard for the mapping of future condo plans. It would be a large undertaking to redo existing condo plans.

Some geo-admin boundaries are tied to base features and some are tied to cadastral data. In the long run it would make sense to have all geo-admin boundaries in sync with the same base.

10. Next Meeting

It appears appropriate to have the next EAG meeting after the GeoAlberta user workshop. In this way any issues raised by the users could be reviewed in more detail by the EAG. The next EAG meeting will likely be held in the fall, but will depend upon whether there are sufficient issues coming out of the GeoAlberta workshop to warrant a meeting. The current thinking is to have EAG meetings once a year in the fall. Additional meetings could still be called if there are specific issues that require input from the EAG.

Thanks to all EAG members who participated in the meeting and thanks to FortisAlberta for once again hosting the meeting!