

Minutes of a Meeting of the
Cadastral Mapping Specifications Advisory Committee
Held Sept. 26, 2000 in Red Deer
At the Utilicorp Employee Development Centre

Attendees:

John Alai, Martin Newby Consulting
Jim Chorel, AltaLIS
Stephen Fediow, City of Calgary
Wolfgang Janke, SDW
Leah Lilley, AltaLIS
Bob Martin, MD of Willow Creek
John Moroskat, AltaLIS
Stephen Pelech, City of Edmonton
Bill Tkachuk, ISL
Tony Woods, City of Red Deer

Keith Boras, Lacombe County
Pat Drinnan, Utilicorp
Stan Gushulak (For Bill Elliott), LTO
Steve Kiss, ATCO Gas
Bill Martin, AltaLIS
Mike Michaud, Alberta Environment
Wayne Newby, AltaLIS
Tim Phillips, ATCO Gas
Cindy Vizzutti, MD of Willow Creek

Unable to attend:

Brent Gannon, Telus Geomatics
Jason Humber, BP Canada Energy
Mike Kowpak, Can Am Surveys
Craig McBride, Alberta Land Surveyor's Association
Peter Sullivan, Natural Resources Canada

1. SDW Update

Wolfgang provided a brief history and update of SDW and the joint venture with AltaLIS. Copies of slides used are available to those unable to attend

2. Specifications

Bill Martin with assistance from John Alai and Wayne Newby summarized changes made by AltaLIS and some of the changes being worked on.

3. Data Cleanup

Bill Martin summarized some of the cleanup that has been done and continues to be done to the data. A particular problem with the representation of "arcs" in the data will be reviewed by Wayne Newby with Bill Tkachuk.

4. Municipal Concerns

Municipalities require titles mapping information (including metes and bounds) and data that is GIS ready. No common standards exist and municipalities would like to see some provincial coordination in this whole area. Consideration will be given to having a separate meeting just with municipalities.

5. Specifications for MISAM and PARCEL Mapping

Historically the MISAM and PARCEL datasets have had different mapping specifications (file structure, levels, symbology). AltaLIS currently maintains the data in a common data structure and then converts the data back to the MISAM and PARCEL structures at the end of each month for distribution. This process adds cost and delays the distribution of data until the conversion is done. Adoption of a common structure (AltaLIS) could eliminate many of the problems and updates to the mapping base could be available earlier.

6. Geo-Admin Boundaries

MISAM data is currently distributed according to historically defined cadastral map sheets (800 x 600 m). These boundaries do not necessarily coincide with the (geo-admin) limits of the cities/towns/villages. It is often necessary to acquire and merge adjacent PARCEL files in order to compile the complete mapping for a municipality. AltaLIS is currently modifying the MISAM file limits to be consistent with the appropriate geo-admin boundaries.

Considerable effort is required by users of the mapping data when working in an area the straddles or borders both the MISAM and PARCEL datasets (due to the different mapping specifications, projections, accuracies, etc.). In an effort to alleviate these difficulties, AltaLIS is currently working towards merging the MISAM data into the corresponding PARCEL files. This will provide true "seamless" mapping between these datasets with a common projection and linework/edges matched. It is anticipated the MISAM data will be merged into the PARCEL data early in 2001.

7. Communication of Changes To Specs

Better communication of changes to the cadastral specs is required. The recommendation is to use the AltaLIS website as the vehicle to communicate both changes and proposed changes to the specs.

8. Committee Terms of Reference

No changes were suggested to the proposed terms of reference.

9. Committee Communication

E-mail is the preferred method of communication to committee members.

10. Committee Membership

There was a feeling that there should be more municipal representation on the committee. Cindy will forward on the names of some northern community reps that may be interested in participating.

REAs were mentioned as another group that may be interested in being represented on the committee.

11. Future Meetings

It was felt that initially the committee should get together every couple of months. Red Deer was the preferred location for meetings.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday December 5th from 10:00 to 2:00 at the same location. Members are encouraged to forward on any specific concerns and agenda items they would like discussed at this meeting.