

Meeting Report - Montana Geodetic Control Working Group and Montana Height Modernization Executive Committee

Meeting Details

Date: May 16, 2011

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) headquarters, Helena, Montana
MDTCNF Basement West

Webinar: A webinar was available for those who could not personally attend.

Participating Members

- Stu Kirkpatrick, DOA
- Ralph Jones, MDT
- Curt Smith, NGS
- Rj Zimmer, DJ&A
- Dan Ignotov, MDT
- William Grayson, BLM
- Bryce Larsen, MDT
- Kevin McKenzie, Frontier Precision
- Micheal Sweet, U of M

Members Not Present

- Celinda Adair, DNRC
- Tony Bachman, USFS
- Jimmie Brewer, DOWL HKM
- Diana Cooksey, Montana State University
- Todd Ferris
- Eric Martin, MT Tech
- Gerald Pavlick, Morrison Maierle, Inc.
- Bill Weber, Northwest Energy
- Greg Thurston
- Dave Hoerning, MDT
- Steve Niday, Missoula County
- DeImna Heiken, Triangle Ag-Services

New Invitees Not Present

- Russ Huotari, Richland County
- Bryce Scala, Selby's

Meeting Report

1. Review and approve notes from previous meeting.

A. Discussed report for March 2011 meeting. There were no comments and report was accepted.

2. General Announcements.

A. NSDI CAP grant award – Zim and Stu updated the group on the progress being made with the award (details below).

3. Multistate Control Point Database (MCPD):

A. Old and new business MCPD.

a. Status report.

Enhancements are being made to the viewer, and data loader to reflect recommendations from Idaho and Montana Geodetic Control Working Groups. The updates will be posted as work progresses.

b. There has been some interest expressed in coming up with a mobile application for smart phones, etc. GCS Research may pursue this outside the scope of our project

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- c. The Geodetic Control Working Group with help from the Base Map Services Center was awarded an MLIA grant to continue providing support for the MCPD through FY 2012. The grant will fund technical help from the Base Map Services Center, contracting for the MCPD administrator, and additional funds for programming as needed. For complete information on the grant request please refer to the grant request document:

http://giscoordination.mt.gov/Documents%5CMLIA_Grants%5CGrants_2012%5CMLIA_2012_Geocontrol_GCWG.pdf

4. Geodetic Reference Center (GRC):

A. Old and new business GRC

- a. A consultant has been obtained to help with developing the business plan for a multi-state GRC and to help gather input on scope, funding, maintaining, and growing the GRC. The business plan should be complete by December 2011.

5. Montana Height Modernization Program (MTHMP)

A. Old and new business MTHMP.

- a. The semi-annual grant report was submitted and it was accepted.
- b. There was some discussion as to what projects to fund with the rest of the grant money. Densifying the CORS network in Montana was discussed (see below).

6. Montana CORS:

A. Latest status – Montana CORS:

1. Lewistown – (complete equipment and monumentation)
 - a. Report on progress of Lewistown CORS.
This site is up and running. NGS still has minor details to finish with the publication on the CORS web page. Any day now.
2. Richland County – (split cost of pillar monumentation)
 - a. Report on progress of Richland County CORS.
Russ has updated that he intends to begin pillar monument construction this summer. **Bryce/Dan to follow up.**
3. Havre – (receiver/antenna updates)
 - a. Report on progress of Havre (MSU Northern) CORS updates.
Kevin McKenzie reported that he delivered a Trimble 5700 base and Zephyr Geodetic antenna to MSU Northern. **Kevin to check on installation.**
4. Flathead Valley CC – (receiver/antenna updates) CORS updates
 - a. Report on progress of Flathead Valley CC CORS.
Kevin McKenzie reported that he will deliver a Trimble 5700 base and Zephyr Geodetic antenna. **Kevin to check on installation.**
5. Butte – (full cost of pillar monumentation)
 - a. Report on progress of Butte (MT Tech) CORS.
Eric Martin has obtained equipment and some funding and is working towards getting CORS built by end of summer 2011. Curt and Dan to meet with Eric and staff May 18th to discuss what assistance might be needed from NGS and MDT.
6. Eastern Montana – (complete equipment and monument for Wolf Point, Miles City, Plentywood and/or other locations)

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- a. Report on progress of Eastern MT CORS.
There has been trouble locating willing and appropriate facilities. MDT will inventory possible MDT facilities that may be able to host CORS in the region. This will be ongoing. **Dan to follow up.**
7. Choteau – (New CORS)
 - a. Report on progress of Choteau CORS.
Matt Morris PLS of Choteau has expressed an interest in working with a private party in establishing a CORS in the area. Discussions ongoing however no progress has been made as of this meeting. **Dan/Curt to follow up.**
8. Hamilton – (possible partnership with Ravalli County)
 - a. Report on progress on Hamilton CORS.
Steve Niday reported by email that he is waiting to see the donated equipment before going further. He spoke with the donating party on May 4th and they still plan on sending it to him soon he hopes. Steve also reports reports that he still hopes to get another CORS installed this summer in Lolo. **Steve to follow up.**

7. MTHMP Projects and Outreach:

- A. Old and new business MTHMP
 - a. Additional funding plan to be discussed as new projects/budgets develop.
 - b. RTN software scope and scale for possible future RTN. Kevin suggested that we meet with Steve Richter of Frontier Precision June 7 or 8 as he has much experience from Minnesota and Wisconsin. He will be in Helena June 8.

8. Action items / responsible party / due dates.

- A. Have updated plan placed on MDT height mod web site. **Done.**
- B. Upgrades to FVCC and Havre CORS. **Kevin/Dan– on-going**
- C. Developments with MT Tech CORS. **Eric/Curt/Dan – on-going**
- D. Developments for eastern MT CORS. **on-going, Dan**
- E. Update CORS map and update CORS priority map. **Dan/Dave – On going**
- F. Add CORS status map to MTHMP web site. **Dan/Dave/Zim**
- G. Developments with Choteau, Hamilton, Fort Peck. **Curt/Dan/Steve**

10. Next Meeting/Upcoming Events.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 25, 2011 from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. in the Basement West Conference Room, MDT headquarters, Helena Montana.

For those who cannot make it to Helena a webinar has also been scheduled.