

Legislative Committee Report

Minutes from 1/31/07 WLIA/LION/DOA meeting:

Met in Jordy's office. Present were Fred Halfen, Jordy Jordahl, Mike Friis, Peter Herreid, Kelly Felton, Jason Grueneberg (phone) and Damon Anderson (phone).

We had no formal agenda items to discuss. Per Peter Kammer, there was interest from Jordy in discussing the latest appeal court decision.

In starting the meeting Damon had some questions as to the status of the money coming in from counties for the WLIP. We found out that 2 counties had not gotten the money in yet, but they were called and the numbers were given so Mike could tally up to the end of 2006. We discussed the issue of having the numbers. Need the numbers to calculate budget etc. February is a key month for planning the budget.

We discussed the grants. Mike had handed papers with the proposed 2007 base budget grant awards (Chart A), also a page indicating the 2007 Land Program Revenue Funding Projection (Chart B). [A copy of these documents will be added to this when they are updated, the group asked for clarification and changes to the information provided.] In the documents from DOA a column will be added to Chart A that shows 2005 awards for base budget grants and the formula for prorating the eligible counties. Also Chart B will explain better the carry over money in detail and the related savings that was discussed by Jordy. It was explained to us that they did a review of their budgets with relationship to the WLIP and found there had been some savings. [As stated above this was asked to be better clarified and specifically noted for the membership]

It was discussed that the \$1.00 from retained fees contribution was not tallied into the calculations for the base budget grants. Comprehensive planning grants were briefly discussed. There is no official date of ending that funding, just the date of 2010 for the plans. Does not indicate when the funding will stop for those. The lapsing money is done. If program had that money this year, could have almost completely funded \$50,000 base budget. Our hope is that comp. \$ will come back to WLIP for grants.

There was discussion on the State appeals court decision in relationship to land records distribution in Susses, Theinsville and Port Washington. We discussed the details of the case and how it could affect the state land records communities. Comments were made on the fact that previously there was no case law for any such issue.

Next there was discussion on the Strategic Plan for GIS. The plan is now out. 500 copies were published and are going to be given to those in the state that we want to inform and influence in supporting this document, such as legislators, committee members, and the governor. Need to ask counties to take this information to their oversight committees for approval and for discussion. We want to get the counties supporting, telling legislators and then going to the governor to stress the importance of GIS in Wisconsin. Also want to support the Wisconsin Geographic Information Council (WGIC).

There was discussion on how this group has worked together to communicate and how positive the relationship is with WLIA/LION/DOA. Need to keep that going. Want to stress to WLIA membership the cooperation that has been gained in these regular meetings. Need to express to the membership that we are working together.

New CIO is in place. Will need to get him up to speed on what has been going on with the WLIP and the Strategic Plan for GIS.

It was discussed earlier in the meeting that the Governor's budget would be released on Feb. 13th. No indication on anything that would relate to the WLIP. Jordy saw that as good meaning they are not focused on any of the issues related to WLIP or the comp. planning grants.

The WLIA newsletter will have an article from Fred on the Strategic Plan for GIS. Then there will be a call to action that will go out to members prior to annual conference.

Next meeting would normally be on Feb. 28th, discussed having it at the WLIA Annual conference in Appleton. Will have to see if that is a viable option.

- Kelly Felton