

Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting

Date: February 5, 2004

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 10th Floor, Large Conference Room

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes

II. Geographic Framework Program

A. Act 51 Mapping

Rob Surber, Center for Geographic Information (CGI), for the sake of several new attendees reported the federal government in the mid-90s had initiated a concept of framework of common themes of information that most, if not all, geographic information technology organizations and those who use this information need to do business. There are seven major themes that most agencies use. Michigan has been developing these seven themes under the umbrella of this program. The themes range from transportation, government boundaries, elevation, ortho imagery, and geographic data control. CGI's framework program has been focusing on key elements namely the government boundaries and the transportation and hydrography layers. The transportation layer is related to road funding. The Act 51 project is a mechanism that the federal government funds all state roads for the state. CGI is tying in the maintenance of the transportation layer for the state of Michigan into that funding process. It involves all city, village, and county road agencies and the state road department as well. CGI is in the middle of the process now. They are producing digital and hard copy products that are being sent to all engineers throughout the state.

Everett Root, CGI, stated CGI mapped and printed 533 city and village maps, which are now going through the final review. Fifty of the 83 counties are mapped by township with the last 30 scheduled to be done within the next couple of weeks. Those products will go on CD this year and the counties will receive maps on CD in PDF with auto-run type of application so they can view them.

Rob Surber, CGI, displayed an example of the products that goes out. The maps have engineering measured lengths. All measurements from intersection to intersection are on the maps and will be used for the review process. Funding is based on length and other factors (census population is part of the formula). This map is being derived from geographic information system (GIS); it is not a drafting or a computer aided design (CAD) file.

B. Digital Ortho Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported the digital ortho photo processing is underway across the state. CGI is working with Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) on this.

Everett Root, CGI, stated they have collected all the 1992 black and white for the state in digital ortho quarter quads (DOQQ) TIF format. Those are being replaced by the 1998-99 photography. They have a complete set for the Upper Peninsula and the majority of the Lower Peninsula is done. Everything is now available, even though it may not have arrived in CGI's office yet. When they arrive at CGI, they are processed, reprojected, converted to MrSID, and put on the data library. CGI will indicate on their web page when there is something new. Eventually there will be full statewide coverage in 1998-1999 photography. Sherm Hollander, MDNR, is working with CGI on this project.

Lynne Boyd, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), added that 700 units are being done on the MDNR contract and are being received on a monthly basis. Copies of files are sent to United States Geological Survey (USGS) for validation. There are 486 units that are being done by the United States Forest Service (USFS) at Huron-Manistee area. MDNR plans to

purchase copies of those to complete the archive holdings. Full statewide coverage is expected by June 2004.

Dawn Siegel, Livingston County, added that the SEMCOG region, which consists of 7 counties, is participating in a joint 2005 flight. Partnerships with all 7 counties have successfully been identified. All 7 counties, SEMCOG, and the state are partners. They are finalizing the request for purchase (RFP) and will send out in March. Will fly next spring.

Rob Surber, CGI, added the target is that there will be a number of products down to a color 6-inch pixel. The end product will be determined by the bids. This model CGI is hoping will catch on in the state. If we pool resources, we have more buying power. The state, local, and counties work together and having better imagery will help business.

C. Framework Network Pilot Partnerships Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported the framework program is lead by CGI and has done a lot of the work internally to create the base product for the state but know that it is not going to be maintained without the assistance and coordination of local units of government and counties throughout the state. CGI has been working on a network of custodians and stewards of various data items that can be rolled into the day-to-day work-flow so they will not have extra work, but it is tied in with standards statewide so that it can make use of information and still retain the local flavor of the agencies to meet their needs as well as state and federal needs. There is a pilot in few areas and a number of players have been brought into this; including county and local GIS offices and the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Rayan Ray, CGI, stated CGI plans to create website to portray framework for anybody who decides to partnership this process. It is a free capability to review and make changes and communicate with others who use GIS information. CGI needs to run through testing and will pilot website in April with a local community. Currently working with Livingston, Allegan, and Jackson Counties. They all have their own GIS databases and CGI is helping cleanup information and get it into framework from local accuracy point of view. The USPS maintains the ZIP+4 product that contains the national official street names and zip code information. Most of the information at the state runs off the standardized ZIP+4 data. Knowing this and knowing that framework should run off the official local streets and the official standards of the postal service, CGI approached USPS and they agreed to work with CGI and local entities to cleanup their database so that they are portraying the local official street name but still following the USPS standard. Under the agreement is a list of rules to create a program for people who name streets at local level to refer to this program and put in what they think the street name would be and this program will check to be sure there is not duplicate street with that name in the same zip code. The USPS is excited to work with CGI and the locals help them get their product cleaned up and get accurate information in ZIP+4. Will have monthly meetings with USPS as going through this framework pilot and then will pull together local GIS officials, road commission people, clerks and anyone involved in the pilot to discuss the difficulties and the positives.

Rob Surber, CGI, added this is a lot of work. It is not an overnight fix but it is getting it on track and the process will get better. Homeland Security needs good information as well as a lot of other needs and hope to kick start this.

Rayan Ray, CGI, said she will be contacting 9-1-1 and National Emergency Number Association (NENA) groups to pull them on board with the USPS so that there is no conflict.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that sometime the 9-1-1 organizations and the GIS office coexist. Sometime the software drives what is out there. If stakeholders get it together, it will drive change for the phone company and some other groups.

Rayan Ray, CGI, stated the potential name hookup will not be based on ZIP+4 but will be utilizing USPS standards. With the pilot, it will bring each community over, ZIP+4 will get cleaned up and get accurate information.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, commented that some communities have stricter standards than the USPS. Barry County has 14-character limit; have to specify north and south if crossing the county centerline; not overlap ranges; no overlap names within the county or within a zip code.

Everett Root, CGI, added that CGI will use framework geography so if the zip code goes outside the county it will search across the county lines as well.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, stated that the biggest missing component in framework is the private roads. If somebody pops something in based on framework, it might already be in existence.

Rob Surber, CGI, agreed and added that it will continue to be locally controlled. The directive the USPS works on is to get information from local authorities to put in USPS file. There are general standards, but can certainly go beyond that. That is the purpose of a focus group of local folks who are in the trenches who do the work.

Dawn Siegel, Livingston County, stated that Livingston County would like to participate in that. Last summer they identified what the 9-1-1 and GIS roads, which are the same and identified with what the ZIP+4 and the USPS consider the road names. They drove roads and identified what the signage was and went to road commission. They have a database with all four. They tried to work with the locals townships, cities and villages to identify what the road is but USPS is not willing to make the change.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that the USPS acknowledges this problem. CGI is trying to provide a platform to get that moving from within their organizational structure.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, added that the USPS would only make a change when an ordinance was passed stating that the county had the authority to dictate what the address was. On county line roads, the USPS wants an ordinance for both counties with a joint letter.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that CGI wants to be a platform for groups to this work out – CGI does work that out. CGI hopes to provide an application where communication can occur, CGI will consider this a success if this happens.

Mike Hass, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), asked if the goal is to make framework Cass certifiable in terms of meeting the USPS certification standard.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that he cannot answer that. There are issues and not sure if CGI is prepared to handle all of those at this time. The goal is to be close. There is a lot that goes behind being Cass certified. Don't know how much CGI wants to be entwined with that. Will know more as they go forward.

Robert Verardi, Wayne County Roads, asked how the Act 51 certification falls into the framework network.

Rob Surber, CGI, responded that CGI is setting up geographic information stewards by community. GIS offices in the county want to be in the loop. GIS is value because you can bring things together and do analysis that can help serve the community. CGI is trying to build on that and find a steward to coordinate at the county level but not necessarily the owner of information. The owner will be based by theme and attribute. For example the road network, Livingston County has a GIS office but they also have a road commission – the idea is that the road commission would be the road owner of the road attributes for that community and they would set the names etc. but would not have to work directly with state on an ongoing basis. They will work with the county who will pass up to CGI on a regular basis. Once a year, the Act 51 certification process comes around, if working together through the year, the roads are already in the database at the state. All MDOT does is identify the ones that do not have the attributes

certified on them and the review process goes on and the attribute is then turned on and is certified based by an engineer. The line work may be put on by GIS office working with their road commission. CGI doesn't want to do it if the locals are already doing it. But some counties do not have a process to update their map base. The goal is to have online tools to help the process. Want to have an Internet based communication tool with the map and all the information on there. It will give people a technical way to submit information if they do not have GIS office. At the state level there is a list of layers of information and attributes that are minimum standards. Beyond that some agencies have a lot information that we are not managing and there is no need for the state to keep track of that. This is not a one size fits all. Each county will have to decide what they can handle and with what attributes. At that point, CGI will fill in gaps either from CGI's office or working with other state agencies. It is a coordination role to be sure that in the end, there is a complete seamless map that is consistent county to county. If an organization has more information then what the state wants to manage with their resources and staffing, there may be an interest that CGI is not aware of. This Michigan GIS Users' meeting is a forum to help identify needs. It will be treated case by case. CGI wants to be able provide a service to the GIS community in a minimum standard that is consistent statewide. That is why there are pilots. When CGI goes to counties, want to offer 1-4 approaches, which one fits each county, and here is a way to get there.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, stated there are two things other than Act 51 that drive the timing. 9-1-1 wants to have that road in their system as soon as there is a house on it and is the Qualified Voter File (QVF) wants the road in the system as soon as there is an election. As a partnership, Barry County is doing monthly. Act 51 is the slowest rotation of all of them.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that the nice thing about Act 51 from an engineering standpoint, is the information is being refreshed through the year it makes it easy for Act 51. That is the goal.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, said they send a road in when it is certified by the road commission. It is put in as a private road until then.

D. National Hydro Dataset (NHD) Project Update

Rob Surber, CGI, reported NHD is a United States Geological Survey (USGS) sponsored initiative to create linear referencing product for all the hydro features in the nation. They have married the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) River Reach coding system to the 1:100,000 scale digital line graph products Vector-based products nationally, which is available now. The USGS refers to 1:100,000 scale as medium resolution NHD and high resolution is topographic map quality 1:24,000 scale line work, which is under way nationwide for states and other interested parties to participate in to fill out fabric. Michigan has been working in a partnership with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Institute for Fisheries Research in Ann Arbor and the United States Forest Services (USFS) to complete NHD high-resolution work for 25 water sheds in the state. Many are in the Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula. The USGS website under National Hydro Dataset, you can see the basins in Michigan that have been completed and can download that information. CGI has applied for a grant from USGS to complete other areas. Because of the Homeland Security initiative, the USGS has been targeting urban areas because of environmental incidents they want to model scenarios. CGI submitted a proposal to begin work on the southeast Michigan 6-7 watersheds. It has been approved and CGI filing out the paperwork to transfer the grant money to CGI. Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair, Monroe, Washtenaw, and parts of Livingston and Genesee Counties would be covered under that. CGI will tie into local work that has been done so as not create duplicate work. The goal is to finish the rest of the state. Not sure of linkage to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - just got update on that, not sure. Suggested contacting Keven Roth, USGS, or Charlie Hickman, USGS.

III. Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Projects and Activities
Lynn Boyd, MDNR, had nothing to report.

IV. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Projects and Activities

Joyce Newell, MDOT, reported MDOT is planning to get federal forest roads looked at closer and hopefully get in Version 5 framework. The 3 forests in Michigan gave MDOT GIS files of their road and there are ownership discrepancies. The miles do not total what they are reporting to MDOT for Highway Performance Management System (HPMS). MDOT needs to bring the data to the map and work from that to find the discrepancies. Once on the map, then map ones claimed by more than one agency and resolve the discrepancies.

Rob Surber, CGI, clarified the versioning system. Framework comes out with a major annual version once a year – May or June. It is the base line for all subsequent minor releases and is a complete revision of the linear referencing system for the transportation layer. There is complete change transaction file from last year's version to new the next version. You will be able to migrate data without having to remap from one version to next. That is stable throughout the year. There are systems that require stability that cannot be changed on a dime. CGI produces Bs and Cs when changes occur to attributes or add nodes, but do not change underlying referencing system throughout the year.

Ron Agacinski, Wayne County Engineering, stated that they found from Version 2 to Version 3 the same problem. CGI explained the Rules of Change and that helped them understand how their database would attach to it.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, stated MDOT continues to work on getting Right of Way files in a scanned image form and will be available on an Internet site soon. They are pulling together drain maps. MDOT pays county drain commissioners for drainage that runs off trunk line roads into the drainage systems. The maps are in a variety of source materials. The goal is to get them into framework. Will be moving forward on the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS), which is the annual report to Washington on the condition of roadways. They need data such as paved/unpaved, number of lanes, etc. for all federal aid roads and for all other roads need some of that information for the Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled report to Washington. The data they have used on the past is the 1980 Needs File, growth factors with current Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADTs). They need better information. Hope to use framework to collect information. MDOT will send maps to partners who are collecting HPMS data. The maps will show AADT MDOT is currently using on the federal aid system and ask for more up-to-date information. The non-federal aid system roads, the data is old and don't think it is worthwhile equating in the Needs File to current framework. Toying with how to get current information without imposing more work on local areas and still met standards required by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). If local areas have already in GIS, MDOT will ask them to share even though there is no mandate saying that they have to. It could amount to additional money if the data is being underestimated. Would like data to be GIS compatible with framework - information correlated to Version 3 framework in a geodatabase or shape file. Traffic counts will be a data file that is referenced to framework. For counties that do not have technology to do themselves, MDOT may give them something in return for the use of their information - will provide back to them a map or GIS file with their information.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that the key is it is commonly referenced. It will be more useable and match other items. The vision of framework - if local owner of information is referenced to the base map, CGI will point questions to the local agencies.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, commented that MDOT may initially if they decide to send plots out is go by geographic area to generate an average AADT and add the total vehicle miles traveled and ask locals to adjust as needed. Then MDOT will have a starting point of what they did last year.

They have to report to Washington the most current data. MDOT wants to start fresh and use the total vehicle miles until they get better data. A person from MDOT, Utilities, came to Joyce with a booklet dated 1992-98 of bridges, overpasses, and culverts and asked if MDOT produced it and if they can reproduce it. It has more culverts than their current bridge file does. The concern is that a lot of the culverts have not tracked and have disintegrated. Will check information to see if worth keeping track of.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported there are a number of projects to make geographic information technology (GIT) more accessible for transportation. Not everybody needs to know GIS to use GIT. CGI is developing tools for linear referencing finding. When projects go out to bid, contractors work with the project process at MDOT they have to provide common referencing. CGI will provide Internet mapping services to query road by name or route and get the necessary coding to accurately reference the projects. A by-product is that you can map where the projects are and the executives can see projects in an area and legislators can see what is happening in their area. CGI is unveiling tool on the Physical Referencing (PR) Finder on the Internet. The goal is to go to all road agencies in the state so they can speak same language geographically. This will geographically code these automatically. Through the Asset Management Council the goal is to look at how roads are funded and maintained and to support GASB-34 reporting requirements on assets. As part of that you look at condition and where money is spent and where money is planned to be spent. The goal is to provide tools for folks to be submitting good information that can be used to automatically reference to be able to map. All this is to get GIS technology into the hands of people doing day-to-day business. The Asset Management Council will present to the Transportation Commission a complete inventory of the federal aid road system in the state. This is the first of 3 years to get the road deterioration curves of a road. When there are 3 years of information, can start looking at where the money can be going. The role of framework is to provide a common referencing.

Ron Agacinski, Wayne County Engineering, commented that CGI needs to ask locals to reference what version number they used.

V. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Projects and Activities
Nobody present.

VI. Michigan State Police (MSP) Projects and Activities

Eric Nischan, MSP, reported they are working on Critical Incident Management System, which is a web-based tool for changing information, recording information for an incident or day-to-day activity. It is focused on Emergency Management Homeland Security. It has a mapping component, which matches infrastructure to framework. Information can be changed on the fly. They are at the point of implementation. Would like to show to the group. It has been released to the county boards but it does not always get to the GIS community. It is nice to have coordination data-wise with the GIS community. MSP started looking at Michigan County Association of Mapping Professionals (MICAMP) data sharing initiative. MICAMP sent a Letter of Intent to start coordination between counties and the counties and the state for especially these tough budget times. There is not a lot of money for Homeland Security issues.

VII. Michigan State Industries (MSI) Projects and Activities
Nobody present.

VIII. CGI Projects and Activities

Rob Surber, CGI, reported two new Information Technology Programmer Analyst positions are being announced on the Civil Services website. CGI is looking for experience in database

administration and web application development with a flavor GIS and geography technology. CGI has a number of projects that are challenging. They are listed under the Michigan Department of Information Technology (MDIT) and are open to all applicants. It is a broadband scale at a variety of levels. Rob Surber is on the panel to move forward with the GIS Specialist level with Civil Service and the goal to get geography information technology positions more in line with information technology pay scales and more recognition for the role it plays. Have director level support for this.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported there is a statewide 2-1-1 initiative. It is the equivalent to 9-1-1. It is one number to call for health and human services. Now might call the United Way or Salvation Army or elsewhere for services. The state is planning for a comprehensive 2-1-1 telecom planning side (if there is a blackout people call for services, but it is not 9-1-1). This is medium-tech high-touch service. If high-touch doesn't work, the 2-1-1 services will provide a web-based interface to come up with triage as to what service is available. CGI is asked to provide a Geographic Information Technology (GIT) component. The plan is to use Internet mapping technology and data CGI is compiling to help with this initiative. CGI will be involved with United Ways and Detroit Public Library and other groups looking for common data, common referencing and deliver it through a common interface and web mapping technology.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported there is \$13,000 grant money available through the end of April from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for local agencies. What are preferred are 1-2 projects making use of current remote sensing imagery from Digital Globe for a particular area to solve a local business problem. Need to have information to set up before the end of April. The imagery goes down to 1 meter and can do enhancements. It can be georeferenced imagery as well. CGI needs local agencies to say they could use current imagery to solve a problem. Can get decent imagery for a county about the size of Ingham County. If only one project comes in and it is a countywide project, this would pay for it. It has a local agency and preference that they work with the state. CGI has to have a commitment letter ready by April 30. Allegan County is using their grant money to look at drain assessment problem with the local Public Health Office.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that CGI got approval and is doing a complete upgrade of their Internet map service hardware and environment. There will be new database and Internet mapping services. Estimating about 400% increase in performance.

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that CGI is looking at the process and may go to bid a parcel conversation process with the state parcel mapping. There are a number of state groups that work with parcel maps. MDNR now has a need to review their boundaries. All data is not digital converted into corded geometry line work with actual parcel boundaries in GIS form. The only mapped element is 40-acre, which is not really useful. MDNR is looking at 20% of their properties that come in are acreage parcels and tax reverted lands and they want to tweak boundaries. CGI is putting together a pilot proposal to show a concept of what the value of parcel level data for assessment to adjust boundaries and other areas where they may want to give up land.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, stated that Barry County worked extensively with MDNR a couple years ago because they have the state game area as 26,000 acres and the MDNR was paying them for 15,000. There were three different programs – the tax reverted program, the wetland program, and the active parkland program. MDNR did not know what land was in what. The township commissioned the study for them to pull the last deed of record of every

parcel. The GIS office found that they owned a lot more than they thought they owned and parcels they say owned and they don't. If CGI wants a county that has parcels, Barry County does.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that if the state departments have these source needs CGI would like to set up a process where information comes in and it is automatically converted as day-to-day business. There are also historic records to convert. One goal is to set up demonstration of the concept, and take to departments that have an interest in this. What land is out there that the state owns and can start converting to neighborhood associations. Want a presentation to show to deputy directors to show information that comes in and can it be engineered to go a step further to do digital automatic conversion – at least for state-owned land. There is no pot of money to do that, but if we can combine resources from different departments, it might be possible.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, stated that she can provide a parcel layer with state owned land broke down by state department.

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that if there is support from various departments that work with the land and get momentum going, at that point if they get a contract with an outside organization that does digital conversion, then do quality control work and will match against some of the local data.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, stated that the description that the state has in their files, does not necessarily match the township tax role and the role is more likely to be based on the actual description.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, added that Real Estate has told MDOT that Right of Way for state trunk lines are measured from the center of the road but the road can move.

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, commented that they always specify when the centerline was established.

John Spencer, Michigan Department of Management and Budget (MDMB), stated that he was a former surveyor and the original surveys for most highways were done off the survey centerline. So the Right of Ways sometime were done off the survey centerline and the next road may be done off the construction centerline. There are alignment issues with centerlines that he is an expert at dealing with. When dealing with the 'As Constructed' centerlines, every time a road is repaired the graphical line that the engineers put on the new map becomes the new construction centerline.

Rob Surber, CGI, stated that this is going to be a partnership with the right people. CGI is just providing the forum for this to happen. There are needs for this information. Homeland Security and MDNR has a need right now. The target resulting for data set will have to be determined by the business areas. The MDNR is going to be initially leading the charge.

John Spencer, MDMB, wants to be added to work list.

IX. MSU Remote Sensing and GIS Research and Outreach Services Projects and Activities
Nobody present.

X. County / Local Projects and Activities

Rosemary Anger, Barry County GIS, reported they are doing a new road map. They are getting air photos this spring with Allegan and Ottawa Counties. That will start activity with land use. They are interviewing for new emergency management coordinator today.

Dawn Siegel, Livingston County, reported they received final delivery for 2003 photo updates for the quadrant of the county. Looking forward to 2005 flight with SEMCOG. They are continuing with parcel mapping. Will then migrate to framework Continue to update roads

monthly - GPS new roads. They are starting partnership with QVF with CGI and looking forward to working with the clerks. They are getting ready to migrate all data imagery into SDE.

Robert Verardi, Wayne County Roads, reported they took their primary road data and tied it into framework so that from 1977 forward they can produce any data set against any version of framework – Version 2 and 3. They are set up so that when Version 4 is released, they can quickly hook to it. They are responsible for 730 miles of primary roads and for the local roads too but have less of a grasp that type of entity. For primary roads they have traffic counts, pavement lists, pavement types, pavement years, traveled lanes, parking. They learned not to use the mile postings from the PR. They captured point number from the intersection and then will capture the mile posting on the fly as each version is released. According to the system of data change the PR numbers and the point numbers to track changes.

Everett Root, CGI, commented that CGI's way of referencing is in line with the national standard for linear referencing. The key is the anchor point/anchor segment concept. The anchor points are most permanent and unique at intersections and those do not change even if line work changes. That is another way to communicate with CGI effectively. This method does support the national direction.

Robert Verardi, Wayne County Roads, stated they had their own link segment type concept. Basically they took their original link concept and changed the way they looked at and reconfigured all their links to line up with PR and intersection points. It is structured so that when they get a new version of framework, they can compare their data against CGI's and find which points they are missing.

XI. Regional Projects and Activities

Dawn Siegel, Livingston County, reported for SEMCOG. The 7 counties came up with a list of what they consider to be the critical infrastructure and what the minimal attributes would be. Now the office is generating that data if they didn't already have it. They plan to share amongst themselves in the event there is an emergency situation where their boundaries are not taken into consideration.

Gary Bilow, Woolpert Design, added that SEMCOG is having a Transportation GIS Seminar, February 26, 2004 at the Canton Center and it is free.

XII. Federal Projects and Activities

Gordon Rector, United States Census Bureau, reported they continue to work on the multi-year project to reposition the TIGER file. They worked without a budget for 4 months without a signed budget, which got resolved a couple of weeks ago. There have been about 35 Michigan counties, which have gone through the TIGER repositioning. Gordon expects more to go through this calendar year since budget money has been figured out. Harris Corporation out of Melbourne, FL is their contractor for this project.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that CGI is feeding framework on and those counties that pass positional accuracy are going through the process now. Hope to get the id structures in synch so that the Census Bureau can change from CGI on a regular basis, as there are updates. There are a couple counties that have been rejected

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, stated that the Bureau has about 7 different contractors that go out and collect GPS points in each county. Then when they collect local files, which are mostly the framework files in Michigan, they do an evaluation to see if the framework file to see if the 110 intersections are within 7.6 meters of the GPS points. For the most part they are better. There are a few that aren't in the very rural counties.

Mike Hass, MDCH, asked if the Census Bureau will have a seat at the USPS partnership table. The MDCH issue is that a lot of health data is generalized to zip codes.

Gordon Rector, Census Bureau, commented that he would like to be a part of the partnership with USPS.

XIII. Other Issues

Rob Surber, CGI, reported that Version 4 will be released May-June. There are a host of deliveries that come with that. The last effective date for changes is when CGI starts Version 4 quality control.

Ron Agacinski, Wayne County Engineering, suggested that when CGI is talking to locals about getting more data, on linear objects like the roads they will want to capture PRs and the point numbers instead of mile posts. Other issues, when there are lines with no PR numbers or bridges over a creek, that line does not have a PR number on it. What are the data standards that can be attached – point data, linear data, or polygon data?

Rob Surber, CGI, commented that there is documentation on the PR standards but beyond that CGI can look at specific examples and give guidance. Can also set up a time to meet with programmers or database specialists.

Everett Root, CGI, added that the PR system is just on roads at the present time. The NHD will put identifiers on the bridges. It is a layer-by-layer improvement.

Rob Surber, CGI, added that CGI is looking at web conferencing the meeting. Then anybody can participate without being at the meetings.

XIV. Next Meeting Date

March 4, 2004, 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 111 S. Capitol, 10th Floor, Lansing, MI 48913