



# Land Information Officers Network

## **DRAFT Minutes**

LION Annual Meeting

February 17, 2011

8:00 – 9:17 AM

Monona Terrace, Madison, WI

### *(Those signing attendance sheet or attending)*

Jodi Helgeson – Adams  
Tyler Grosshuesch- Adams  
Mark Netterlund- Barron  
Jeff DuMez- Brown  
Jason Towne - Burnett  
Andy Hess – Calumet  
Steve Kunze- Clark  
Carrie Morrell- Clark  
Fred Iausly- Dane  
Joyce Fiacco- Dodge  
Jesse O’Neill- Dodge  
Randy Jones- Douglas  
Ben Klitzke- Douglas  
Eric Edgeberg- Dunn  
Peter Strand- Eau Claire  
Terry Dietzel – Fond du Lac  
Sherri Hawkins- Green  
Shaun Wood- Iowa  
Tim Jeatran- Jackson  
Laura Kratcha- Jackson  
Andy Erdman- Jefferson  
Bret Davies- Juneau  
Jeff Bluske- LaCrosse  
Bryan Meyer- LaCrosse  
Mary Jean Ritchie – Lafayette  
Steve Hubner- Lafayette  
Dave Tlusty– Langlade  
Diane Hanson- Lincoln  
Cathy DeLain- Manitowoc  
Tim Oestreich- Marinette  
Ruth Winter- Menominee

Bill Shaw- Milwaukee  
Mark Teuteberg- Oconto  
Mike Romportl- Oneida  
Art Hilgendorf- Oneida  
Brad Bastian- Outagamie  
Steve Geiger- Polk  
Jeff Hartman- Portage  
Jennifer Balick – Rock  
Michelle Schultz- Rock  
Brett Budrow- St. Croix  
Robyn Thake- Sawyer  
Kelly Felton- Sauk  
Sally Reedy- Shawano  
Ed Harvey- Sheboygan  
Martin Goettl – Trempealeau  
Doug Avoles- Vernon  
Barb Gibson- Vilas  
Tom Miller- Washburn  
Nathan Nelson- Washburn  
Eric Damkot- Washington  
Don Dittmar- Waukesha  
Ian Grasshoff- Waupaca  
Jerry Bougie- Winnebago  
Jason Grueneberg– Wood  
  
Mike Friis- DOA  
Peter Herreid- DOA  
Jason Culotta- DOA  
Jim Lacy- SCO

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mary Jean Ritchie, LION Chair, at 8:00 AM o’clock.

*(Note: The discussion did not strictly adhere to the order of the agenda so item numbers are referenced where appropriate.)*

**2. Minutes**

Jodi Helgeson motioned to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2010 meeting in Stevens Point; second by Jeff Bluske. Motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**3. New LIOs** were introduced and to encourage getting to know your fellow LIOs, a short business card exchange was observed.

**4-5. Response from DOA Regarding LION Recommendation (Fall 2010 meeting) to Reinstate Contribution-Based Grants AND Land Information Program Update (Mike and Peter).**

Mike Friis introduced Jason Culotta, recently appointed Administrator, Division of Intergovernmental Relations (DIR). Mike said he has provided Jason with a lot of information on the WLIP to bring him up to speed.

Mike distributed a handout (Chart B- in attached Handouts) with 2011 Land Program Revenue Funding projections and comparisons to 2009 and 2010 totals. Revenues of \$2,725,490 are projected, based on funds received through December 2010. It is anticipated that approximately \$1,160,736 would be the available balance after program obligations and expenditures were calculated out (including Program administration, Transfers to Appropriation 129, WLIP Training and Education grants, and Base Budget grants if fully funded).

Mike supports a return to Contribution Based grants but it depends on funding. He anticipates a lapse of program funds to help in balancing the state budget stating that each state agency will be expected to contribute something. A table (Chart A- in attached Handouts) listing Base Budget grant eligibility was distributed. There is concern that Base Budget grants may not be fully funded. A proration of funds would be used to calculate amounts awarded. No comp planning grants will be funded in FY 11; no applications were sent out this year. However, there is no sunset on using WLIP funds for these grants and the DOA is still administrating existing grants.

Mary Jean said that the LION Board had looked into increasing the Training/Education grants to \$1000 but as the amount is written into statute, not much can be done to increase the amount from \$300.

**WLIP Annual Survey Update.**

Peter said that he and AJ had edited questions on the survey to refine some, remove some and add several. The additional questions would be related to project costs; e.g., cost to finish PLSS, parcel mapping, addressing, etc. This would be done to compile a statewide estimate of how much it would cost to complete these layers. The GIS Inventory can be used to help educate administrators and decision-makers who want feedback on how information is used locally. We will be notified when this is ready; anticipated April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**6-7. Land Information Plan Update AND Critique Plan Peer Review Process. (Mike and Peter).**

All Plans must be finalized and into DOA April 1, 2011. So far 70 plans have been submitted in either draft or final form. 61 have received reviews back from reviewers. 28 final plans have been received.

Peer Review process- they feel the process has worked well; better than in 2005 with DOA serving as a central receiving point; plans were received/modified more promptly in 2010. This was cited as a good example of volunteer cooperation and support.

**8. LIO Reports- Retained Fees and Grants (Mike and Peter).**

Peter said more work had been done on the form LIOs must use to report amount of fees retained and grant awards and how funds are being used. The report is due June 30, 2011 and should report on activity through the last calendar year after the legislation was enacted: June 25-December 31, 2010. A copy of the updated form was distributed (County Retained Fee/Grant Report Form- in attached Handouts); Peter said he would email the form to all LIOs.

## **9. Reports:**

**LION Manual (By-Laws Development) Committee** (Martin Goettl, Jeff Bluske, Bret Davies, Jodi Helgeson, Kelly Felton, and Brett Budrow).

Martin G summarized efforts to gather information to develop a meaningful/useful manual for new and current LIOs. Much of the old reference manual is more of a historical document at this point. It has been scanned and will be available on the LION web site ([www.wlion.org](http://www.wlion.org)). He reviewed the major headings of the draft (draft LIO Handbook- attached). He requested that LIOs send him links to resources they access which can be of use to others such as Legislative Notification Service, related associations, etc. The committee would like to see the manual as a living document with a standing agenda item for future LION meetings.

Mary Jean asked for other ideas. Suggestions offered included:

Jason G will contact WLIA (Ann Barrett) for documents already scanned and readily available to avoid duplication.

Need to establish a mentoring system to support new LIOs.

Martin said LIOs have a voice and LION can do a vote to poll members on pressing issues although questions remain as to how best to accomplish that.

Jeff B asked Mike and Peter if they (i.e., DOA) think LIOs are doing a good job- i.e., abiding by statutes and going beyond.

Mike F stated that he was very impressed with how well things go especially given all the things we had had to deal with. He felt things have never been better.

Jodi H said DOA staff did an excellent job in following up and following through with counties to ensure that funds get distributed.

Peter H said that he and AJ are trying to compile results of the annual survey to help make it clearer to decision-makers that the program works. Maybe a third party is needed to assess it. Peter noted that Bret Davies initiated the Case Studies/Success Stories document which is helpful. However, it is tough to quantify; but there is lots of antidotal information. Sees a need to change the focus from progress on development of foundation elements to how information is applied.

Mike F said there is wide variation in progress on the foundational elements.

Peter H said the reporting requirement will help show more ROI.

Jeff B moved to accept the committee's report on the LIO Manual; second by Kelly F. Approved.

**Legislative Committee** (Jodi Helgeson, Fred Iausly, Cathy DeLain and Joyce Fiacco).

Jodi H reported that not much was going on at this time other than the budget debate. Contribution-based grants are already in statute as are base-budget grants. The budget cycle will be tough but it is important to stay involved. She stated that the legislative reception was scheduled that evening noting some RSVP's had been received. Look at it as a good opportunity to talk about your successes and educate legislators or those representing them.

Kelly F- lots of people in town; WLIA had received a lot of responses even though many couldn't attend. It is important to keep communication open with your legislative representatives.

Fred I- noted that both houses are currently in session. He emphasized the importance of communicating with other LIOs; share anything that you feel will affect us (LION). This will help avoid any knee-jerk reactions- better to be proactive than reactive.

Jeff B suggested that Mike and Peter talk to Mike Huebsch, DOA Secretary, who Jeff considers to be a friend of land records coming from LaCrosse County.

## **10. Feedback on Timing of Grant Distribution - 2010 WROC (Peter)**

Peter requested feedback on LIO/county satisfaction regarding timing of the release of base-budget grant funding for those counties involved. He requested comments be emailed to him. This is a separate issue from that of overall satisfaction with WROC process and products which should also be discussed and reviewed at some point.

- 11. Election of Officers.** Mary Jean opened the floor for nominations:
- Chair Elect:** Nominations from the floor were accepted. Martin Goettl was nominated (Jeff DuMez) but declined the nomination. Jeff DuMez was nominated (Joyce Fiacco/Fred Iausly). Voice vote was unanimous. **Jeff DuMez**, Brown County, will serve as Chair-Elect.
- Secretary:** Nominations from the floor were accepted. Jeff Hartman was nominated (Jason Grueneberg/Kelly Felton). Voice vote was unanimous. **Jeff Hartman**, Portage County, will serve a 2-year term as Secretary.
- LIO-at-Large:** Nominations from the floor were accepted. Eric Damkot was nominated. Voice vote was unanimous. **Eric Damkot**, Washington County, will serve a 2-year term as LIO-at-Large.
- LIO-at-Large:** As Jeff DuMez was elected Chair-Elect, the second year of his 2-year term as LIO-at-Large was vacated. Nominations from the floor were accepted. Sally Reedy was nominated. Voice vote was unanimous. **Sally Reedy**, Shawno County, will serve a one-year term as LIO-at-Large, fulfilling Jeff's term.
- Other current officers:**
- Chair:** Fred Iausly  
**Past Chair:** Mary Jean Ritchie

**12. Any Other Business.**

It was announced that Gregg Moore had resigned his position on WIGICC and a call for nominations to fill this spot to the end of September 2011 would be forthcoming.

Mike Romportl asked about the status of the statewide parcel data set called for by the GIO and DOR. No one had any information on this. DOR wants electronic data not hardcopy paper info. Mary Jean said the LION Board would look into this. Mike Friis said he would follow up with Curt Pulford on progress.

Jim Lacy (SCO) announced that the SCO had been awarded a \$40,000 grant to study a statewide orthophotography project. They will look at all models including SWRPC and WROC to evaluate and develop a statewide program in the future; will see what works and what doesn't work. It would not be a state run program. Looking to 2015. Input from LION and others is being sought. Fred Iausly and Kelly Felton volunteered to represent LION in this effort. Jim anticipates a September 2011 kickoff.

**13. Next Meeting Date.**

Next meeting will be in LaCrosse May 17 or 18, 2011 with an exact date/time for the LION annual meeting TBA.

**14. Motion to Adjourn.**

Kelly Felton moved to adjourn the meeting;  
Second by Jeff DuMez;  
Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 9:17 AM.

Notes taken and draft Minutes submitted by:  
Joyce Fiacco, outgoing LION Secretary