LION

The Wisconsin Land Information Officers Network

WLION Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 8th, 2026, 9:00 am (VIRTUAL)
Teams: https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/38e11303-7f3f-4962-874a-5bcede59fcb3@c52c9747-1558-4fe7-bd74-7f944c2977af

In Attendance (Name / Organization):

6*******35	Jon Arndt, Outagamie County
7*******09	Kayla Littleton, Forest County
Adam Dorn, Winnebago County	Kevin Bruhn, Milwaukee County
Adam Wright, La Crosse County	Kevin Etherton, Pierce County
Alex Krebs, DMA	Kimberly Christman, Racine County
Andy Hess, Calumet County	Kimberly Meinert, Waukesha County
April Riley, Jackson County	Lee Theobald, Washburn County
Ashley McDonald, Lafayette County	Lucy Hentzen, Monroe County
Brad Bastian, Outagamie County	Matt Randerson, Manitowoc County
Brittany Rickey, Dunn County	Matt Sumnicht, Langlade County
Carmen Novak, Bayfield County	Megan Stalker, Marquette County
Catlon Phelps, Barron County	Michael Friis, DOA
Chris Colney, Lafayette County	Michelle Schultz, Rock County
Cindy Wisinski, Portage County	Monique Hassman, Vernon County
Cody Brommerich, Jackson County	Naga Vunnam, Sheboygan County
Colter Sikora, PSC	Nathan Sennett, Lincoln County
Dale Drayna, Walworth County	Nick Gamroth, Trempealeau County
David Poffinbarger, Oconto County	Nicole Hoeppner, Dodge County
David Vogel, SCO	Nik Anderson, Ayres
Davita Veselenak, DOA	Norm Bushor, Lincoln County
Doug Avoles, St. Croix County	Patricia Pendleton, Kenosha County
Eric Damkot, Washington County	Peter Herreid, DOA
Gerald Stanuch, Green Lake County	Preston Vande Voort, Marathon County
Jacqueline Schneider, Buffalo County	Rachel Wells, Dunn County
Jason Towne, Burnett County	Robert Sommers, Green County
Jeff Erwin, Ozaukee County	Robin Haasis, Douglas County
Jim Lacy, SCO	Rod Sutter, Portage County
Joe Martell, Shawano County	Ryan Squires, LTSB
John Grams, Columbia County	Sara Chiamulera, Oneida County

Stephanie Sattler, Waushara County	Zach Robinson, LTSB
Suman Sirivella, Portage County	Zachary Hassler, DMA
Tammy Malach, Kewaunee County	Zakry Schwartz, Door County
Tatum Fehrenbach, Sauk County	
Tracy Klatt, Polk County	
Zach Felling, Eau Claire County	

1. Call to Order – Andy Hess called the meeting to order.

2. Approve Agenda – Motion by Dorn to approve agenda with amended order (legislative update moved to before DOA update); second by Chiamulera; motion carried.

3. Introduction of any new LIOs – Lee Theobald, Washburn County, Jeff Erwin, Ozaukee County, Adam Dorn, Winnebago County, Lucy Hentsen, Monroe County, Doug Avoles, St. Croix County, Naga Vunnam, Sheboygan County, and per 'Chat'; Tatum Fehrenbach, Sauk County. Welcome.

4. Approve Minutes from 5/19/2026 – Motion by Sommers to approve May 19, 2026 minutes; second by Wells; motion carried.

5. LION Board Activity Report – Andy Hess. Notification of report was sent out, and is posted to the LION website. The report recounts what the Board has worked on since May. A workshop for new LIOs is planned for the 2027 WLIA Annual Conference.

6. Discussion Items –

a. ADA Compliance Hub Site

Andy Hess. Built hub site with general info, some info was obtained from people specializing in ADA compliance at ESRI. Features accessibility success stories. Meeting included brief demo of the hub site; link was shared; https://wlion-ada-calumet.hub.arcgis.com. If possible, please share writeups/stories that can be added to the site.

b. WLION Document Storage

Andy Hess. WLIA Google Drive solution in place; signed a memorandum of understanding in July. LION board members have slightly more access than the public.

c. WLTA Cyber Security Meetings

Adam Dorn. Wisconsin Land Title Association has had concerns about security issues around the state, specifically at deeds offices. Started a task force which has met several times. Dorn has participated as LION's representative. Others from WLIA and WRDA have also attended. Last meeting was in September. Broadly looked at scope. Assembly District 63 representative (Milwaukee/Racine area) presented how legislation could potentially work, the challenges. Upcoming elections leave plenty of unknowns. Other presenters; State Chief Cybersecurity Officer from State Division of Enterprise Technology, Legislative advisor for DOA, and a representative with/for Waukesha County. A challenging issue, not likely to solve all at once. Numerous conversations/questions at the task force meetings. For example, how do entities operate when documents are not online? Solution could involve mandates for certain security

standards at the local level, as well as match funding (from the state). Solutions with a single source of funding would likely not be successful long term.
Nik Anderson. Scope? Changed from complete countywide IT infrastructure to more narrow Register of Deeds focus. Funding source? Register of Deeds documents crucial, however, so are other land information databases, GIS parcels. Looking at how we prevent/stop attacks, but also how we get back online after an attack. A complete solution requires so much change it probably is not palatable to anyone in one legislative session. Likely needs to be an incremental approach. Work in progress.

d. GIO Role in Land Information Community

Andy Hess. WLIC asked LION board for input concerning new GIO and WLIP Plan update. In response, board sent a letter to full membership, DOA and WLIC. Desire a unified strategic plan at the state level. Recommending a series of statewide strategic visioning sessions led by a neutral professional facilitator. We might ultimately see new/more benchmarks. LION board has discussed conducting statewide virtual meetings; to review funding needs, expanded benchmarks, opportunities for new efficiencies, and ways to help smaller counties.

e. WLIP Plan

John Grams. WLIC is reviewing the program plan 2016-2021. This is an update, not a rewrite. Want to highlight the successes occurring over the past decade. Also updating dates, current goals, revising budgets, program development. Will be discussing further at WLIC meeting next week.

f. 2027 NG911 Grant

Andy Hess. FY2027 app deadline is December 15. New grant management software, 'Good Grants'. Two tracks, as with 2026. A statewide meeting on Monday went over the grant and two tracks, in detail.

7. Legislative Updates, Nik Anderson and Nick Gamroth – Data security task force/effort with WLTA was discussed earlier in the meeting. Nick Gamroth is currently at the Registers of Deeds conference, giving an update on BFI legislation that was put on hold. The state BFI group has been working hard this summer, strategizing how to move things forward. Holding until after the November elections, hoping legislation is introduced next session. The group completed the 'DOR prescribed form', an attachment to the BFI recordable document. Identifies the buildings, fixtures, and improvements. Should provide satisfactory information for recording and tax parcel creation. The next task will be looking at how we geospatially represent these parcels. Point, polygon, or combination. The expectation is the mapping solution will be coordinated with DOA (regarding the annual parcels submission requirements). Some BFI mapping examples are available from the state of Iowa. Planning to have a session on legislative discussions at the Annual Conference in February. AI will be a focus. 1.5 hours long with three segments. The first segment will be an intro to the legislative process/cycle. The other two may be more about particular/current legislative topics (in depth).

8. DOA Update, Peter Herreid – 2027 WLIP grants application has been released, due December 31. If you have not received it yet, contact Peter Herreid. SI grant improved to $40,000. Recording levels up slightly the past two years. Successful with 3DEP grant in Green Bay/Northeast Wisconsin area. Waiting on release of 2027 3DEP grant application (by USGS). Normally released mid-August, still waiting. A number of counties interested, will be in contact.

Jim Lacy with SCO has been contacting counties about opportunity to make imagery and LiDAR available to the public (a solution free to the county). Participation encouraged.

9. WLIC Update, John Grams – As mentioned earlier, minor updates to WLIP Plan, the last one was circa 2014. A thank you letter was sent back to LION for LION's letter titled, 'LION Strategic Land Records Feedback'. Timeline for GIO job description rewrite not yet established.

10. DMA/OEC Update, Zach Hassler – Presented prepared slides. Tremendous progress demonstrated in comparison of map from 2023 to map from 2026, and other charts/graphs. Significant data coverage and quality around the state. 97% reduction in critical errors in the past year. 180 million features across the state (this number is not counting the City of Milwaukee). Next focus is ALI to RCL synchronization in preparation for setting up location information servers, LIS. Quarterly ALI extracts to GeoComm GIS Data Hub having some issues, but will be worked out soon. FY2027 grant will feature bonus dollars opportunity for meeting targeted ALI to GIS synchronization rates. Seeing improvement already. In March, only 10 counties at 95% +. Today, 16 counties at 95% +. Interstate cooperation- OEC featuring a Minnesota border edge-matching portal. First goal is a functional border, not necessarily a survey-grade determination (at this point). Have been working closely with Illinois from the beginning. Have had some discussions with Iowa and Michigan, but those efforts have not been given the same priority. These other states will be prioritized after border discrepancies with Minnesota are resolved.

11. LTSB Update, Zach Robinson –

a. Thank you for the July submission

LTSB is non-partisan agency. July collection went well. As always, please provide comments and suggestions; ways to improve or make the collection less burdensome.

b. BAS Collection coming up January 2027

January 2027 is next BAS wards collection; https://gis-ltsb.hub.arcgis.com/pages/bas-data-collection. An initial version of the census blocks (based on the January 2026 wards submission) has been published. Please take a look, link provided. YouTube training videos/materials were also shared in the 'Chat';
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAIbQk2x3kA,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3QGSZN2sR0.

i. Shoreline blocks – Planning to submit a shoreline boundary for Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, and Lake Winnebago to help the Census Bureau identify water census blocks;
https://ltsb.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=450a9870c61849f2b2edbe373e95918c#overview.

c. 2030 Census RDP Phase 1 Verification

Portion 1 of Phase 1 of redistricting data program concluded in May (census blocks). Portion 2 of Phase 1 will run January 2027 through May 2027. Municipalities and other GIS staff are invited to assist in this process. 2030 redistricting outreach to other organizations already underway; WCA, WTA, League of Wisconsin Municipalities, others.

12. SCO Update, SCO Staff – Jim Lacy. The past six months SCO has requested counties share imagery from the 2023-2025 timeframe. The goal is to make it available to the general public, researchers, and private industry (on a consistent basis), and to make it easier on counties since the data is resource intensive. 65 counties participating so far. A few have policies for cost recovery prohibiting this. Cataloging is part of SCO's mission. Making data available is sometimes interpreted as part of cataloging. The imagery/LiDAR hosting is a joint effort with Robinson Map Library and Jaime Martindale. GeoData: https://geodata.wisc.edu/?f%5Bdct_isPartOf_sm%5D%5B%5D=Aerial+Imagery.
David Vogel. 8th Edition of statewide PLSS to be released at the end of October. It benefits from a new method for the creation of quarter and quarter quarter section polygons. Regarding the annual parcels submission, ArcPro/arcpy tools available (moving away from open source versions). Datum transformation issue observed for a few counties. Cannot always use the default transformation. Will advise via parcels submission documentation. NSRS2022 finally coming next year (2027). WSRS2022 Task Force starting up again; https://www.sco.wisc.edu/community/wsrs2022/. Looking at education, legislation, and implementation. NGS is offering educational webinars and a website with beta versions of transformation tools (one can test).

13. SAGIC Update, Alex Krebs – With WEM; several natural disasters in Wisconsin this past year. At SAGIC looking at different AI use policies at state agencies. ESRI and other software inserting AI tools. State boundary task force continues to meet. Third annual SAGIC symposium was yesterday October 7; about 80 attendees including virtual attendees. Shout out and thank you to Adam Dorn for organizing local effort in response to Menasha tornado. LIOs are encouraged to work with their county emergency managers, but also, to reach out to Alex Krebs if you have questions! The statewide WEM damage assessment survey helps expedite disaster declaration and the request for FEMA dollars. About 20 counties have participated the past few years.

14. Good of the Order – Please email comments/feedback on the format of the meeting to Andy Hess.
John Grams. Concerned about lack of guidance on ADA compliance. Thousands of tie sheets and plats of survey online. PDF/alt text requirements? Take down until compliant?
Andy Hess. Tools exist to auto-convert PDFs and HTML documents, but not going to work well with scanned drawings.
Peter Herreid. Archived web content/historical (label at the top of the website)? Possibly do not have to redo/convert documents going back decades. Brief discussion ensued about when documents are considered valid/relevant (and when the ADA compliance standards apply). Interpretation involved. Review with your corporation counsel.
Mike Friis. Retiring in early 2027. Thanks all. Mike Friis and a couple others complimented the meeting format.

15. Adjourn – Motion by Dorn; second by Damkot; motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Rob Sommers, LION Secretary. These minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval/modification by the Land Information Officers Network.