

NOAA, National Geodetic Survey
HEIGHT MODERNIZATION COORDINATION MEETING
DRAFT NOTES
SSMC3, Room 8836

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2014

Time: **2:00-3:30 pm East Coast time**

Attendees:

Call-ins: CA (Scott Martin); IL (Sheena Beaverson, Mike Blumhoff) KY (Wolfgang Ziegler); NC (Dave Zilkoski); NGS (Vicki Veilleaux, Dan Callahan); NWS (Victor Hom); TX (Jill Savory); WI (Jacob Rockweiler, Matt Johnson, Dave Moyer)

Silver Spring: NGS (Christine Gallagher, Brett Howe, Monica Youngman, Philippe Hensel, Joe Evjen, Galen Scott, Steve Vogel, Ross Mackay, Tim Hanson, Vicki Childers); CO-OPS (Michael Michalski, Tom Landon)

Advisors/Coordinators: Pam Fromhertz (CO), John Ellingson (IL), Dave Rigney (MI), Mark Armstrong (OR), Cliff Middleton (TX), Dan Prouty (TX), Dan Martin (VT)

Note:

It is NGS' habit to only capture names of attendees who speak up at the initial roll call or during the meeting. We respect those who may wish to attend anonymously, but note that 46 people attended the meeting remotely. If you want your name captured in the recorded notes, and you do not see it listed here, email Christine.Gallagher@noaa.gov, or ngs.htmod@noaa.gov.

1. NGS/CO-OPS Updates – e.g. projects, outreach

- **NGS national meetings (Howe):** NGS plans to host a Geospatial Summit in 2015, and plans for it to be held in conjunction with NSPS and MAPPS conferences in the spring. It will be sometime between April 13-17 at the Hilton in Crystal City, VA. We are exploring having a Height Mod partner event, in lieu of an additional national partner meeting just a few weeks later at another location. More details are expected in the next few weeks and will be shared ASAP.
- **GSVS 2014 (Evjen):** NGS has nearly completed its second in a series of geoid slope validation surveys. Work is wrapping up in Iowa and preliminary results are promising. The next location will be very challenging at a high elevation with varied topography. Locations conducive to a long, straight survey project are welcome.
- **Gulf project (Landon, Prouty):** Work being led by the Conrad Blucher Institute has recently installed CORS at NWLON stations in FL. It is planned for more CORS to be established moving west (in LA, AL, and MS) next year.

2. Updates from States – e.g. projects, outreach

- **Great Lakes (Beaverson) –** After a successful Great Lakes meeting in September, Great Lakes representatives were invited to speak at the NSPS Governors meeting. The talk,

given by Sheena Beaverson, focused on survey monument recovery reporting and was very well received. Sheena asked states to share any slides or map with state-level mark recovery or destroyed mark information with her. Her talk could be shared on one of the monthly calls, as well.

- **Western Region (Martin)** – Monthly meeting included a presentation from Dan Gillins (Oregon State University) on a research project to support the update of NGS 58-59. The regional membership is over 40 and going strong.

3. Monthly presentation

Presentation to start at approximately 2:15 PM:

“San Francisco- One in a Million”

Michael McGee, McGee Surveying Consulting

The presentation will discuss the mechanics of establishing a high precision GNSS geometric (3D) network and a vertical control network for the purpose of supporting planning, development, the GIS and to serve as a deformation network. One of the main purposes of this project is to develop specifications and procedures to obtain sub-centimeter orthometric heights in the City utilizing GNSS technology to replace differential leveling.

Speaker Bio: Michael McGee is a California licensed Professional Land Surveyor (1971), holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Surveying Engineering from CSUF (1990) and served as State President of the California Land Surveyors Association (1985). He is the owner of McGee Surveying Consulting in Santa Barbara concentrating as a GNSS Specialist and Consultant for the last 24 years providing GNSS Training, Project Coordination, Quality Assurance-Quality Control Surveys, and Expert Witness Services to surveying firms and public agencies. He has two decades of experience developing and utilizing GPS for sub-centimeter orthometric leveling. His geodetic experience includes the establishment of horizontal and vertical control networks for numerous cities in California, six of the Hawaiian Islands for Dewberry (FEMA) tsunami studies, the San Francisco Bay and the California coastline sea level rise studies for Dewberry (USGS and NOAA), and recently a High Precision Geometric and Leveling Network for the City and County of San Francisco.

4. Other Business

- Question: Are FAA and USNO representatives involved in Height Mod efforts?
 - Answer: Specifically to this meeting, they may not be currently invited, but we'd be happy to welcome them to join the meeting.
- December meeting is canceled.

Important Links: Previous months' meeting notes and a list of future meeting presentations can be found at: <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/heightmod/MeetingNotes.shtml>

Next meeting: January 8, 2015

Guest Presentation: TBA

Recent Events

September 13-21, Longmont, CO- NACAG14 –North American Comparison of Absolute Gravimeters

September 16-17, Sparta, WI- Great Lakes Region Height Modernization Consortium fall meeting

September 22-26, Grand Junction, CO- GeCo in the Rockies

Oct 13-17, Lynnwood, WA- 28th Annual NWGIS Conference

Oct 16-17, Mason, OH- 2014 PLSO Fall Seminar

Oct 28-29, Columbus, OH-Ohio Transportation Engineering Conference (OTEC)

Nov 3-7, Washington, DC – Restore America’s Estuaries

Upcoming Events

Dec 4-5, Concord, NH- NHLA Annual Conference

Dec 15-19, San Francisco, CA – American Geophysical Union

Jan 21-23, Verona, NY-NYSAPLS Annual Conference

Feb 17-20, Sault Ste. Marie, MI-Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors 74th Annual Conference