

NOAA, National Geodetic Survey
HEIGHT MODERNIZATION COORDINATION MEETING
Meeting Notes – February 14, 2008

In attendance:

- call-ins from: AL(John Russell), CA(John Canas, Maria Turingan), CO (Dan Smith), IL(Amy Eller), IL(Beverly Herzog), LA(Roy Dokka), MN(Andy Semenchek), MS(David Mooneyhan), NC (Jerry Nave, Gary Thompson), NM (Garry Nielson), SC(Matt Wellslager), TX(Gary Jeffress), WI(Nate Czeck), WA(Gwen Roy, Frank Fischer)
- in Silver Spring and other NGS, Renee Shields, Sonita Tiwari, Lucy Hall, advisors from attending states (SC, MS, CO, ID/MT, NE, HI, IL, MN, CA, WI, NM)

Special Report: No guest speaker this month

Availability of a guest speaker and general attendance were low this month due to conflicts caused when 2 other meetings were scheduled at the same time.

Program Developments

Grants

- Request for Applications (RFA) is being prepared for the 3 earmark states and will be posted in Grants.gov. The deadline for the applications, it was decided, would be Monday, February 25. This gives maximum time for the applicants to complete their submission while still getting them into the office in time for the review panel coming to NGS in Silver Spring to do the reviews February 25-27.

Outreach – website, publications

- Renee has posted notes on the meeting current HM partners had with NOAA Administrator VADM Lautenbacher on the News page of the web site, including the presentation made to the Admiral.

Events – meetings, workshops

- Feb 20-22, Virginia Beach, NGS Convocation
- Mar 4-9, Spokane, WA – ACSM; 4 hour HM workshop, reports at Gov't Affairs Committee Mtg and National Assoc. of County Surveyors Mtg.
- Apr 8-9, Mobile, AL – Height Mod forum and Regional forum/mtg
- Apr 16-18, Corpus Christi, TX – Subsidence Workshop
- May 2, 9, Orleans and San Jose, CA - 2 Real Time Symposiums
- May 8, San Jose, CA - CSRC Semi-annual meeting
- May 2, Wichita, KS – Regional forum
- June, Greensboro – Real Time Workshop
- June 6-9, WVGPS – HM workshop (unconfirmed)
- August 25-29, Cayman Islands – URISA Conference
- Oct 7-10, New Orleans, LA – URISA Conference

Software developments

- Texas HM Level Tool is under development at TAMUCC. The link is available from their web page, accessible through the NGS HM web site TX state page, or go directly there at <http://meridian.tamucc.edu/THM/HomePage> . TAMUCC has acquired the Topcon level and is trying to work with the manufacturer to get the codes identified to incorporate in the software. They still need to get a Trimble level.
- NGS is building a web page that will be on the intranet where status reports and prototypes for applications will be posted for NGS to test. Some facets of this will probably go on to be a similar site for the public to view. Documents and applications posted to this page will include the fill-able form that will be part of the Bench Mark Reset Guidelines and the applications that will be pieces of the “OPUS Leveling” process.

Specifications and Guidelines

- Bench Mark Reset Guidelines available online, from NGS web site.

Other Business

- Dave Minkel requested a written policy explaining the limitations of how grant funds can support real time networks. Renee said she would work on this.
- The next monthly phone conference will be Thursday, March 13, 2008, 2:00-3:30 ET
- Renee welcomes suggestions for topics for future presentation or in depth discussion. Currently planned is Galen Scott to report on his Coastal Program at NGS.
- Dave Zenk mentioned it would be good to have a system for tracking projects online. Renee checked with Maralyn after the meeting. Maralyn confirmed there is online tracking on the intranet for GPS projects, but nothing planned yet for leveling.
- Dave Zenk also mentioned the gravity section of the Blue Book is out of date.