

**NOAA, National Geodetic Survey
HEIGHT MODERNIZATION COORDINATION MEETING
Draft Meeting Notes – July 10, 2008**

In attendance:

- **call-ins from: CA (Marie Turingan), FL (Horace Roberts), GA (Jeff Little), ID (Rayce Ruiz), IL (Beverly Herzog, Amy Eller), KY (Wolfgang Ziegler), MI (Andrew Semenchuk), NC (Gary Thompson), NE (Jim Langtry), NM (Earl Burkholder, Garry Nielsen), TX (Garey Gilley, Dan Prouty), WA (Dave Steele); WI (Dave Moyer).**

- **in Silver Spring and other NGS, Renee Shields, Gilbert Mitchell, Ronnie Taylor, Lucy Hall, Bill Henning, Galen Scott, Sonita Tiwari, Vicki Veilleux,**

- **Advisors/Coordinators: John Ellingson (WI), Jim Harrington (AL), Scott Lokken (NC), Cliff Middleton (TX), Dave Minkel (AZ), Donald Mulcare (TX), Warren Payton (NJ), Daniel Pratte (MO), Dave Rigney (MI), Monroe Rivers (KS), Bill Stone (NM), Dave Zenk (MN).**

Grants

The first item was the status of grants. Ms. Sonita Tiwari reported that there are four grants in work with the remaining to be done before the end of August 2008.

A FFO linked to the June Omnibus is scheduled to be out by 11 July 2008 (originally scheduled for release by 30 June). Check the NGS site and GRANTS.GOV for possible updates. A Letter of Intent (LOI) in response to the FFO must be submitted by 1 August. The final proposal under the FFO is due 2 September 2008 through GRANTS.GOV. Funding is for FY 2009.

It is possible to search the GRANTS.GOV website for height modernization funding opportunities by using the search tool on the site. The relevant search number is CSDA 11.400 NGS will review submitted LOIs and evaluate how proposed projects serve the NGS Height Modernization Program (HMP).

Renee stated that funding for HMP "FY 2009 not looking good...." No idea at this time of the budget amount.

Outreach, Education, Capacity Building

- Website

Vicki Veilleux of NGS is updating the HMP web page. LA pages are being worked on. Problems related to the posting of the 2006 LA project to the NGS database are being resolved. The NGS database has been undergoing problems recently and crashed yesterday. It is back on line "new and improved" and restored from backups.

The new NGS Technical Memorandum dealing with orthometric height determination by GPS is undergoing high level review prior to official release. The review is at the NOS level.

Bill Henning RTN Lead mentioned his continuing efforts to meet with users and to participate in cooperative standards development. He is working with FIG among others.

- Publications

No available information at this time.

- Events

Forthcoming events include a two-day meeting in Miami with NOAA program offices and Height Modernization partners. It is scheduled for 18-19 September with the second day the "partners" meeting. NGS will be providing "invitational travel orders" for ONE (1) person at each partner organization. Others can attend using their own funds.

A Upper Midwest regional meeting is scheduled for 24-25 Sept in Madison, WI. It will include technical and administration meetings. Dave Zenk will try to setup an Iowa Great Lake meeting for Friday, September 26.

Mr. Denis Riordan (not attending) was reported to be working with NOAA CO-OPS to hold a meeting on determining orthometric heights at tide gauges. It is to also take place during September. The date may be shifted due to the other September events mentioned above. No more details available.

July 16th - Florida Statewide Vertical Meeting in Live Oak, Florida. Ronnie Taylor will be presenting a talk about GRAV-D.

July 28th and 29th - Geodetic Leveling workshop in Greenboro, North Carolina.

August 20th – 24th - Florida Survey and Mapping annual conference. Ronnie Taylor will be attending and presenting a talk about GRAV-D.

Sept 18th & 19th, 2008 - Height Modernization Workshop in Greensboro, NC

Projects, Procedures, Software Developments

NGS HQ staff are working to retrieve data for use in creating a new geoid model. This new model should be available before the end of the year. Unfortunately, OPUS-DB data will not be included. The Louisiana project mentioned above should; our TCOON project will not.

V DATUM efforts will shift to the Gulf Coast next. No date or specific locations were known. The possibility of a meeting to discuss how local agencies can help expedite the creation of the data sets needed for V DATUM was discussed with no decision.

The Corps of Engineers and NGS are discussing height validations. No details at this time.

FEMA and NGS are discussing height validation. No details at this time. Mr. Ronnie Taylor indicates that FEMA may consider funding level projects in the future (in a year or so). This is neither a definite decision nor a definite timeframe.

Other Business

Next meeting on 14 August.

Don Mulcare asked Renee whether an "official notification" of a grant award is made. An e-mail notice is sent. You should contact Grants.Online to determine who is the designated contact person who will be notified in each state.