

Tri-County Council GIS Committee Meeting
October 9, 2019
Tri-County Council Building – Somerset Room

The following were in attendance representing their respective county, organization or municipality: Tess Wimbrow, Worcester County; Kelly Henry, Worcester County; Mark Dunlevy, Worcester County; Carl Flint, Salisbury; Grace Makom, Salisbury; Adam Phipps-Dickerson, Wicomico; Anastassiva Suprunova, ESRGC; Logan Hall, ESRGC; Ryan Mello, ESRGC; Devon Kramer, ESRGC; Tim Lanzi, ESRGC; Brett Dobelstein, ESRGC; Brenda Howard, Tri-County Council, Lower Eastern Shore; Greg Padgham, Tri-County Council, Lower Eastern Shore; Erin Silva, ESRGC; Mary Buffington, ESRGC; Peter Bozick, GMB Architects/Engineers; Lauren McDermott, ESRGC

The meeting was called to order by Lauren McDermott at 9:30, and initiated introductions around the room.

Attendee Reports:

Wicomico Co

New server purchased to go live next week 10-7-1. Expanding web presence and extensive remodel of offices. Next Gen 911 set up still in process. Bi-weekly calls still in process, and 2020 completion probably not realistic. New intern hired by ESRGC and Emily Barrett to start tomorrow.

Salisbury

ESRGC completed Wicomico housing study and now looking at how to present data to the public. Wico Co Emergency services and Fire Department looking at better way to allocate resources.

Point location of mutual aid stations totaling thirty-seven routes serving Wicomico County. Use GIS to determine which mutual aid station is closest to any given address to allow for quicker response when needed.

Delmarva Index will integrate housing study information; Salisbury has aggregated their results to neighborhood level.

Worcester:

Upgraded server from 10-5 to 10-7.

ESRGC – desktop application fine, but server had problems. Sequential upgrade from 10.2 to 10.5 and then 10.7. 10.7 has statistic logs that can analyze who is using services and how long, where old system could not.

LUCA information sent back to census. New SOA in Co who is being updated on GIS resources available.

Erin Silva answered Worcester County's question by explaining the Delmarva Index. Discussed incorporating local crime data if available. Currently using national data as easily available so far.

Poultry house analysis is from aerial imagery as opposed to site visits. Worcester may have more data to share with ESRGC. Images now brighter and easier to view. QC done by 10/15 and by November error analysis with mid-December rollout.

Greg Padgham added that the Delmarva Index website is clean with simple architecture and room to grow. Phase II began in FY20, and plans are to continue to expand services and to be marketed as a resource to the Tri-County Council Board again this year.

ESRGC completed Wicomico housing study and is now looking at how to present data to the public. Wicomico County Emergency Services and Fire Department are looking at better way to allocate resources. Point location of mutual aid stations totaling thirty-seven routes serving Wicomico County. The goal is to use GIS to determine which mutual aid station is closest to any given address to allow for quicker response when needed.

Delmarva Index will integrate housing study information; Salisbury has aggregated their results to neighborhood level

Info for local ISP providers on Maryland Broadband map.

GMB:

Peter Bozick from GMB Architects/Engineers introduced himself to the group. GMB is a private engineering firm offering services for water/ sewer, and commercial architecture. The firm now has a GIS person on staff. Looking for synergies to help improve consulting service. Used GIS data this summer for project answering question for Wicomico County. How do they provide water and sewer to all the people in Wicomico Co., including those with private wells and onsite septic systems? Hired GMB to do a master water and sewer plan looking out 50 to 100 years. Another question they are working to answer - When will people with onsite systems need to be included in a master network? They are looking at areas outside of municipalities and asking municipalities if they want to serve them or the county? Looking 50 to 100 years out due to investment in building water system. Septic systems over thirty years old will need to be integrated. Currently two acre lots are needed to correctly disburse household septic waste in order to allow nutrients to be absorbed before entering the waterways. Large portion of the county designated as rural preservation area that will not be able to allot that space.

Rural villages often have their own post offices ie, Eden, Allen, Tyaskin. These villages often have the older systems with the smaller lots. These will need to be targeted for small treatment facilities to serve those aging systems. GIS data was very helpful to make maps and capture data relative to existing homes in those areas. If fully developed to current zoning 35,000 in county 17,000 connected 11 million gallons of sewage. Trailer parks may have community packages. Can increase to 23 million gallons per day. Wastewater need to be treated to have nitrogen removed and have smaller amount discharged to an adjacent river. GIS helped a lot. City had water sewer maps. Sewer systems need to be available to

everyone inside of bypass, but also need to reach out to Jersey Road area with old septics and small lots. They will need central sewers as well. Question to answer: What is the best most practical engineering to serve these outlying areas, and who should serve them, the county or the municipalities?

The focus is to protect three major concerns:

1. Public Health
2. Environment
3. Costs to citizens

Take advantage of the capacity of Wicomico. Not trying to take over everyone's water sewer, but what is best way to meet growing needs. Need municipalities to figure out how to reduce storm water runoff. Reduce impervious areas to allow absorption. New person to be hired with GIS environmental background. Would like to form partnerships.

Lauren McDermott explained ESRGC has been involved with water sewer studies before and referenced a project with the Town of Fruitland back to 2002. She explained the newly funded ESRGC Circuit Rider position has been created which will allow trained GIS staff who can reach out and assist municipalities in collecting data for GMB.

Greg Padgham advised there is a Water and Sewer Stakeholders meeting on November 13, 2019.

Mr. Bozick introduced the concept of providing drinking water, storm water management and sewer treatment in an integrated way in a watershed area in a manner focused on the greater good. GMB is working to provide the plan for Wicomico within the next year.

Nanticoke, Bivale, and Tyaskin are all affected by Critical Areas, are experiencing ground water level rising, and septics failing. Ground water is at surface more and more and current logic to create more pervious surfaces will not fix that because ground water will come up through the pervious material.

ESRGC has sea level study that is publicly available. It is not currently in the Delmarva index, but could go there per Erin Silva.

ESRGC and is assisting Wicomico Public Works towards locate a new site for dredge materials from the Wicomico River. Mary Buffington advised ESRGC started a storm water study with City of Salisbury, noting locations and measurement of storm water systems.

Logan Hall advised the Circuit rider can help provide GIS support to townships without internal GIS support. Utilities a big issue. Simple uses to more complicated applications can be initiated.

Erin Sylva reported on Rural Stat, which is a study on behavioral risk factors for certain diseases focused on rural regions of Maryland. Power BI used to develop. Widen scope and capacity other than comparative dashboard to simplify access to data in a more regional focus.

Ryan Mello from ESRGC reported that Critical Area Remapping Project where they digitized Wicomico shoreline wetlands, two orphaned towns Sharptown and Fruitland ready to move forward. Worcester

shoreline and wetlands digitized and next for review. Somerset is digitized and being reviewed by County officials. Somerset added another person besides Adam to help move process along.

Tim Lanzi from ESRGC is working with Brett Dobelstein to keep Delmarva index moving forward.

Devon Kramer advised Cecil County uses static web map and not offering more than that. So ESRGC is working to fill in gaps in data sets that can integrate what would be their data.

National folk festival – surveyed 160 attendees collecting zipcode info to determine where did people attending travel from. 150,000 attended. Analysis as of last night 75% from within 30 miles, 50% within 10 miles, bump from 90 miles. 30 – 40 miles average radius.

Important dates:

October 18, 2019 - Maryland Society of Surveyor's conference in Ocean City, Logan and Mary doing training.

October 23 and 24, 2019 - Maryland Rural Edge Workshop for MSGIC members, five slots available

October 30, 2019 - MSGIC quarterly meeting in Crownsville – business meeting with Executive Committee elections announced.

Greg Padgham asked the group how can the Tri-County Council help bring more people to GIS meeting? Lauren has email list of attendees and populates their calendars as invites. Would it be beneficial to include nonprofits? private entities? Chambers of Commerce? County Administrators? Should we advertise the outcome of these meetings and send out to interested parties?

Group agreed that a meeting that includes GIS developers and economic developers would be hugely beneficial to more holistically interpret data and answer ED questions.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.