

MAGIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Jun 22, 2022 2:00- 3:30 pm

Topic: MAGIP BOD Meeting

Every month on the Third Tue, until Dec 20, 2022, 21 occurrence(s)

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Meeting recording

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-qVtC5DcG4>

Meeting start 10:22 AM

Meeting end 1:58 PM

Attendees:

Board Members:

Mike Powell (Chair)

Rob Ahl

Mike Eidum

Jeff Sprock

Nate Wold

Jeff Hedstrom

Eric Spangenberg

Aaron Vaughn

Guests:

Thomas Luksha (Local Gov't SIG Chair)

Introductions of New Members/New Roles:

Mike Eidum (Member Development), Mike Powell (New President), Jeff Sprock (New Vice-President). Other board members provided their introduction to the new members, where they work and what their board member role is.

Motion to approve May 17, 2022 BOD meeting minutes by Jeff Hedstrom. 2nd by Nate Wold. Passed unanimously.

New Business:

- Mike Powell explained that newly elected Conference Liaison, Haley Jurecki, sent in her resignation notice to the board, effective immediately. She stated that her new professional job opportunity would limit her ability to the point where she doesn't feel

confident in carrying out her duties. The board reached out to the runner-up, Brenden Wiltshire, who also cannot take on the position due to professional obligation conflicts.

- According to the by-laws, the board can appoint a replacement from the active membership. There will be a vacancy for the Conference Liaison in the interim.
- The board discussed any runners-up from the most recent election as potential recruits to the position. They plan to seek out interested individuals within the MAGIP membership body by broadcast email; Jeff said there may be potential interested parties from Bozeman City GIS.
- Jeff explained that finding Haley's replacement will be priority by next month.

MOTION to accept Haley's resignation and remove her as Conference Liaison by Jeff Hedstrom. 2nd by Jeff Sprock. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of potentially hiring a Communications Specialist

- Full Scope referred to the board a communications associate candidate, Alicia Smith from Full Scope.
- Michelle from Full Scope explained the candidate could design, create, and circulate a MAGIP newsletter, expand and manage social media, and be a backup with website content management and communication.
- Her pay is quoted at \$4,700 for a year with 8-10 hours a month (\$45/hr) according to Michelle.
- Nate added that the monthly MAGIP GIS highlights would be good to be communicated to the membership body by the new specialist.
- The title for the role was given: Communications Associate.
- Nate asked whether there would be someone who could feed her news updates and get her familiar with the content.
- Mike Eidum would take on that role and Jeff H. volunteered to help Mike come up with a communications plan together.
- The board discussed whether if she could attend meetings and whether that would affect her hourly rate. Michelle stressed the year cost for her services is at a fixed \$4,700.
- Jeff S. explained that a write-up of a job description should be made for this position.
- If contracted, Mike P. said it would be best to have her on for a year and decide afterward whether to continue the services.

Changing membership dues in light of hiring a Communications Associate.

- Individual dues were suggested to either be raised to \$40 or \$50 per year.
- Associate Membership dues were discussed as to what is a reasonable cost structure.
- Mike P. explained in the past, Associate Membership dues carried a range, 6-10 members for instance, where if an organization only had 6 members that it would cost more than if they just paid individually – but this would effectively be considered donated extra to support MAGIP.
- Jeff H. explained that when this was established, MAGIP held conferences every 2 years and did not have the revenue stream it has now.

- He suggested that removing the ranges and give a flat rate discount per member after a minimum member number is met (example, at least 4 members from the organization as a base package).
- Jason D., not present, wrote in that Associate members could get reduced conference rates or additional benefits such as the organization with an Associate Membership getting more exposure beyond having a spot on the MAGIP website. One suggestion was \$10 off annual GeoCon registration fees per member.
- Eric stressed going with either the \$40 or \$50 individual dues increase needs to be decided on.
- Nate showed the proposed budget pie graph showing 1.) no increase and no hiring of a communications person, 2.) a \$10 increase with specialist new hire, and 3.) a \$20 increase with a specialist hire – where the \$50 individual would create a \$1,580.89 net surplus, while a \$40 would yield a deficit of \$529, and lastly by doing nothing (including not hiring a Communications Associate) would create a net surplus of \$1,860.89.
- Mike said that, based on a suggestion from a poll response, upping the dues to \$50 for the individual, MAGIP could put that surplus into the scholarship allocation.
- Aaron asked about whether student fees would change.
- Mike wants to have all of the budget and membership dues change passed at July's meeting.

GeoCon 2023 Site Review

- In regards to Big Sky Geocon, Michelle said the Northern and Double Tree in Billings are comparable in price for the 2024 Geocon. But the Northern was determined to be a better fit as it was a bit nicer, more updated, provided free parking as well as being on one level.
- The Northern should have the dates available and have the government rate plus \$5 for rooms.
- Mike P. said that if members miss the hotel reservation deadline, or the block is filled, that the Best Western is near the Northern.
- Mike P. said there had already been a conference at the Double Tree in years past and a change a venue would be good.
- The Northern rep said that catering would be a \$9,200 minimum.
- Nate said the Zoom subscription was renewed and asked if Full Scope had it billed to them. Michelle said she would check. (Michelle was set to leave before the lunch break)
- At the July meeting hotel selection should be approved after polling the board memberships.

MARLS Partnership

- Jeff H. reached out to MARLS (Montana Association of Register Land Surveyors) members to look into increasing participation between the two organizations and expand the MAGIP voice towards local surveyors.
- Looking to investigate and communicate with their board of directors and potentially set up a MAGIP booth at their next conference.
- Jeff H. will reach out to former board member Dan Stahly to field some questions.

Red Lodge BOD Retreat

- The Pollard Hotel in Red Lodge was ultimately chosen for the board member retreat as the membership was split in their decision, according to Mike Powell.
- The retreat is set for the 14th and 15th of September.
- Mike P. said that this area was not heavily affected by recent flooding.
- Still waiting on Pollard reps to confirm reservation for the 14th and 15th.
- Mike P. said Jason may not be able to make it in-person.

Salary Survey

- Jeff H. should have everything finalized by July's meeting.
- The board will make an announcement to the membership body when the salary survey is available to view by membership login.
- New survey will be a deeper dive into the professional statistics of GIS professionals in Montana.

Local Government Special Interest Group – Tommy Luksha

- All is going well so far. He will have past minutes available and is scheduling for future training including Census, land survey topics ('How to Read a COS'), community planning GIS, and geo-enabled elections.
- Tommy is concerned about the amount of time spent as chair and is reaching out for help.
- Jeff H. suggested reaching out to Steve Jay who has helped the SIG in the past.
- Eric Spangenberg, who joined the Local Government SIG, estimated nearly 30 people showing up online.
- Jeff H. said the local SIG group has been great, the ones he's attended.
- Aaron said he is taking video minutes by time stamping the recording by topic.
- Jeff H. said he can assist posting the Local Government SIG agendas to the MAGIP site for members only viewing.
- Tommy demonstrated with a screen share the agendas, video locations, and meeting posts.
- Tommy said he leaves time for 'water cooler talk' for spontaneous conversation.

Treasurer's Report – Nate Wold

- Scholarship checks got sent out last month, one to U of M, the other to MSU.
- Nothing more to add outside of help with future budget as an overarching talk among board members.
- Mike Powell said he intends on doing more informal budget talks with Nate to get everything ready for July's budget finalization.

Scholarships and Grants – Rob Ahl

- Contacts at the universities were made for distribution of funds.

- Mike said with the proposed budget surplus, some of that money could be put into scholarships
- Rob agreed, yet said many organizations are difficult to take it on and teachers are often too busy to apply. Still working on making connections, may have lead in Polson.
- Aaron Vaughn suggested reaching school-sponsored extracurricular groups who may have volunteers with spare time. Rob agreed and said that is where efforts are being pushed toward and gave some examples of after-school club.
- Rob gave an example of a teacher who used a template for the grant application for extracurricular clubs that could be reused for future groups to fill in their theme and apply for the grant in subsequent years.

Member Development – Mike Eidum

- No new updates as it is Mike's first attendance being newly elected.
- Mike Powell said that Eidum could pick up the role as 'liaison' for the Communication Associate.
- Jeff H. suggested Mike E. talk with the Communications Associate in revisiting the 'Did You Know?' about MAGIP emails from the past, possibly to use in the newsletter.
- Jeff H. toured Mike E. through some of the pages on the MAGIP site that are geared toward members and assisting their needs. They included the 'Request for Assistance' page, a potential future job board, and contractor's list for work assistance.
- Rob Ahl asked whether the Communication Associate could help develop a job board.
- Jeff H. said he could help 'jump start' the page and later have it automated with assistance with Meghan Burns.

Technical Committee – Not Present

Web – Meghan not present

MLIAC – Eric Spangenberg

- Meeting last week was canceled so no new updates. No updates on reschedule.
- Next scheduled meeting is September 15th unless MLIA updates a July meeting.

Administration – Michelle not present

- Most of the details in new business. Michelle left meeting after first hour.

Motion to Adjourn by Nate Wold. 2nd Aaron Vaughn. Meeting closed at 1:58 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

MAGIP LOCAL GOVERNMENT SIG – 3rd Thursday of the month 2:00 PM

BOARD MEETING – Tuesday July 19, 2022 2:00 PM (Phone in)

BOARD MEETING – Tuesday Aug 16, 2022 2:00 PM (Phone in)

BOARD STRATEGIC PLANNING – September 14-15 (Wed-Thurs in Red Lodge at the Pollard Hotel)

***Resignation letter from Haley Jurecki to Jeff Hedstrom on June 21, 2021

Jeff,

After a conversation this morning with my current supervisor in my new position, I will not be able to fulfill my role on the MAGIP board.

*When I initially spoke with folks at *** about the commitments and responsibilities of this role, they were supportive and willing to be flexible with my schedule. However, while working through getting approval for this week's board meeting some details seemed to have shaken loose and I am no longer feeling the same support. (The most important detail being time allowed off for the conference itself.)*

As you may already be aware, when I initially decided to run for the board I had no intentions of leaving my position at the City of Helena. My previous supervisor was encouraging and ensured organizational support for travel budgets when necessary and time allowance for meetings. If this were still the case, I think I would've been very successful as a board member, especially as Conference Liaison. However, being a new employee with no PTO banked or financial/travel assistance provided, I just don't see how I could responsibly keep up with this role on top of my existing commitments.

I realize that this decision impacts you and the rest of the board, and I do genuinely apologize for the inconvenience.

*I left a voicemail for you on your work phone but you might already be on your way to Billings. Feel free to give me a call on my personal cell if you'd like to discuss further. (***) ***_*****

Thank you,
Haley