

SW MN GIS Users Group

10 am April 16, 2008

Southwest Minnesota State University-GIS Center in Marshall

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Ardis Hotzler – Jackson Co	Charlie Kost – SMSU
Ryan Wendt – Lyon Co	Mark Volz – Lyon Co
Dan Anderson – Nobles Co	Emma Volz – Lincoln Co
Beth Stueven – Redwood County	John Shepard – SRDC
Jim Hagedorn – Banner Assoc	Jason Overby – Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water
Marlene Smith – Cottonwood Co	

Group Introductions and Items for discussion:

Presentation: **Emergency Preparedness Committee of the MN Governor’s Council on Geographic Information** *Ryan Wendt & Dan Anderson*

Ryan Wendt of Lyon County and Dan Anderson of Nobles County gave a powerpoint presentation of the Governor’s Council on Geographic Information and the Emergency Preparedness Committee. The first powerpoint was basically metro centered but they are promoting out-state involvement. One of the main concerns is the concept of potential tool for terrorists.

The second powepoint explained the 4 Work Groups: Outreach, Education, Data, and the Go Team. There is a website for sharing between the Work Groups. FEMA training works along with this. FEMA has a library available for resources. It is good for people in GIS and Emergency Management to work together and an organized regional and local level organization would also be helpful. MN Dot is willing to help in an emergency. Steve Swanzee is available at the State level at 612-239-6981 or by emailing - sdswanzee@earthlink.net.

FEMA HAZUS promotes the goal to “fix *before* it happens” or work on planning ahead for actions to be taken during a catastrophic occurrence.

It would be beneficial if GIS were usable to more people.

Next Meeting:

July 16th, 2008 - Lyon County Public Works Building in Marshall
Topic: Mark Volz will cover Geomoose topics.