



**Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board
First Quarterly Board Meeting**

Delta Conference Room, 5th Floor Rockefeller Building
501 Woodlane Street, Little Rock | Online via MS Teams
Wednesday, March 5, 2025 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

MINUTES

The Board meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Matt Charton, Board Chair. Roll call was taken to establish a quorum. A quorum of members was present; the meeting proceeded.

GIS Board Members Present:

Mr. Matthew Charton, Chair
Mr. Scott Alsbrook, Vice Chair
Mr. Scott Lane
Mr. Scott Foster, *via Teams*
Ms. Randee Reid Edwards
Mr. Darin Mitchell

Ms. Hannah Towell
Mr. Gerald Black
Mr. Terry Cleaver, *via Teams*
Mr. Brian Fortson, *Proxy for Jay Harton*
Dr. John Nowlin
Dr. Cody Decker, *via Teams*

GIS Board Members Absent: Mr. Doug Melton

GIS Staff Members Present:

Mr. Jonathan Duran
Ms. Nita Weeks
Mr. Daniel Phillips
Mr. Matt DeLong
Ms. Niki Bittle

Ms. Maria Owen, *via Teams*
Ms. Lauren Bell
Mr. Casey Vannoy, *via Teams*
Mr. Jacob Loomis

Guests Present:

Mr. Aaron Lowrey, Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Michelle Fischer, USGS *via Teams*

Approval of Minutes of December 4, 2024 Meeting as corrected*

Motion to approve: Darin Mitchell

Second: Hannah Towell

The motion was unanimously approved

► **Welcome and Opening Remarks,** Matt Charton, Board Chair

- Mr. Charton announced that his term on the Board had concluded approximately six months prior to this meeting. He expressed his enjoyment of serving on the Board and stated he was not optimistic about attending the next board meeting.
- Shelby Johnson was out of state, and Jonathan Duran, Deputy Director of the GIS Office, would be delivering the Agency Report.

► **Agency Report,** Mr. Jonathan Duran, GIS Office Deputy Director

- Mr. Duran explained that Shelby Johnson was traveling back from Columbus, OH, where he presented at the GIS/Valuation Technologies Conference. He detailed the purpose of the conference and why it was important that Mr. Johnson attend.
- Mr. Duran summarized the GIS website usage statistics and highlighted several key events since the last Board meeting:
 - Staff coordination activities for January, February, and March.

- The Imagery Task Force Survey from late 2024 was described, including who participated, the survey that was used, and the results of the survey.
- The status of the Next Generation 911 Project. Of note, all counties in Arkansas are now progressing towards NG911 completion.
- Lauren Bell was commended for her efforts in converting the GIS Metadata from FGDC standards to ISO standards.
- Mr. Duran outlined the recent work by the Land Surveys Division, including the completion of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Milepost Project in conjunction with the office of Commissioner of State Lands.
- NSGIC Update:
 - Katy Hattenhauer and Jonathan Duran attended the Midyear Meeting held in Colorado Springs, CO in February.
 - Ms. Hattenhauer is now the co-chair of the NG911 workgroup.
- At the conclusion of the Agency Report, Board members asked follow-up questions regarding the Imagery Task Force Survey.

► **Old Business**

- The Board was provided updates on the following topics:
 - The status of the GIS Trust Fund investment.
 - The Western AR LiDAR Project. Follow-up questions were answered by Michelle Fischer from USGS.
 - The Fulton County Tax Parcel Mapping Project. Mr. Duran explained the timeline for completing each phase of this work.
 - The first map to display the Wet/Damp/Dry Data Layer for Arkansas, published by the GIS Office.
- Legislative Session for the 95th General Assembly reviewed to date:
 - Act 214, the State Plane Coordinate System Revision was the culmination of the work of the Land Survey Board and the GIS Board. The Land Survey Division is ready when the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) goes live, possibly next year.
 - HB 1522, if enacted into law, would mandate the GIS Office estimate the population of municipalities that incorporate between census years.
 - HB 1565 allows property owners to opt out of having their information included in an online database, which could impact the GIS parcel database if enacted into law.
 - Act 205 changes the name of the Department of Transformation and Shared Services to the Department of Shared Administrative Services.
 - A question was asked about HB 1148 regarding the use of drones over private property in Arkansas. Mr. Duran clarified that an amendment had been added to this bill which would exempt the State Surveyor.

► **New Business**

- Annual Board requirement to vote by majority to approve allowable Board Member expenses per A.C.A. § 25-16-902

Approval to authorize allowable expense reimbursement for each board member for performing official board duties*

Motion to approve: John Nowlin

Second: Gerald Black

The motion was unanimously approved

- Annual Board approval for the use of State purchasing cards for Board expenses*

Approval to authorize use of State Purchasing Cards for Board meetings*

Motion to approve: Darin Mitchell

Second: Hannah Towell

The motion was unanimously approved

► **Election of new Officers***

Scott Alsbrook was nominated as the new Board Chair. There were no other nominees.
The nomination was unanimously approved

Darin Mitchell was nominated as the new Vice Chair. There were no other nominees.
The nomination was unanimously approved

► **Other Matters to Come Before the Board:**

Jonathan Duran gave an overview of the proposed schedule for the October Board meeting, which will take place as part of the Arkansas GIS Users Forum Biennial Conference. This year, instead of having the Board meeting run concurrently with the GIS Users Forum, it will be held during the plenary session. The conference is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14, through Thursday, October 16, in Eureka Springs. Additional information will be distributed as it becomes available.

► **Adjournment***

Motion to adjourn: Matt Charton

Second: Hannah Towell

The motion was unanimously approved

***Voice Vote Required**



Scott Alsbrook, Board Chair

6-4-2025

Date