



## Rio Grande Chapter

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

Courtyard I; 7500 Jefferson St NE

Albuquerque, NM 87109

[http://www.asprs-rmr.org/local\\_chapters/riogrande/](http://www.asprs-rmr.org/local_chapters/riogrande/)

## Board Meeting Minutes

**21 November 2014, 12:30-1:30 PM**

**Attendees:** Michaela Buenemann, Nathan Kempf, Jake Darlington, Joe Zebrowski, Rob Dzur, Dan Paulsen, Steve Sesnie, Zachary Taraschi

1. The Board Meeting was **called to order** at 12:30 pm.
2. **Roll call** was conducted with a **quorum** established and subsequently the meeting agenda was approved unanimously. Steve will send out minutes from the previous board meeting.
3. **Meeting minutes.** The minutes from the last meeting had not yet been shared with the Board. Steve S. will do so in the next few days so that the minutes can be approved at the next meeting.
4. **Treasurer's report.** The treasurer's report was tabled for discussion at a future meeting.
5. **Membership report.** Membership was reported to stand at approximately 70 members.
6. **Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) report.** Michaela reported that Jeff Young, our National Director, indicated there is some movement regarding mergers of other ASPRS regions. Michaela also noted that there was some discussion of scholarship monies at the RMR meeting.
7. **ASPRS NMSU Student Chapter report.** Zach provided a report on the recent activities at the NMSU Student Chapter. He discussed the end of the year meeting in which they hosted Michael McAdams of the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) who spoke on careers in Geography. Additionally the NMSU Student Chapter discussed planning for the coming 2015 year. Joe mentioned that students at NM Highlands, Las Vegas are working to form a chapter and that the students at Highlands are encouraged by the latest formation of the UNM Student Chapter as well and will be reaching out to both NMSU and UNM.

8. **NM Geospatial Advisory Committee report.** Joe reported that there are many interesting topics being covered at the NM GAC meeting. Among some of the latest topics of note is discussion of 3DEP in which Joe indicated that there is hopefulness among the State that the Federal contributions will get this effort going in phases. Joe also committed to sending out via email the information he receives from NM GAC.
9. **NM Geographic Information Council report.** Discussion on the NM GIC report centered on the recent Fall Meeting held last month with around 60 attendees. Joe mentioned that the theme of the meeting was Education with the keynote being delivered by Mike DeMers of the New Mexico Geographic Alliance. Joe also noted that the GIS education on-going at the Albuquerque Academy is quite impressive and that Jeannie Allen provided some interesting NASA remote sensing educational resources. Joe mentioned to that as a final part of the NMGIC meeting Dennis Szarka was the facilitator on a discussion focused on the value of certification. Joe conveyed that there seemed to be broad consensus that certifications are of value. The board discussed the GISP certification and ASPRS certifications including some of the newest such as for LiDAR. In general it was concluded that certifications independent of their sponsoring organization are a positive both for the individual but also for the organizations they represent including ASPRS. In fact, Joe mentioned that he walked away thinking he would want to encourage certifications in general both ASPRS and others; as a helpful way to build organizational reputation.

## **Old Business**

10. **ASPRS RGC Website Updates.** Discussion of the chapter website concerned making of some formatting changes and link updating with the addition of meeting minutes and pictures. As an action item: there is a need to send pictures to Nathan for further website updates and Nathan will develop a brief description on how to join for posting to the website.
11. **Fall Meeting.** The board discussed the sense that the fall meeting was once again a successful event with good attendance of about 25 people. It was noted that it is good to see everyone in person and that once again Jake made some great food. There are pictures of this event, which could be sent to Nathan for posting. As another positive, the meeting provided an opportunity to hold a business meeting and work through a draft of our Vision, Mission, and Goals. Discussion continued regarding the locale which everyone agreed is convenient and further discussion noted that Las Vegas would be a good potential site for a future

Chapter meeting. In fact, Joe and Steve both remarked that the facilities at the wildlife refuge near Las Vegas, NM would be excellent for a future meeting. Joe and Steve may form a planning committee to make a meeting there happen.

## **12. Conferences.**

A number of reports were given on recent meetings attended by the board members:

- a. **21-22 October 2014, ASPRS UAS Conference, Reno, NV** - Steve provided a brief report on the conference, which he said was an impressive 3-day event in NV all about UAS technology. With participants mainly from western states, Steve indicated that about a third of the audience represented professional organizations, another third were the vendors with the remaining third representing interested attendees. There were speakers from Google and Drone Deploy and Steve said that they technology is yielding some impressive accuracies with control at very small GSD resolutions. The board discussed some to the issues surrounding the current malaise of regulations by FAA; but overall Steve said the take away is that this is an important technology that is here and will have important implications for our organization and profession.
- b. **23-25 October 2014, SWAAG Meeting, Albuquerque, NM** - Michaela reported the SWAAG meeting was also successful with about 350 people in attendance. The RMR was there as a gold sponsor of the event and although the [conference program](#) was far reaching, she did also report that the event included remote sensing tracks.
- c. **8-13 September, 2014, FOSS4G, Portland, Oregon** – Rob reported that he attended the FOSS4G this fall which is held every two years in the United States. The conference is dedicated to Free and Open Source Geospatial technology and although it was held in the US had a very strong international attendance. The presentations are available at the conference website: <https://2014.foss4g.org/>
- d. **20-23 October 2014, TX GIS Forum, Austin, Texas** – Rob also briefly reported that he attended the Texas GIS Forum conference which incidentally took place the same week as the ASPRS UAS Conference. This conference is mostly focused on Texas GIS topics, however the quality of the presentations, technology and especially the keynotes is superlative. The [Liquid Galaxy](#) display demonstrating Google Earth was particularly popular in the vendor area. Of note this year too was the keynote address by Jeremi Suri

on Nation Building, History and Maps available at the conference website:

<http://www.tnris.org/2014gisforum>

### **Upcoming conferences**

e. **2-4 December, 2014, ESRI Southwest Users Conference, Santa Fe, New Mexico -**

<http://www.esri.com/events/southwest>

13. **Vision Mission Goals:** Discussion regarding the draft Chapter Vision document concluded that each set of paired individuals should come up with three (3) measurable and tangible objectives in its goal category by the next meeting. Also, there was discussion of the use of the term GIS&T in the document and it was proposed that if there are ideas for alternative terms those suggestions be brought forward at the next meeting.

14. **Suggestion for Thursday Meeting:** In order to avoid a scheduling conflict with UNM colloquium events typically held on Fridays, the board discussed moving the meeting to Thursdays and it was agreed that this move would help. Based on this discussion, the **next meeting** was scheduled for **Dec. 18th 12:00**.

15. **Elections:** Michaela will research when and how we have done elections in the past and according to the bylaws. She will initiate the election process at the next meeting to ensure that a new board will be in place for the spring meeting.

### **16. Action items.**

- a. All to email two pictures to Nathan for the website.
- b. Nathan will update the website based on input received from the Board.
- c. Joe will provide NM GAC emails to the group.
- d. Paired individuals will develop 3 measurable and tangible objectives in their goal category by the next meeting.

17. **Next meeting date:** 18 December 2014

18. Meeting **adjourned** at 1:20 pm.