



Meeting 03/09: Minutes

- Chair:** Ollie Hedberg
- Members:** Chris Bellman, Danny Broadbent, Glenn Cockerton, Diane Daniell, John Hennessy, David Johnson, Chris McRae, Alan Norman, Ben Searle, Geoff Spring, Bruce Thompson
- Apologies:** Abbas Rajabifard, Joanne Curran
- Secretariat:** Elizabeth Thomas

Note: The following items are minuted as they appear on the agenda and not necessarily the order they were discussed at the meeting.

	Who	Due date
1. PREVIOUS MEETING		
1.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting		
Endorsed		
1.2 Outstanding action items		
Action items register updated; actions arising from Meeting 02/09 included (see attached).		
The Chair directed that the action item regarding the membership be completed as a priority. Letters will be written to all sectors inviting them to refresh their representation on the Council.		
The Secretariat will prepare letters by mid April, with any changes to membership to take effect from May/June as appropriate.		
1.3 Conflict of Interest		
Nil		
2. ANZLIC Spatial Market Place proposal		
B Thompson gave an outline of the proposal to develop an Australia-New Zealand Spatial Market Place discussed and endorsed by ANZLIC in March 2009.		
The market place will incorporate spatial 'resources' (defined as data, products, services and processes), with the purpose of		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• allowing easy publishing and distribution• allowing easy discovery and access• enabling suppliers and users to transact with confidence• making spatial resources useable for all		
ANZLIC's immediate objectives, before beginning to build the market place, are to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a proposal that builds on the ASDI and ASDD		

	Who	Due date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set the strategic vision for the market place • gain stakeholder support from key constituencies, including ANZLIC Council members, PSMA Australia, ASIBA, CRC-SI, SSI, and others • set out a practical implementation plan <p>The focus of the initiative will be on the market place as a bridge between the supply and demand side infrastructures already in place. It is not intended to duplicate that already in place in jurisdictions.</p> <p>It will need government agencies in all jurisdictions to commit to publish their resources to the market place, starting with data. This will provide the critical mass to extend it to other sectors.</p> <p>In the long run, the initiative will need a strong commercial focus, with government more likely to play a regulatory role.</p> <p>Members discussed the proposal; points raised in the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the development of the ANZLIC Spatial Market Place will not preclude the development of separate web sites that may call on it for resources • the form of the governance and business models will be critical to ensuring the market place's ongoing viability • data will be initially provided via jurisdiction government infrastructures • revenue will flow to both resource providers and value added resellers; the market place will also aim to generate its own revenue to cover its operational costs, eg via fees for use of its facilities • taking the business model as the starting point, rather than the technology, is a good approach <p>Members agreed that the initiative is ambitious, but it is needed. They also agreed that the Council should support it where opportunities arise.</p>		
<p>3. Proposal for a submission to the Bushfires Royal Commission</p> <p>Council members discussed the proposal that a submission be made to the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission.</p> <p>G Spring noted that a whole of Victorian Government submission will be made and raised the question of the status of the Council in this context, particularly the members who represent government.</p> <p>The discussion considered the importance of retaining the Council's independence, while at the same time respecting the position of the Victorian government members, and that there are issues within its jurisdiction that should be brought to wider attention. The submission would not comment on aspects of the response or recovery, but would address the future potential of information management and availability.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Secretary of DSE should be briefed in the proposal as a minimum.</p> <p>Action: Prepare a briefing to the Secretary DSE on the Council proposal to make a submission to the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission.</p>	<p>B Thompson/ Secretariat</p>	<p>April 2009</p>

4. Spatial Information for Bushfire response

4.1 Letter from VSC Chair to Victorian Bushfires Reconstruction and Recovery Authority (VBRRRA)

The Chair referred members to the letter he had written to the Chair of the Victorian Bushfires Reconstruction and Recovery Authority informing her about the Council, and his willingness to brief her on its activities. A copy of the letter was included in the papers circulated prior to the meeting.

4.2 Advice provided to VBRRRA on acquisition of asset information

B Thompson advised members that the letter from the VBRRRA to relevant authorities (Councils, water authorities, utilities) in bushfire affected areas referred to in the accompanying briefing paper is expected to be issued before the end of the week ending 3 April 2009.

Other activities

- B Thompson also brought to members' attention other activities associated with information management for the bushfire recovery and Royal Commission activities.

A draft Whole of Victorian Government spatial information coordination protocol has been prepared to support the gathering, management and sharing of information by government agencies for the purpose of bushfire recovery.

It covers licensing, metadata, custodianship agreements, and access and distribution mechanisms.

The protocol will be used as a mechanism to support the registration of single, authoritative copies of data into a secure repository for use by the Royal Commission in its investigations.

Council members welcomed the development, in particular its reinforcement of the spatial information strategy. They also noted that it could be extended as general practice into the future.

There was discussion about the place of Data Service Providers in the information management environment the protocol will create.

B Thompson conceded that there could be a negative impact on DSPs in the short term while the focus is on improving the spatial information capability of government to support the recovery effort. However, there would be no reason why the DSPs would not have a role to play in the resulting information management environment in the future.

- G Spring reported that the CFA is preparing a presentation that will show how spatial information can be used to present evidence and the products that can be created. The content for the presentation will be drawn from the repository.

It is hoped that one of the outcomes from giving the presentation will be an increased understanding by senior decision makers of the potential that spatial information offers.

	Who	Due date
5. Conference papers and presentations		
5.1 GSDI Conference Paper		
The Council's paper for the GSDI Association's international conference in Rotterdam in June has been completed and is due for submission on 1 April 2009.		
Copies will be circulated to members out of session.		
5.2 spatial@gov conference abstract		
The Council has submitted an abstract for the spatial@gov conference in June.		
B Searle, the Convenor of the conference organising committee, reported that preparations are going well. A draft program is being compiled, and a flyer has been prepared – copies were circulated at the meeting.		
5.3 Newtech presentation		
D Daniell and D Broadbent reported on the VSC presentation given at Newtech on 26 March 2009. Both agreed that it went well; Diane noted that the purpose of this first presentation was to raise the audience's awareness of the Council and how they can participate. She expressed her appreciation for being given the opportunity to give the first Council presentation.		
Danny indicated that he had discussions with representatives from a number of water authorities that he will now follow up.		
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6. Web site review		
E Thomas outlined the results of the preliminary investigation into the options for establishing an independent VSC web site.		
It was noted that having a VSC web site would provide greater flexibility to undertake a range of developments, such as creating links to member sector web sites, as well as creating its own look and feel.		
Members supported that suggestion that the site should be dynamic and contemporary, for example by making use of topical news stories. Opportunities to work closely with R Banks to use Landmark stories that don't make it into the published version should be considered.		
A major concern is whether SII will be able to resource the management and updating of the site. B Thompson indicated that the personnel time already allocated to updating content on Land Channel is available; financial resources will come from the budget already set aside for VSC activities.		
Members agreed to the proposal to establish a VSC web site as outlined, subject to a detailed quote being obtained and presented at the May Council meeting.		
Action: Obtain a detailed quote for the establishment of a customised VSC web site.		Secretariat May 2009

	Who	Due date
7. Other Business		
7.1 Review of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification		
Members discussed the Australian Bureau of Statistics' review of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification as presented in the accompanying papers.		
Concerns were expressed regarding the breaking of the link with Local Government boundaries, which will have impacts in a number of areas, such as emergency services, and the number of sets of data that will be created.		
It was agreed that the Council should write to the ABS to the effect that it is concerned about the categorisation of Local Government boundaries as 'non-ABS boundaries', that it sees a need for data to still be made available in line with them, and that the implications of these changes should be communicated more broadly.		
7.2 Other		
1. The Chair drew members' attention to a letter he has received from the Deputy Chief Officer of the CFA regarding the creation of a single authoritative building points dataset which is reflected in Vicmap.		
B Thompson and G Spring both supported the request, particularly in relation to the Vicmap Books.		
The Chair proposed that he convene a meeting between SII, the MAV, the CFA and Spatial Vision to discuss the issues involved, and to formulate a way forward, which would be presented to the Council.		
Members supported this proposal.		
Action: Convene a meeting of SII, the MAV, CFA and Spatial Vision to discuss the way forward for creating a building points dataset.	Secretariat	April 2009
2. The Chair invited members to comment on the joint ANZLIC-VSC meeting in March 2009.		
The general view was that there was limited opportunity for interaction between members at the meeting. However, the Council should take the opportunity to meet again with ANZLIC should one arise. It was noted that ANZLIC is not scheduled to meet in Melbourne for another two years at a minimum.		
3. G Cockerton reported that ASIBA has recently endorsed a change of name to the Spatial Industries Business Association (SIBA).		
The change has arisen as a result of interest from New Zealand, Singapore and Malaysia in participating in its activities. In addition, the change to 'industries' has been made to allow for a more inclusive membership, eg accommodating other industry clusters such as the location sector.		
A formal announcement of the change is expected soon.		
4. C Bellman noted that the SSI is also undergoing changes, including a new name – the Survey and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI). A vote of members to endorse the change was due to take place at the end of March but has been delayed until the end of April.		
5. B Searle reported that a pilot of the Commonwealth Spatial Data Infrastructure started in March, and will run until December 2009.		

	Who	Due date
6. D Daniell advised that the SSI had met at Newtech to consider establishing regional chapters and hosting more regional meetings.		
7. D Broadbent proposed that when the Council comes to consider its next Forum it consider whether 'speed presentations' might be a useful approach. Feedback that he has received from similar events run by the SSI in NSW has been positive. They are tightly controlled and designed to get through a lot of material in a short space of time.		
8. A Norman reported that the ASC excellence awards for Local Councils had been held recently. The winners included the Cities of Melbourne, Stonnington and Boroondara.		
9. E Thomas advised that the tender for the Positioning Regional Victoria initiative closes on 2 April 2009. She also noted that a promotional DVD is in preparation and is scheduled to be released in the middle of April 2009.		
10. The Chair reiterated his willingness to address sectoral groups on the Council's activities, and invited members to consider opportunities for inviting him to do so.		

8. Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday 13 May 2009

Time: 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Venue: Archer Room, 16/570 Bourke Street, Melbourne

Summary of Actions and Resolutions

Agenda Item 3

Action: Prepare a briefing to the Secretary DSE on the Council proposal to make a submission to the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission.

B
Thompson/
Secretariat

April 2009

Agenda Item 6

Members **agreed** to the proposal to establish a VSC web site as outlined, subject to a detailed quote being obtained and presented at the May Council meeting.

Action: Obtain a detailed quote for the establishment of a customised VSC web site.

Secretariat

May 2009

Agenda Item 7.2

Members **supported** the proposal to convene a meeting between SII, the MAV, the CFA and Spatial Vision to discuss the issues involved in creating a building points dataset, and to formulate a way forward, which would be presented to the Council.

Action: Convene a meeting of SII, the MAV, CFA and Spatial Vision to discuss the way forward for creating a building points dataset.

Secretariat

April 2009