

**ILLINOIS GIS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA**

DATE: July 7, 2026
TIME: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
LOCATION: Conference Call

Please use the dial in information below:

Dial In: 650 419 1505
Meeting ID: 309 242 768
Join the meeting with the following link:
<https://v.ringcentral.com/join/309242768>

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PERSON(S)	ATTACHMENT
1.0	CALL TO ORDER		
1.1	Welcome	Keith Darby, President	
1.2	Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum <i>Note: The quorum requirement is a majority of the voting members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum for transacting association business.</i>		A
1.3	Review and approve agenda - ACTION	Keith Darby, President	
1.3.1	Approve additions or modifications to agenda		
2.0	APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - ACTION	Keith Darby, President	
2.1.1	Approve Board of Director Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2026	Keith Darby, President	B
3.0	REPORTS		
3.1	President's Report	Keith Darby, President	
3.2	Executive Director Report	Megan Galeher, Executive Director	C
3.3	Committee Updates		
3.3.1	Education Committee Update	Adam Aull, Chair	D
3.3.2	Finance Committee Update	Steven Spradling, Chair	
3.3.3	Governance Committee Update	Mike Kamin, Chair	
3.3.4	Professional Development Committee Update	Josh Carlson, Chair	E
3.3.5	Program Committee Update	Mike Kamin and Steven Spradling, Co-Chairs	
3.3.6	Outreach Committee Update	Lauren Lee, Chair	F
3.4	ACTION ITEMS		
3.4.1	Creating a Digital Conference Agenda	Josh Carlson	G
3.5	OTHER BUSINESS		
3.5.1	NG911 & ILGISA	Mark Yacucci, ISGS	
3.5.2	Statewide and National Updates	Mark Yacucci, ISGS	
3.5.3	ILGISA Forum – One-year update	Josh Carlson	H
4.0	ADJOURNMENT	Keith Darby, President	

**ILLINOIS GIS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
July 7, 2026**

ILGISA Board of Directors Roll Call

First Name	Last Name	Government/Firm Name	Board Position	Voting position	RSVP	In attendance
Keith	Darby	City of Wheaton	President	Y	Y	
Mike	Kamin	City of Batavia	Past President	Y	Y	
Lauren	Lee	Whiteside County	President Elect	Y	Y	
Steven	Spradling	City of St. Charles	Treasurer	Y	Y	
Renee	Buker	Western Illinois University	Secretary	Y	Y	
Adam	Aull	City of Danville	Director	Y	Y	
Josh	Carlson	Kendall County	Director	Y	Y	
Hunter	Ray	Cloudpoint Geospatial	Director	Y	Y	
Burt	McAlpine	JULIE	Director	Y	Y	
Daniel	Bartlett	Cook County	Director	Y	Y	
Megan	Galeher	ILGISA	Executive Director	N	N	
Rick	Church	ILGISA	Managing Director	N	N	
Mark	Yacucci	Illinois State Geological Survey	Ex-Officio	N	Y	
Total voting				10		
Total attendees				13		

**MINUTES – ILLINOIS GIS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM CDT. Those in attendance were: Keith Darby, Mike Kamin, Steven Spradling, Renee Buker, Burt McAlpine, and Dan Bartlett.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Dan Bartlett, seconded by Burt McAlpine, and is unanimously approved.

2.0 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Steven Spradling to approve the May minutes. The motion was seconded by Dan Bartlett and is unanimously approved.

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 President's Report

President Darby –

- The Chicago regional meeting is coming up, plan on attending if you can.
- Please let him or Renee know if unable to attend any upcoming board meetings, so that a quorum can be met for voting.
- Chris Pearson passed away last month. He was with the National Geodetic Survey, did a great deal of work on the Illinois State Plane projections, and was very involved in the GIS community. He also was awarded the ILGISA Service Award in 2009. A tribute to his contributions may be appropriate at the annual conference.

3.2 Executive Director Report

President Darby reviewed the Executive Director report from Megan Galeher –

- Dues were invoiced November 17th, and renewals through May were attached. There are 564 members paid at this point, up from 510 at the same time last year.
- 2026 Annual Conference will be October 18-20 at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria.
 - Call for content is now open, no abstracts submitted yet. Deadline is August 7.
 - Hotel room block is now open for reservations as well, deadline for booking is September 28.
 - CM Services staff will begin attending program committee meetings in July.
 - Upcoming discussions/decisions include keynote speaker selection, social event selection, poster and map competition details, finalizing web pages and agenda, determining Esri involvement, and discussing any potential conference additions.
- Megan is holding on sending out RFPs for the 2027 annual conference pending further discussion and exploration of other options by the Program Committee. Please keep her informed on the progress of this.

3.3 Committee Updates

3.3.1 Education Committee

Chair—Adam Aull— The committee has not met since the last board meeting, no updates.

3.3.2 Finance Committee

Chair—Steven Spradling — No updates, next meeting will be scheduled soon.

3.3.3 Governance Committee

Chair—Mike Kamin— The committee has completed their review of the bylaws for potential changes or updates. They are now reviewing the policies and procedures document to ensure that these are being followed correctly. The committee is working on a checklist of items from the policies and procedures that need to be done on a regular basis.

3.3.4 Professional Development Committee

Chair—Josh Carlson— Josh was unable to attend the meeting, so President Darby reviewed the submitted committee report. The committee has been discussing moving toward curation over creation in gathering resources for GIS tips and tricks. They have a tentative goal of holding a virtual workshop series (several 1-hour sessions) in late August to early September on a GIS dev topic. The committee has also begun discussion of potential workshops and panels for the annual conference. Action items for the committee include posting in the “recommended resources” section of the forum, submitting panel discussions for the annual conference, and seeking potential webinar presenters on the topic of accessibility. Dan Bartlett is taking the lead on finding accessibility presenters and has reached out to DoIT; Mike Kamin also suggested contacting Mark Yacucci, since he has been involved in accessibility discussions nationwide through NSGIC.

3.3.5 Program Committee

Chairs—Mike Kamin and Steven Spradling – There are about 45 registrants for the Chicago regional meeting so far. Agenda will be out soon – no panel discussion this time, but the agenda is full and promising. Arrangements have been made for a roof tour of the building and a happy hour after the meeting.

For the annual conference, the committee is looking for potential keynote speakers. Setup for space will be the same as the last time the annual conference was held in East Peoria. The committee meets again next week for further discussion.

3.3.6 Outreach Committee

Chair—Lauren Lee— Lauren was unable to attend the meeting, so President Darby reviewed the submitted committee report. Strategic Plan updates and board meeting minutes have been updated on the ILGISA website. Gold Sponsor posts will be made on LinkedIn after the lapsed member initiative is completed. The monthly email brief this month will only go out to active members. Committee members were challenged to post in the forum to stimulate discussion. As of 5/20, about half of the lapsed members had been contacted, and a list of lapsed student members was sent to the Education committee.

3.4 Action Items

No action items this month.

3.5 Other Business

Mark Yacucci was not in attendance this month, no updates on statewide or national issues.

President Darby pointed out that the next scheduled board meeting (July 14) would fall during the Esri User Conference and asked if rescheduling to the week before would work. Board members present agreed that July 7 would be better; Renee will send out notification to all board members and adjust the calendar invitation.

Dan will be attending GIS-Pro in Milwaukee in October and was wondering if others might be going. He will share information about ILGISA with other attendees.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike Kamin and seconded by Dan Bartlett. With no further business, President Darby adjourned the meeting at 10:35 AM CDT.



ILGISA Executive Director Report 7.1.26

- **Dues & Annual Sponsor Invoicing** – 2026 Dues were invoiced on November 17th. The membership tracking report is attached. We are up to 576 members. Last year at this time, we were at 521 members, so we are ahead of pace by 55 members.
- **2025 Form 990** was distributed for review. It will be sent to the CPA to finalize, pending no questions from the Board.
- **Q2 Financial Statements** are not available yet, but should be available for review before the August Board Meeting.
- **2026 Annual Conference** – We are contracted with the Embassy Suites in East Peoria for the 2026 Annual Conference. Save the date – October 18-20, 2026.
 - **Call for Content** is now open. 3 abstracts have been submit so far (2 30-min; 1 60-min). Deadline to submit is August 7, but we may consider extending. [Link to form](#). Regular email reminders and social posts have been scheduled.
 - **Hotel Room Block** is also open and posted to the website. Deadline to book a hotel room is Sept. 28. [Room block link here](#).
 - **Program Committee Meetings:** Staff will begin attending meetings in July.
 - **Things on the horizon:**
 - Keynote speaker selection
 - Social event selection (bowling again? I think this is a no-brainer)
 - Poster & Map competition details
 - Finalize web pages
 - Open registration
 - Finalize agenda
 - Finalize Esri's involvement (HOLL lab?)
 - Anything we want to add this year (GeoLounge will be added in the Prof. Dev. room)
- **2027 Annual Conference** – I've received feedback from leadership to hold off on the RFP process for 2027 properties. I will stand by until a decision is made on potential venues. I believe the focus has shifted away from Lisle/Naperville, and more towards Joliet. Any update on this?

ILGISA Membership Tracking Report

2026

	Individual Categories					Organizational Categories				Sponsor Categories						
	Professional	Student	K-12 Educator	Retiree	Lifetime	Organizational		University		Gold		Silver		Bronze		
	\$100	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$0	\$100/person		Varies		\$3,500		\$2,500		\$1,500		
	Individuals	Individuals	Individuals	Individuals	Individuals	Companies	Individuals	Universities	Students	Companies	Individuals	Companies	Individuals	Companies	Individuals	
Nov prior year	31	15	1	1	17	5	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	79
Dec prior year	84	5	0	3	0	11	20	2	28	1	3	2	7	2	2	152
Jan current year	65	4	0	1	0	8	32	1	1	1	6	2	8	3	10	127
Feb current year	19	0	0	0	0	4	13	3	94	0	0	0	0	0	0	126
Mar current year	25	1	0	1	0	3	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	35
Apr current year	13	6	0	0	0	4	6	1	6	1	2	0	0	0	0	33
May current year	6	2	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Jun current year	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	12
Jul current year																0
Aug current year																0
Sep current year																0
Oct current year																0
Nov current year																0
Dec current year																0
Current Year Total	253	36	1	6	17	37	94	8	130	3	10	4	15	7	14	576
Current Year Approx. Revenue	\$25,300	\$360	\$10	\$60	\$0	n/a	\$9,400	\$1,600	n/a	\$10,500	n/a	\$10,000	n/a	\$10,500	n/a	\$67,730
2025 Year End Total	267	47	2	6	17	34	94	7	120	3	12	4	15	11	20	600
Variance	-14	-11	-1	0	0	3	0	1	10	0	-2	0	0	-4	-6	-24

Illinois GIS Association

Education Committee Notes

July 2, 2026

1. Student Scholarship Award Judging Rubric

Brad Brewer remembers asking for volunteers of the Education Committee for the judging. The rubric is based on weighted scoring now. It's easy and straightforward.

Adam Aull has collected the applications and is preparing the packets for the judges. He will be requesting volunteers from the committee.

Renee Buker asked how the weighted average will work. Michael Minn explained that there is a formula and the rubric will be an average of the average.

2. Mentorship

Adam Aull is waiting for additional information.

3. Converting Students Members to Professional Members

- One-year free membership

Brad Brewer asked how would the recent grads communicate this with ILGISA. Michael Minn feels that the membership fee isn't the obstacle. It's the feeling of being included in the association. Rachel Loftus agrees that the fee isn't the obstacle, it's the idea of what are they getting out of it. Perhaps more market research into why students are not joining ILGISA, are they even staying in Illinois? Renee Buker asked has anyone in ILGISA researched where grads go. Michael Minn warns that too much free give aways have to be made up with other costs somewhere. Wendy Sheppard says if there too many students, perhaps a first year discount. Renee Buker says that there are 36 student

members who paid the \$10 membership fee. Ana asked if a survey has been collected about what students want to see and get out of the organization. Brad Brewer suggested that the conference could have a table for the committees to sit at and answer questions that attendees might have. Adam Aull asked if a Survey123 could be feasible to send to university members asking students to inform ILGISA of their thoughts about ILGISA. Michael Minn says that students are surveyed out. The responses might not reveal the in-depth data we are looking for. Brad Brewer suggested a QR code during social time at the university popups.

4. Adjournment



<https://forum.ilgisa.org/t/pd-committee-meeting-june-2026/428>

Meeting Attendance

- Josh Carlson
- Britney West
- Hunter Ray
- Burt McAlpine

Discussion

Virtual Workshop

Workshops will be 3-4 consecutive Wednesdays, all focusing on “developer” topics.

Kickoff will be the last Wednesday of August at noon.

Topics

- Getting started as a developer, IDE setup – Burt
- Arcade for Attribute Rules – Hunter
- Python for GIS on the Web – Josh
- Python for desktop GIS?

GeoLounge

Formerly the “ask the expert” room. This year we will be opening up a less formal space for networking and certain scheduled activities, to facilitate organic networking connections and the sharing of knowledge.

ILGISA already has a “GeoLounge” sign from years ago we will use.

Full details and discussion in relevant forum post.

Action Items

- Submit panel(s) to Annual Conference – Josh
- Continue to contribute to resource lists – all
- Reach out to viable webinar / panelist / workshop folks – all

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

06/18/2026



I. CONTENT IDEAS – ILGISA WEBSITE

- i) Added ILGISA Articles of Incorporation – request from Governance
- ii) Updated Chicago meeting info

II. CONTENT IDEAS - LINKEDIN

- a) Next up: Gold Sponsor Posts similar to Board Member Spotlight Posts (waiting until after Lapsed member initiative)
- b) Celebrate – More posts on LinkedIn -> 300 new followers in the last year out of a total of 917

III. CONTENT IDEAS – EMAIL BLASTS

- a) Monthly Email Brief – will only be going out to active members

IV. CONTENT IDEAS – ILGISA FORUM

- a) Challenge – Post Something on the forum: An article, a question, something interesting you're working on, etc...

V. LAPSED MEMBERS & STUDENT MEMBERS

- a) Scrubbed Lapsed Member List – As of 6/17: 30/46 contacted

VI. OTHER

- a) Suggestion from Ian Stearns: Formalize professional development reasons to invest in ILGISA membership: use metrics, why it is a valuable investment for your career,
- b) Challenge for Educators – Academic year vs Calendar year

VII. ADJOURNMENT - NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 20TH AT 3 PM



Action Item: Creating a Digital Conference Agenda

The Need

Having an easy-to-use, mobile-friendly means of accessing a conference agenda is the norm at professional conferences. Anecdotally, every other conference I have ever attended has had some kind of app or mobile-ready web page. Not having this reflects somewhat poorly on us.

Current Offerings

Last year, the only things we offered were PDFs of the program book and an Excel spreadsheet of the schedule. These are adequate, but being static files, are little better than paper copies.

Current Alternatives

Conference / event apps and platforms are out there, but by and large, they are *expensive*, and have far too many bells and whistles. Feedback at other conferences using apps such as Whova often mention that it is overwhelming or even aggressive in its notifications and marketing.

What is Actually Important?

To my mind, a digital agenda needs to do the following:

- Show full agenda and per-day
- Allow searching and filtering
- Use tags / categories to easily find topics
- Clicking on any topic brings you to the full abstract

It should also be as close to free as possible, and require little to no extra work.



Proposed Solution: Build Our Own

Tech Details

Using Python, I can parse the Abstracts sheet that is already being used to build the agenda. Feeding this through the site-generation tool **Quarto**, I can batch-generate an entire site, meeting all the above requirements, and this can all be done without changing existing processes at all.

The code used to do this can be found at <https://codeberg.org/jcarlson/ilgisa-agenda-quarto>

The output can easily be hosted on any static website service, like AWS Amplify.

ILGISA already owns its domain, **ilgisa.org**. Creating a subdomain is free for us, and the agenda could be hosted at a subdomain of our choosing, such as **conference-agenda.ilgisa.org**

Cost

Using AWS Amplify, costs are based on usage and storage. Using similar Quarto-built sites as a reference point, the cost to do this is expected to be *5 cents per day or less*.

As the conference agenda only needs to be available leading up to and during the conference itself, we'd only need to pay for about a month of hosting. *That's less than \$2!* A small enough cost that I would personally be willing to foot the bill and consider it a donation.

Live Demo

Don't take my word for it, take it for a test drive! You can view the output of this process, using 2025's agenda spreadsheet as a sample input.

<https://ilgisa-agenda.jcarlson.page>

Proposals, in Brief

1. That ILGISA officially makes a digital agenda site available during the annual conference
2. That, working with our technical support, a subdomain be allocated for said site
3. That said site be online for the month of October, more or less
4. That said site would fall under the purview of the Program Committee, with respect to making changes and adjustments

ILGISA Forum Metrics: One Year In

Monthly Pageviews*

*Likely valid visits; known web scrapers and bots filtered out

Year	Month	Views
2025	8	63
	9	1185
	10	1771
	11	1428
	12	952
2026	1	862
	2	847
	3	937
	4	1242
	5	2115
	6	2917
Total		14319

