

MINUTES – ILLINOIS GIS ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM CDT. Those in attendance were: Keith Darby, Lauren Lee, Steven Spradling, Renee Buker, Adam Aull, Josh Carlson, Hunter Ray, Burt McAlpine, and Dan Bartlett.

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

2.0 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Steven Spradling to approve the March minutes. The motion was seconded by Burt McAlpine and is unanimously approved.

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 President's Report

President Darby –

- We are now at the halfway point to the next annual conference – thank you to everyone for their work so far in preparation.
- Please attend the upcoming regional meetings and university pop-ups as your schedule permits, so that these have good board representation!
- We will be reviewing progress toward strategic plan goals again at the next board meeting.

3.2 Executive Director Report

President Darby reviewed the Executive Director report from Megan Galeher –

- Dues were invoiced November 17th, and renewals through March were attached. There are 519 members paid at this point, up from 473 at the same time last year.
- ILGISA year-end financials have been sent to the CPA for tax filings.
- 2026 Annual Conference will be October 18-20 at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria. Call for content will be open around early May.
- 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 popup event at ISU had a great turnout. 20-some students attended, students made lightning presentations, and there was good discussion at the panel and afterward. The committee is looking forward to the next popup event later this month at WIU.

3.3.2 Finance Committee

Chair—Steven Spradling — Steven is talking with Megan about some of the issues brought up at the committee’s last meeting. Next meeting is planned for early May.

3.3.3 Governance Committee

Chair—Mike Kamin— Mike was unable to attend the board meeting due to the MAGIC conference, but Lauren provided updates on his behalf. The committee is continuing to review the bylaws for potential changes or updates and is about 2/3 through the document. Proposed changes will be brought to the board soon for approval.

3.3.4 Professional Development Committee

Chair—Josh Carlson— The committee has two webinars scheduled for this month – one next week by Esri, and another one later this month regarding a Census program on suggesting block boundary changes. Dan reviewed responses from the last annual conference for ideas on professional development topics; drones, scripting, and AI are some hot topics that are frequently mentioned. The committee is particularly looking for speakers/presenters who might be willing to share how they use AI in common workflows.

3.3.5 Program Committee

Chairs—Mike Kamin and Steven Spradling – The regional meeting in Springfield is coming up this month. Due to a smaller group of attendees, no hotel block was arranged, but there is a social dinner organized the night before for those arriving Thursday evening.

Social events for the regional meeting at CMAP are being organized, potentially at the Climate Action Museum and/or a nearby pub.

Save the Date cards are being handed out at the MAGIC conference this week for the 2026 annual conference.

Potential locations are still being explored for the 2027 annual conference.

3.3.6 Outreach Committee

Chair—Lauren Lee— The virtual Big Ten GIS event was added to the ILGISA calendar on the website. They are looking at adding a Survey123 page to the website for submitting suggestions and other website feedback. LinkedIn posts were made highlighting all the new ILGISA board members; posts highlighting Gold Sponsors will start soon. The committee sent out its first “monthly brief” email to members, highlighting upcoming webinars and events, new topics of discussion on the forum, recent LinkedIn posts, upcoming partner events, and other news. Now that the membership grace period has passed, the committee will start reviewing the list of lapsed members for duplicates and begin contacting people on the list, as either a reminder to renew or “exit interview” to learn more about why individuals decided not to renew.

3.4 Action Items

No action items this month.

3.5 Other Business

Mark Yacucci was not in attendance this month, presenting at the MAGIC conference. Burt was also attending MAGIC but was able to join the board meeting call. He reported good attendance, around 250. There is continued discussion on other locations for the next MAGIC conference, still to be determined.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Burt McAlpine and seconded by Dan Bartlett. With no further business, President Darby adjourned the meeting at 10:21 AM CDT.