

MINUTES – ILLINOIS GIS ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM CDT. Those in attendance were: Keith Darby, Mike Kamin, Lauren Lee, Steven Spradling, Renee Buker, Adam Aull, Josh Carlson, Hunter Ray, Burt McAlpine, Megan Galeher, Mark Yacucci, and guests Meagan Briganti and Crystalyn Delacruz.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Steven Spradling, seconded by Mike Kamin, and is unanimously approved.

2.0 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Lauren Lee to approve the July minutes. The motion was seconded by Steven Spradling and is unanimously approved.

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 President's Report

President Darby –

- Asked about the Esri User Conference – Mike reported the Illinois meetup at the conference went well. Mike noted that overall UC conference attendance was down.
- Reminder that we're down to the last two board meetings before the annual conference – with preparations for the conference and discussions on transitioning to the next year's board, the September and October meetings are important to attend. Both meetings may go longer than their scheduled one-hour time slot, so if you are able, please plan on reserving a bit more time for the board meetings.
- Committee chairs, if you will be passing on responsibilities to a new chair in October, please begin documenting and compiling information for them. If you are interested in chairing a committee or serving as treasurer or secretary next year, please talk with Lauren.
- Note: the Google Earth Pro desktop app will no longer be available for new downloads on June 25, 2027, but the web and mobile versions will continue to be supported. If you or anyone you work with use the desktop version, be aware of this transition.
- iMAUG will be meeting in Wheaton tomorrow, August 12 – please attend if you can.

3.2 Executive Director Report

Megan Galeher noted that she will be attending the board meetings and program committee meetings now until the annual conference. Membership numbers are continuing to trend ahead of last year – total membership is currently 595, compared to 529 at this time last year. The number of sponsors is behind last year. There is still space for 4 more sponsor tables at the conference, and more could be added by rearranging the space. The ILGISA website lists all the current supporters under the "Our Sponsors" section; Mike will follow up with MAGIC sponsors who are not listed here.

3.3 Committee Updates

3.3.1 Education Committee

Chair—Adam Aull— Final arrangements are being made for judging the student scholarship awards. The committee's September meeting will be held later, after judging is completed, so that the committee can discuss any adjustments needed on the rubric for next year. Adam will need details on the procedures to follow for contacting scholarship award winners. The committee also discussed a request to add a link to GISdegree.org to the ILGISA website. The committee recommended not adding this link, due to the for-profit nature of the site and lack of focus on Illinois institutions. Keith will respond to the individual from GISdegree.org who made the request.

3.3.2 Finance Committee

Chair—Steven Spradling — Steven reviewed the Q2 financial report that was sent out to the board. The organization is ahead on membership dues but behind on sponsorships compared to last year at this time. Expenses are down due to having two regional meetings instead of three. This Thursday the committee will have its quarterly meeting.

3.3.3 Governance Committee

Chair—Mike Kamin— Lauren Lee reported on behalf of the committee, as Mike was under a tornado warning. Lauren reported that many board nominations have already been received for the upcoming election. Only one award nomination has been received so far. The committee has also been discussing how special interest groups should be supported and structured within the organization by-laws.

3.3.4 Professional Development Committee

Chair—Josh Carlson— Registration has begun for the virtual workshop series. As a result, a number of new members have joined the ILGISA forum. The series will begin on August 26th and be held on three consecutive Wednesdays. Burt, Hunter, and Josh will lead the workshops. The committee is also helping to encourage more workshop and panel proposals for the annual conference, and Dan is spearheading the August webinar on web accessibility.

3.3.5 Program Committee

Chairs—Mike Kamin and Steven Spradling – The committee is working to identify a keynote speaker for the annual conference, with speakers from National Geographic or Open Street Map being considered. Josh is continuing to establish planning for the GeoLounge this year, and details will be included in the conference schedule. Josh has also begun the formatting for the mobile agenda. Due to expected smaller attendance, the committee decided to increase the registration cost for the conference by \$5 for full conference registration and \$10 for single-day registration this year. Megan reported that about 45 submissions had been received in the call for content so far, and the call will be extended to August 20 to allow for more. Registration is now open for the conference, and the hotel block is also open until September 28 for reservations at the conference hotel. Bureau County has tentatively agreed to again lend AV equipment for the conference. The committee is still exploring options for a field trip to a local farm using GPS and drones and/or a visit from the EPA air quality bus.

3.3.6 Outreach Committee

Chair—Lauren Lee— The committee did not meet in July, but website updates continued throughout the month.

3.3.7 Strategic Plan Update

President-Elect Lee recommended tabling the strategic plan update until next month, due to multiple board members being under tornado warnings during the meeting (including President Darby).

3.4 Action Items

No Action Items this month.

3.5 Other Business

Mark Yacucci reported that new LiDAR data is now available for 19 counties in the state. The data is available for download through USGS, as well as ISGS. NG911 and statewide parcel projects are continuing.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Steven Spradling and seconded by Adam Aull. With no further business, President-Elect Lee adjourned the meeting at 10:35 AM CDT.