

GAC PLSS Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: January 12, 2026

Time: 10 AM –11AM

Location: Teams/ Virtual Meeting

Chair/ Facilitator: Kory Thurnau (MNIT)

Attendance List (14):

Kory Thurnau (MNIT); Jared Baloun (Jackson County); Peter Jenkins (Retired-MnDOT); Pat Veraguth (Douglas County); Brian Praske (Carver County); Alison Slaats (MNIT); Curtis Carlson (MNIT); Emilia Holstine (Fond du Lac Band); Chris Mavis (Hennepin County); Christy Christensen (McLeod County); Mary Jean Becker (Koochiching County); David Zieglmeier (Anoka County); Ryan Stovern (St. Louis County); Dan Baar (Ramsey County); Preston Dowell (St. Louis County)

Meeting Summary

1. Grant Program Updates

- Current status of 2024 PLSS grants:
 - 28 grants due between mid-February and March 31.
 - Majority on track for completion by deadline.
 - Some counties requested extensions (e.g., Cook, Roseau, Wadena, Lac qui Parle, Redwood).
- Email reminders sent to grantees with deadlines, SharePoint access, and deliverable requirements.
- Swift County highlighted for completing deliverables and launching a PLSS web viewer.

2. Survey Record Inventory

- Drafted a **Survey123 form** to collect county survey record information.
- Goal: Statewide inventory of survey records and accessibility status.
- Questions include:
 - County name
 - Surveyors or appropriate county staff contact info
 - Website or web map availability
 - Resources needed for inventory and online access

- Plan to distribute via MACS channel and grant contacts.

3. Future Enhancements

- Vision for integrating county PLSS data links into the new GLO retrieval site.
- Potential requirement for counties to submit shapefiles of project boundaries in future grants.

4. Upcoming Events

- Kory attending Wisconsin Survey Institute next week.
- Ryan representing GSLIS at WLIA conference.
- Discussion on learning from WLIA's legislative funding model.

5. Other Notes

- Grant modifications limited due to oversight concerns; extensions allowed, but major changes discouraged.
- Encouragement for counties with leftover funds to expand within original grant type.

Action Items

- **Kory Thurnau:**
 - Finalize and distribute Survey123 form within 1–2 weeks.
 - Continue reviewing submitted PLSS Grant deliverables.
- **Committee Members:**
 - Provide feedback on survey form if needed.
 - Share form through relevant networks (PLSS Grant Contacts, MACS, MCGISA, etc.).
- **Ryan Stovern:**
 - Report back on WLIA conference insights.

Next Steps

- Monitor grant completion progress through March 31.
- Collect survey record inventory responses.
- Explore integration of PLSS data into GLO site.