For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO RENAME THE ARKANSAS STATE LAND INFORMATION BOARD TO THE ARKANSAS GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS BOARD; TO MAKE THE STATEWIDE DIGITAL CADASTRE SYSTEM A REQUIRED FUNCTION OF THE BOARD; TO IMPLEMENT THE CENTERLINE PROGRAM AND THE ORTHOPHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM AS ONGOING FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD; TO ESTABLISH A MINIMUM ACCURACY LEVEL FOR STATEWIDE FRAMEWORK DATA; TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT OF A FEE SYSTEM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS STATE LAND INFORMATION BOARD.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code §§ 15-21-501 through 15-21-504 are amended to read as follows:


(a) In recognition that a vast majority of all information used in the management of government can be spatially referenced and that public institutions and private firms expend considerable resources collecting and managing land information records in diverse and disparate formats and scales, a modern automated system of accessible land information data and
technologies is required to serve the essential needs of individuals, businesses, and government agencies.

(b) Unnecessary duplications of effort and cost are incurred since currently available spatial data and land records are not consistently collected and maintained from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and state agency to state agency, are not maintained in a manner to assure total integrity, often do not meet National Map Accuracy Standards, and are not readily available or useful for cooperative planning or policy decisions.

(c) The essential component of all automated land information systems is valid, consistent, comprehensive, available, and current data. Since federal, state, regional, county, and municipal agencies, state universities and colleges, private firms, and others require the same spatial data, it is desirable that unnecessary duplication of effort be avoided, that existing data be shared in a coordinated manner, and that new data be developed in an accurate and usable form in accordance with the State of Arkansas Shared Technical Enterprise Architecture. Pursuant to this, all state agencies, boards, and commissions are required to cooperate and participate with the Arkansas State Land Information Geographic Information Systems Board.

(d) Implementation of an overall Arkansas land and geographic resources program requires cooperative methods for development and maintenance of spatial data between state and local governments in the State of Arkansas.

(e) The board will determine, define, and implement short and long-term strategies that will result in improved decision making, effective asset management, and reduced costs for the citizens of Arkansas.


As used in this subchapter:

(1) “Agency” means any agency or instrumentality of the State of Arkansas that utilizes geographic information systems data;

(2) “Arkansas Geographic Information Office” means the office that provides administrative and technical support to the Arkansas State Land Information Geographic Information Systems Board, including, but not limited to, staff, hardware, software, and representation;

(3) “Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure” means the combination
of state framework data, data repository, or GeoStor, distribution
mechanisms, and the staff and organizational structures necessary to
accomplish these activities;
(4) "Board" means the Arkansas State Land Information Board;
(5)(6) "Digital basemap" means a computerized representation of
map information;
(6)(5) "Digital cadastre" means the storage and manipulation of
computerized representations of parcel maps and linked parcel databases;
(7)(6) "Framework data" means commonly needed data themes
developed, maintained, and integrated by public and private organizations
within a geographic area. These data themes include, but are not limited to,
digital cadastre, public land survey system, elevation, geodetic control,
governmental units, hydrography, orthoimagery, transportation, soils, and
geology;
(8)(7) "Metadata" means a description of the content, ancestry
and source, quality, database schema, and accuracy of digital map data;
(9)(8) "Spatial data" means information that identifies the
geographic location and characteristics of natural or constructed features
and boundaries on the earth. This information may be derived from, among
other things, remote sensing, mapping, and surveying technologies;
(10)(9) "Spatial data repository" means the physical location
and content of the state's consolidated spatial data;
(10) "State Chief Technology Officer" means the Director of the
Department of Information Systems;
(11) "State Geodetic Advisor" means the coordinator of the
state's network of geodetic control monuments;
(12) "State Geographic Information Coordinator Officer" means
the person who provides administrative and technical support to the board;
and
(13)(A) "State of Arkansas Shared Technical Enterprise
Architecture" means the structure of program or system components,
how these components relate to one another, and the principles that govern
their design and evolution over time.
(B) Important aspects include the division of functions
among system parts, the means of communication among them, and the
representation of shared information same as the definition set out at § 25-
15-21-503. Creation — Board.

(a) The Arkansas Geographic Information Systems Board is created.

(b)(1)(A)(i) The board shall be composed of twelve (12) thirteen (13) voting members.

(ii) Twelve (12) of the voting members shall be appointed by the Governor for terms of four (4) years.

(iii) The thirteenth voting member shall be the State Chief Technology Officer.

(B) At the time of appointment or reappointment, the appointing authority shall adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of members of the board are staggered so that, insofar as possible, an equal number of members shall rotate each year.

(2) The board shall be composed of the following members or their designees:

(A) Three (3) state entity representatives;

(B) Three (3) city, county, and local government representatives;

(C) Three (3) private sector representatives; and

(D) Three (3) representatives of institutions of higher education; and

(E) The State Chief Technology Officer.

(3) All members of the board shall have knowledge of the use and usefulness of digital land and geographic information in the management of government and a general awareness of the role of mapping as related to that management.

(4) No person shall serve as a member of the board for more than two (2) full consecutive terms.

(5) Upon the death, disability, resignation, removal, or refusal to serve of any member, the Governor shall appoint a qualified person to complete board membership.

(c)(1)(A) A chair and a vice chair shall be elected by the board membership to oversee all board and committee meetings.

(B) Members of the board must elect a chair and vice chair
every year.

(2)(A) The board will work with shall appoint the State Geographic Information Coordinator Officer assigned by the Director of the Department of Information Systems to serve with the approval from the board and at the pleasure of the Governor.

(B) The State Geographic Information Coordinator Officer will:

(i) Assist the board in developing a comprehensive plan and evaluation procedures on how the state should implement tactical and strategic geographic information systems and land information systems planning;

(ii) Implement informational and educational programs; and

(iii) Coordinate intrastate geographic information systems and land information systems efforts.

(C) The State Geographic Information Coordinator Officer shall report directly to the Director of the Department of Information Systems Governor.

(d)(1) The State Geographic Information Coordinator Officer shall administer daily operations of the Arkansas Geographic Information Office with direction from the board.

(2) This may include liaison between the board, the Governor, the Director of the Department of Information Systems State Chief Technology Officer, and public or private sector entities involved in spatial data and land records modernization, project management in the preparation of the strategic planning documents related to spatial data and land records modernization, developing policy and procedures for land records modernization, and developing policy and procedures for the activities of the board.

(3) Additional requirements are the implementation of educational programs, coordinating vendor exhibits, and facilitating technical assistance and consulting.

(e) The board may conduct meetings at such places and such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish its objectives and purposes.
(f) Members of the board shall receive no compensation for their services.

(g) The board will be provided administrative support through the Arkansas Geographic Information Office.

(h) The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this subchapter shall come from the Geographic Information Systems Fund.

(i) The board shall seek the review and advice of provide an annual report on the status of the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure to the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology prior to issuing guidelines, proposed legislation, and strategic plans.

15-21-504. Duties, responsibilities, and authority.

(a) The Arkansas State Land Information Geographic Information Systems Board shall be empowered to:

   (1) Provide a strategy for the continuing development of the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure;
   
   (2) Develop standard metadata reports through the Arkansas Geographic Information Office; and
   
   (3) Direct available funds to mapping and land records modernization projects at various levels of government.

(b) The board shall:

   (1) Undertake a continuing study of the land information needs of federal, state, county, local agencies, and private entities in the state;
   
   (2) Review current and projected technology, standards, and collection methods and all statutes pertaining thereto;
   
   (3) Develop strategies and guidelines for spatial data systems and land records modernization; and
   
   (4) Pursue activities that result in coordinated, cost-effective programs for spatial data development and distribution.

(c) The board shall coordinate completion and maintenance of shareable statewide framework data, applications of geographic information system technologies, spatial project methodologies, and methods of funding.

(d)(1) The board will develop and implement a program to further the process of land records modernization.

   (2)(A) The board, using the technical support provided by the Arkansas Geographic Information Office, shall conduct a comprehensive study
of the costs, requirements, and benefits coordinate the development and maintenance of a statewide digital cadastre system.

(B) The digital cadastre manages and provides access to cadastral information. Digital cadastre does not represent legal property boundary descriptions, nor is it suitable for boundary determination of the individual parcels included in the cadastre.

(C) The board, using the technical support provided by the Arkansas Geographic Information Office, shall coordinate the development and maintenance of a statewide road centerline database.

(D) The board, using the technical support provided by the Arkansas Geographic Information Office, shall coordinate the development and maintenance of a statewide digital orthophotography database with a priority to be taken in leaf off conditions.

(e) The duties of the board shall include, but not be restricted to:

(1) Identifying issues, problems, and solutions in implementing an overall Arkansas land and geographic resources program;

(2) Identifying and clarifying the roles of participants;

(3) Developing an overall coordinating schedule for framework data projects;

(4) Recommending methods of financing;

(5) Developing recommended priorities for the distribution of funds;

(6) Developing procedures for the inventory, storage, and distribution of spatial information;

(7) Implementing an ongoing information and education program to promote understanding and productive use of spatial and land information systems by public and private entities and individuals; and

(8) Encouraging and coordinating collaborative spatial project efforts and rewarding participants of collaborative efforts that result in economies of scale or demonstrable cost savings.

(f)(1) The board, through the Arkansas Geographic Information Office, shall assist local and state government agencies in defining technical specifications and standards to use in the collection, distribution, and reporting of spatial information including metadata as required by the State of Arkansas Shared Technical Enterprise Architecture.

(2) The revised National Map Accuracy Standards shall provide
the basis for digital basemap standard guidelines.

(3)(2)(A) The board shall require metadata to be prepared and attached to all publicly funded mapping and geographic information systems databases.

(B) The metadata shall follow the Federal Spatial Geographic Data Infrastructure Standard will be followed for standard metadata reports by public entities that create digital geodata Committee content for the geospatial metadata standard.

(g)(1) The board will coordinate with the United States Geological Survey and other federal agencies in the development of Arkansas spatial data.

(2) The board will serve as a point of contact for existing or proposed federal programs that impact the creation of spatial data or the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure, or both.

(h) The board, through the Arkansas Geographic Information Office, shall review the strategic plans for digital mapping and land records modernization and make recommendations for the distribution of public funds for land records modernization, enhancement, and implementation.

(i) The Arkansas Geographic Information Office will serve as a statewide source of mapping and land geographic information technology information and will coordinate with the United States Geological Survey and the Federal Geographic Data Committee on metadata requirements federal agencies on state components of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure.

(j) The board will develop and require a data quality report to be prepared and attached to all publicly funded mapping and digital maps and their associated databases.

(k)(j)(1) The board shall enter into agreements with the Department of Information Systems and other qualified entities for the purpose of providing geographic information systems services and shall establish a system of uniform fees or special charges to be paid by the state and local government entities thus served to enable the board to defray the cost of providing the services as provided in this subchapter. The Arkansas Geographic Information Office may utilize existing repositories as appropriate in order to maintain the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure.

(2)(A) Agreements will be interagency service agreements and are exempt from the provisions of the Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-201 et
seq., and regulations.

(B) Further, these agreements will not be considered professional services or consulting service contracts.

(1)(1) The board is authorized to contract with the department to support the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure and to provide framework data and metadata for geographic information systems development to the public.

(2) The department will maintain the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure and may utilize existing repositories as appropriate.

(m)(k) The board, the State Geographic Information Coordinator, the Arkansas Geographic Information Office, and the Director of the Department of Information Systems or the director's designee shall submit an annual maintenance plan and budget for geographic information systems and geodata services relating to the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure to the board.

(n)(l) As directed by the board, the Arkansas Geographic Information Office will coordinate framework data development and maintenance, provide technical processing of data sets, evaluate adherence to state-approved mapping standards, and work with both state and federal spatial data stakeholders on statewide projects.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 19-5-1112 is amended to read as follows:


(a)(1) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund to be known as the "Geographic Information Systems Fund".

(2) The fund shall consist of:

(A) Funds approved by the General Assembly;

(B) Grants, gifts, and donations received by the State of Arkansas for the purposes of this section;

(C) Agency investments toward enterprise geographic information systems projects;

(D) Federal funds; and

(E) Any other funds allowable by law.

(3) This fund shall be used to:

(A) Carry out the duties, responsibilities, and authority of the Arkansas State Land Information Geographic Information Systems Board
as described by § 15-21-504;

(B) Create, operate, and maintain GeoStor, the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure; and

(C) Create, update, maintain, and disseminate framework spatial data as defined by § 15-21-502.

(b)(1)(A) The Director of the Department of Information Systems State Geographic Information Officer shall manage the fund, and the Governor shall oversee the expenditures from the fund.

(B) The Arkansas State Land Information Board board shall establish standards and methodologies for evaluating the funding of enterprise-level geographic information systems projects.

(2)(A) The director State Geographic Information Officer, with advice from the board, shall evaluate, prioritize, and approve proposals for geographic information systems projects.

(B) Such The proposals and requests for funding shall demonstrate any or all of the following:

(i) Improvement in the quality of life for Arkansans;

(ii) Elimination of redundant systems;

(iii) Improved service for Arkansas citizens;

(iv) Enhanced economic development opportunities in Arkansas;

(v) Implementation of electronic government twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week;

(vi) Substantial benefit to more than one (1) agency through lower operating costs; and

(vii) Continued development of the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure.

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