

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF GEOLOGICAL & GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS

Geological Mapping Advisory Board Minutes  
January 30, 2018 Meeting

The Alaska Geological Mapping Advisory Board held its winter meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 from 8:45 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. This meeting was held in Fairbanks, Alaska in the DGGGS Conference Room, lower floor at 3354 College Road, and at the Geologic Materials Center (GMC) Large Conference Room at 3651 Penland Parkway, Anchorage.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:**

**Board Members:**

Present were board members Anupma Prakash, Margaret Darrow, Tom Homza, Curtis Freeman, Greg Wilson, James Jones, Steve Adamczak, and Ethan Schutt.

**DGGGS Staff:** DGGGS staff in Fairbanks and Anchorage attended.

**Guests:** None

**Agenda:** Anupma Prakash moved and Steve Adamczak seconded to approve the meeting agenda. All in favor: agenda approved, no changes.

**Minutes (October 11, 2017 Meeting):** Tom Homza moved and Steve Adamczak seconded to approve the October 11, 2017 minutes. All in favor: minutes approved with no changes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Status of FY-18 StateMap Proposal and Funding – Steve Masterman:** The DGGGS StateMap award for the past several years has averaged about \$165,000. The same is expected for FY-18. The StateMap program is authorized under the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program Act. That act expires in 2018, and reauthorization is in progress.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**DGGGS Program Overview of Non-StateMap Projects**

- **Introduction and DGGGS News – Steve Masterman:** The state still faces a challenging budget environment. DGGGS may see some relief from sales of tax-credit seismic data through the GMC. Overview of DGGGS staffing, budget, and publications. Discussion of potential federal program called 3DEEP, for modernizing topographic and geologic maps in the U.S. and identify potential sources of strategically critical minerals.
- **Geologic Materials Center – Kurt Johnson:** Description of the GMC's purpose, staffing, and collections. Transfer of the former GMC property in Eagle River to the Alaska Division of Mining, Land and Water will occur on February 28, 2018.
- **Volcanology (AVO) – Ken Papp for Janet Schaeffer:** AVO staff are in a coordination meeting today with their statewide partners. Discussion of staffing, duties, and alerts/notifications.

- **Engineering Geology – De Anne Stevens:** Introduction of section programs: climate and cryosphere, coastal hazards, corridor studies and geologic mapping, geohydrology, and active tectonics. Discussion of future section plans.

## **BREAK**

- **Geologic Information Center – Ken Papp:** Presentation of strategies, staffing changes, and redistribution of duties to maintain services to the public, state agencies, and the private sector. Section response to new mapping standards as well as introduction of publicly available tools to facilitate data access and use. Among these were tools for elevation data, geochemical data, and geologic images.
- **Energy Resources – David LePain:** List of staff and their areas of expertise, section objectives, accomplishments, funding sources, and changing focus toward the North Slope of Alaska.
- **Mineral Resources – Melanie Werdon:** Overview of section mission, programs, products, 2017 accomplishments including 2016 Minerals Report, and future plans.
- **Airborne Geophysics – Abraham Emond:** Review and discussion of recent projects, upcoming publications, different stakeholders, and applications for data.

## **LUNCH**

**Maps on the Table – Geologic Review of FY-17 StateMap Project:** Power Point presentation by Robert Gillis, DGGs Energy Section on Tuxedni Bay field project.

**Presentation of AASG Student Scholarship – Steve Masterman and the University of Alaska, Fairbanks (UAF):** DGGs staff volunteered to create an Alaskan-geology-themed quilt, which was raffled at the 2016 AASG Annual Meeting in Girdwood, AK. Proceeds from the raffle were used to award two scholarships through the UAF Department of Geosciences.

## **Review of Future StateMap Proposal Areas**

- **Energy Resources – David LePain:** Summary of three potential sites: Shale Wall/Killik Bend, Kamishak Bay, and Halo Bay. All three would be two-year projects. Shale Wall/Killik Bend is currently the most promising site and aligns with the Energy section focus on the North Slope.
- **Mineral Resources – Evan Twelker:** The Minerals section is concentrating on the Yukon-Tanana Upland, per prior GMAB guidance. Presentation of possible sites based on mineral potential, land status, and areas already mapped. Discussion of potential sites.

**Public Comments:** None

**Board Feedback and Comments:** Several board members were impressed with the amount and quality of work produced by DGGs. They also expressed continuing interest in the 3DEEP program. Tom Homza supported the Energy section's refocus on the North Slope and encouraged the completion of DGGs work in Cook Inlet. James Jones expressed appreciation to the DGGs Minerals section for assisting with a map request. Anupma Prakash praised the synergy between UAF and DGGs in joint work and praised DGGs for being a leader in field safety. Steve Adamczak stated that he frequently uses the DGGs website for information, as it houses data that is otherwise difficult to find. Margaret Darrow suggested recognition for the work done by the volunteers at the GMC. Curtis Freeman reiterated that there is a great deal of

valuable information available on the DGGs website. He agreed with an earlier comment from Abraham Emond of DGGs that radiometrics should be added to geophysical data collection. Steve Masterman of DGGs requested board input on map scale standards for DGGs.

**Board Discussion and Project Ranking:** Discussion of candidate sites. Steve Adamczak motioned, Tom Homza seconded to accept the Energy section candidate site for the 2019 StateMap proposal. All in favor.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m by Curtis Freeman.