

# Minutes: PDAD Meeting 10 Mar 2009

---

Minutes taken by Jon Christopherson, SGT at the USGS EROS

13:00 PDAD Meeting

- 11 attendees (see list)

Jon Christopherson	SGT-EROS	Sioux Falls, SD	jonchris@usgs.gov
Robert Ryan	MSU - I2R	Stennis Space Center, MS	rryan@gri.msstate.edu rryan@i2rcorp.com
Gilbert Rochon	Purdue Univ.	W Lafayette, IN	rochon@purdue.edu
Mike McInerney	ERDC-CERL	Champaign, IL	mkmcinerney@ieee.org
Len Lafier	Booz Allen (NGA)	Herndon, VA	LAFIER_LEONARD@BAH.COM Leonard.J.Lafier.ctr@nga.mil
Peter Becker	ESRI	Redlands, CA	pbecker@esri.com
Kass Green	ASPRS	Berkeley, CA	kassgreen@earthlink.net
Chuck Olson	MTRI	Ann Arbor, MI	colson147440ni@comcast.net
Larry Handley	USGS	Rolla, MO	Larry.handley@usgs.gov
Angela Livingston	MJ Harden	Mission, KS	Livingston.angela@geoeye.com
Doug Smith	David R. Smith, PPD Director	Portland, OR	Doug@davidsmithmapping.com

- Stensaas introduced himself and passed along Robert Eadie's apologies for his absence.
- Stensaas introduced Bob Ryan, the incoming deputy PDAD Director. Bob gave a short overview of his background.
- Stensaas pointed out the website and pointed out presentations posted there from Pecora, etc.
- There is a UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) Sub-Committee being formed within PDAD. Larry Handley, USGS, is the proposed lead of this subcommittee
- The minutes from last meeting are in the process of being posted to the PDAD website. As a result, we will not review and approve minutes at this meeting.
- Stensaas reviewed the USGS QA Plan for Digital Aerial Imagery:
  - Sensor Certifications:
    - Have certified Applinix DSS 322,422, & 439; Leica ADS-40; Z/I DMC; and Ultracam-D & X models
    - Other systems under consideration or in-process now include the UltraCam-Xp,
    - Documentation being revised and will be posted on USGS **and** PDAD websites.
    - Data Provider Certifications:
    - Ranges in development, Sioux Falls nearing completion

- Goal is to replicate this and establish a best practice for establishing at least six ranges across the country
- Len LaFier asked about MTF, etc.
- Stensaas says we will post a review deadline date for the Calibration Range specs out on the web.
- Christopherson gave a brief overview of the "Spec & Check Tool" being developed at the USGS.
- Dr. Gilbert Rochon, Assoc. VP for Collaborative Research, Purdue University gave a short briefing on efforts to coordinate satellite downloads and data sharing around the world.
  - They have the Purdue Terrestrial Observatory and recently received a grant to replicate the observatory in Egypt and Turkey
  - They will receive EgyptSat-1 which has an 8m resolution. Also will receive CBERS-2B. Launched recently, in Ukraine,
  - NATO funds this station for a modest 287 000 euros.
  - There will be shared access to these new archives in other parts of the world
  - Since the US is launching fewer and fewer Earth observing satellites, and doesn't even have a radar satellite, the Third World is stepping up.
- Stensaas briefed some of the activities of CEOS WGCV and the Quality Assurance Plan for Earth Observation (QA4EO)
- There was no report from the Direct Georeferencing Committee
- Kass Green gave an update on the "10 Year Forecast".
  - It's been nearly 10 years since they started the original 10-year forecast
  - Green asked Steve Wallachs (sp?) about having NGA potentially fund this.
  - Mark Demulder was also in telecon (formerly of USGS, then of NGA, and now back at USGS)
  - There was discussion of funding possibilities
  - There are no actions for PDAD at this time, just send them good wishes
- UAS Subcommittee, to be chaired by Larry Handley
  - The special session held at Pecora conference was attended by 60-some people. Two sessions during Pecora, then two follow-on sessions after Pecora ended (attended by 75 people). A planned demonstration at Ft. Carson in Colorado fell through.
  - The UAS subcommittee is being established now
  - A notice will be sent to all PDAD members about opportunities to help with this committee
- Len LaFier asked about standards - Larry said that the discussions on this were (so far) limited to platform independence.
- So far there is little capability for wall-to-wall mapping at this time.
- Larry Pearsoll said that there are standards for UAVs. Mentioned work done during "Empire Challenge", and that DoD was working on developing common communication, receiving, processing efforts.
- There are two sessions this week at ASPRS.
- Christopherson asked if there was any action from the ASPRS Reno PDAD meeting about sending the FAA a letter to the FAA stating that the ASPRS and its members has great interest in this topic.
- Discussion followed about NITF and interoperability with the civilian agencies. Much discussion followed.
- Len Lafier suggested that there should be a test of the emergency response efforts. This way, the problems with interoperability could be identified and then perhaps plans made to work them off.
- Stensaas asked "is there an action here?" We agreed that "interoperability" or "accessibility" is a problem, and that it should be addressed.

- Chuck Olson commented that we should take care with our standards not to "institutionalize mediocrity"
- Larry Piersoll commented on standards and some people's tendencies to try to short-circuit the process, and thus minimize the impact of standards.
- Stensaas said that the PDAD will definitely support the Standards Committee. There is a 3-part process to establishing a Standard (or "guidelines" or "best practice", as the case may be) that should be followed. We will bring things forward to the ASPRS Standards Board to get their insights and advice in what steps to take next.
- The meeting ran out of time before we ran out of desire for discussions!
- Stensaas closed by saying that there are many more topics that we did not have time to address, but that we will try to keep the PDAD membership informed of these topics and more.