

Xan Wedel (KS)  
*Chair*  
Annette Watters (AL)  
*Vice-Chair*  
Pam Schenker (FL)  
*Secretary*

## NATIONAL STATE DATA CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE

*Representing a Network of 1,800  
SDC/BIDC Data Centers and Affiliates Nationwide*

Julie Hoang (CA)  
Jane Traynham (MD)  
Barbara Ronningen (MN)  
Robert Scardamalia (NY)  
Dan Veroff (WI)

*We Bring Value-Added Census Data and Education to the User*

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### State Data Center Conference Call Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 2, 2008

The conference call meeting commenced at 3:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time. All Steering Committee members were in attendance except Julie Hoang and Annette Watters. CLMSO was represented by Frank Ambrose, Barbara LaFleur, and Samantha Proctor.

The agenda items for this conference call were:

- Steering Committee Members
- October Meeting
  - ✓ SDC Speakers
  - ✓ ACS Training Session
- Election update
- Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) process
- Steering Committee Conference Call Schedule
- Strategic Planning Session
- C2SS Data
- Planning Database
- Website Redesign
- SDC Clearinghouse Website

#### ***Steering Committee Members***

Pam Harris submitted her resignation from the steering committee effective August 31, 2008. The chair nominated William “Chip” Sawyer to serve out the remainder of Pam Harris’ term. The nomination was seconded by Barbara Ronningen. The committee members unanimously approved Chip’s nomination.

#### ***October Meeting***

##### ***SDC Speakers***

Jane Traynham volunteered to speak at the October session at the Planning Database session. Steering Committee members also volunteered for the 2010 Communications Planning session. Barbara Ronningen volunteered either herself or another staff person from Minnesota and Bob Scardamalia (New York) also volunteered for this session. The steering committee will call to find another SDC lead to present at the Communications Planning session.

##### ***ACS Training Session***

Barbara Ronningen gave an update regarding the session. There will be a Q&A session and the Census Bureau has been open to the suggestions of the subcommittee. A session will also be added to discuss comparing ACS and Census 2000.

### ***Election Update***

Dan Veroff reported that 28 states have voted. Voting closes on September 19<sup>th</sup> and Dan will send out a 2-week reminder the end of this week and then also send out a 1-week reminder. As a reminder, five candidates are vying for three open seats. The nominees, Bob Coats, Sue Copella, Ron Crouch, Lenny Gaines, and Julie Hoang, have submitted statements about themselves and their views of the Steering Committee's role and work and the information is posted on the SDC/BIDC clearinghouse website at <http://www.sdcbidc.iupui.edu/committee/elections.html>.

### ***Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) Process***

The steering committee is starting to hear feedback from local governments that are working on the PSAP. It has been conveyed that the Census Bureau cannot accept shape files and that local governments must use the Census Bureau's MAF/TIGER Partnership software for this process. The steering committee will address this concern with the Bureau at the geography presentation at the October Meeting.

### ***Steering Committee Conference Call Schedule***

The next scheduled call for October 7<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled, as the steering committee members will be in route to the October Meeting. The steering committee will schedule calls between now and then on an as needed basis to discuss the strategic planning session and the October meeting.

### ***Strategic Planning Session***

There is a need for another call to finalize the agenda for the Strategic Planning session that will occur the day prior to the October Meeting. The major focus of the Strategic Planning session will be geography. A conference call will be scheduled for early next week with Nancy Kobilarcik. The steering committee will ask Annette Watters to present opening remarks at the Strategic Planning session.

### ***C2SS Data***

These data were recently removed from the Census Bureau's website. The Bureau will be sending out a notice about the removal of these data.

### ***Planning Database***

It appears that the Regional Offices have the enhanced database and the public version may have been delayed. CLMSO will continue to research the timeline for the planning database, and express the importance of making the public version of the planning database available sooner rather than later. CLMSO will also find out whether it is a software or data issue that is holding up the release of this information to the SDCs. If it is a software issue, then the steering committee indicated that states can work with the data without the software.

### ***Website Redesign***

CLMSO has a sketch of the shell of the website and is in the process of getting ready to develop and enter the content. CLMSO is currently awaiting new software to be issued to complete this project. Usability tests will be done during the October annual conference.

### ***SDC Clearinghouse Website***

The committee discussed the improvements that Rachel Justis had proposed - WIKI, archiving, RSS feeds, etc. The committee will review the proposal and discuss at a later time.

### ***Other Items***

There were no other items for discussion.

Conference call ended 3:50 pm Eastern Daylight Time.