



# Pee Dee GIS User Group Meeting

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

Florence County Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Library  
509 South Dargan Street  
Florence, SC 29501

## MINUTES

**10:00**                    **Welcome**  
Approval of November 16, 2011 Minutes - **James McCall made a motion and an unknown voice seconded the motion – everyone else in attendance was in agreement**

**10:10**                    **John Deere Robotics – Laura Bates, Customer Support Project Manager**

*John Deere's use of robotics, the information robotics provides, and the overall improvements provided to our customers*

Laura Bates is a graduate of North Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering and from the University of North Carolina with a Master in Business Administration. During her 12 years at John Deere, Laura has worked as a Product Verification and Validation Engineering, Product Marketing Manager, and currently as a Customer Support Project Manager. Her current responsibilities include technical communication, training, and development with the dealer channel and direct customers, data collection and automation of data channels for integration into product development in multiple locations (NC, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Europe, India) for development of services and products.

*Laura covered a few John Deere Products and how they use automation and GPS in the field that in turn helps customers get work done more efficiently.*

**10:30**                    **Break**  
**During Break Laura provided a demonstration of the autonomous lawnmower in the Founder's Room.**

**11:00**                    **Membership Update & Financial Report**  
**Caroline Dunlap gave the membership report – 55 had RSVPd to the meeting and 52 were actually in attendance. She also showed an ArcGIS Online map of attendee locations.**  
**Lorelei Kelly-Guiles gave the financial report, and specified how much was in the bank.**

~~**11:20**                    **John Deere Autonomous Mower Demonstration – Laura Bates (gave this demonstration during 10:30 break)**~~

**11:05**    **Roundtable Discussion led by Crystine Rathburn – Various members spoke on projects they were working on.**

**11:35**                    **Lunch Break**  
*Lasagna, Salad and Rolls catered by Stefanos*

**12:00**                    **SC Geodetic Survey – Matt Wellslager, SC Geodetic Survey Director**

*Where are we and how accurately can we map it. Let's talk about geodetic controls and datums. Have things moved or do we better understand the size, shape and mass of the Earth? You decide.*

Matt Wellslager is a graduate of the College of Charleston with a Bachelor of Science in Geology and from the University of South Carolina with a Masters in Geography. Matt started his career with the NOAA Corps. He was horizontal control officer on the NOAA Hydrographic

Survey Ship Whiting. It was here he first started doing geodetic control surveys. After three years on the Whiting, he was reassigned to the National Geodetic Survey and was sent to one of three GPS mobile field parties for three years. He started as an observer, was later upgraded to computer and finally chief of party. He left NGS in 1989 and began working with the South Carolina Geodetic Survey. He left the survey for about 5 years and returned in 2006. Upon returning to the SCGS, he started working with Real Time Kinematic surveys and cellular phones. In 2007, with the aid of the SCGS field crew, he managed the installation of the SC real time network and with Cindy Masi's assistance, has managed the operation and maintenance of the SC Real Time Network.

Matt gave an outstanding presentation covering geodetic controls and datums.

**12:50 Door Prize Drawing – Newest Model of the Trimble Juno (Compliments of Bradshaw Consulting Services) BCS  
Robbie Ervin won the Trimble Juno – did not receive it – will be shipped to him when it arrives**

**1PM Meeting Adjourned – Next Meeting Date: May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

