

**Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**  
Meeting of April 16, 1998

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Joe Holmes called the meeting to order at approximately 1:40 in the Louisiana Room of the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA. Thirteen members/alternates were present.

**2. Roll Call**

**Members or Alternates:**

*Joe Holmes, Department of Environmental Quality*  
*Sharon Balfour, Department of Transportation and Development*  
*Gene Stephens, Department of Economic Development*  
*Sean Fontenot, Military Department/Office of Emergency Preparedness*  
*Zella Scheve, LA Municipal Association*  
*Ron Couvillion, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries*  
*Fred Whitrock, Attorney General's Office*  
*Bo Blackmon, Department of Natural Resources*  
*Virginia Smith, Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism*  
*Ronnie Mayeaux, Louisiana State Police*  
*Glen Daigre, Division of Administration*  
*Scott Leachman, Louisiana Police Jury Association*  
*Brad Spicer, Department of Agriculture*

**Others:**

*Lynda Wayne, LA Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)*  
*Joel Register, LA Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)*  
*Pat O'Neil, USGS/WMD (Federal Coordinator)*  
*Joshua D. Kent, DOA/State Land Office*  
*John Freeman, LA Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)*  
*S. Dingman, National Park Service*  
*Karen Paterson, Division of Administration*  
*Tom Burkes, Division of Administration*  
*Eric Jeansonne, Department of Transportation and Development*  
*Mike Callahan, US Geological Survey*

**3. Summary of Last Meeting:**

The summary of the March 5, 1998 meeting was submitted and unanimously approved after a motion to accept was made by Sharon Balfour (DOTD) and seconded by Scott Leachman (LPJA).

## **Chairman's Report:**

- Comments on National Academy of Public Administrators (NAPA) Report  
Joe Holmes (DEQ), Sharon Balfour (DOTD), and Lynda Wayne (LAGIC) reviewed the NAPA Report and responded to an Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) request for state comments.
- National States GIS Council (NSGIC) funds for Framework Survey  
NSGIC is providing \$1,000 to Louisiana for management and participation in the recent Framework Data Survey. Use of the funds was discussed at length with three options emerging:
  1. Press NSGIC to 'hold' funds and apply to 1999 (Lafayette) conference registration for LGISC members.
  2. Put toward state 'Institutional' membership
  3. Issue to LAGIC to be used to support LGISC activitiesA motion was made by Brad Spicer (LDAF) that Glen Daigre (DOA) should further investigate the merits of each option and select accordingly. The motion was seconded by Ron Couvillion (LDWF).
- LAGIC Year Two: Status and Tasks  
A draft scope of services for Year Two was reviewed and a motion made by Glen Daigre (DOA) to accept the scope with the addition of dates for deliverables. The motion was seconded by Brad Spicer (LDAF).
- RS/GIS Workshop  
Approximately 160 individuals attended the Workshop. The LGISC had a well-attended session in which Joe Holmes (Chair/DEQ), Lynda Wayne (LAGIC), Joel Register (LAGIC), and Kay Henderson (DOTD) presented information about current programs and activities.

## **5. LAGIC Report**

Framework Data Survey – the following organizations had responded by April 7, 1998.

### State Agencies

Attorney General's Office  
Department of Economic Development  
Department of Transportation and Development  
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
Division of Administration  
Department of Environmental Quality

### Local governments/associations

Louisiana Police Jury Association  
Ascension Parish

### Federal field offices

US Geological Survey – Ruston

US Army Corps of Engineers – Vicksburg District  
US Army Corps of Engineers - Fort Polk

- **GIS Resource Inventory**  
Discussion continued regarding content, distribution, and intended use of the Resource Inventory. Minor content revisions were noted. The LGISC will provide a cover letter that outlines the intended purpose of the survey. Intergraph agreed to provide a 'giveaway' for survey participants. Glen Daigre (DOA) made a motion that LAGIC implement final edits and programming and proceed with distribution LGISC members. Brad Spicer (LDAF) seconded the motion.
- **Mailing/Contact List Update**  
Edits and updates to the LGISC mailing list continue. Individuals interested in joining the mail list should contact Joel Register (LAGIC) at [enregi@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu](mailto:enregi@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu).
- **LAGIC and LGISC Website**  
The LAGIC website is operational at <http://atlas.lsu.edu/lagic>
- **Metadata Development**  
LAGIC continues to work on a metadata entry system that guides users through the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM) and provides agency password protection. Beta testing of the system and training program will focus on the data distribution efforts of DEQ, LOSCO, and Office of State Lands.

## **6. Federal Agency Coordination**

Pat O'Neil (USGS – NWRC) announced that the USGS was soliciting comments regarding available digital elevation data. Those active in the development and application of these data and interested in affecting future USGS-sponsored elevation data development should contact him at [pat\\_o'neil@usgs.gov](mailto:pat_o'neil@usgs.gov)

## **7. Mike Callahan, USGS, New Federal Coordination Activity**

Mike Callahan (USGS) presented an overview of the Natural Resource Leadership Group (NRLG), nine federal agencies active in natural resource management in the southeastern US. Mike heads the GIS Working group of the NRLG and works closely with state agencies to develop interagency partnerships that focus on data/information coordination and exchange. The NRLG-GIS is also responsible for facilitating communication among the FGDC, regional federal offices, and state fields offices.

## **8. NSGIC '99 – Lafayette, LA**

Kathryn Foss, the NSGIC contractor leading 1999 conference planning, visited Lafayette recently to review facilities and potential activities. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) and Ms. Foss met with several Lafayette businesses. The conference is proposed

to be housed at the Hilton with tours and social functions planned at Rip Van Winkle Gardens and Vermilionville. Tentative conference dates are September 10-15, 1998.

#### **9. Old Business:**

- **LGISC Archive Committee Report**  
Bo Blackmon (DNR) reported that he has identified 40-45 document types that could be included in the archive. He will schedule a meeting with the Archive subcommittee – Sharon Balfour (DOTD), Glen Daigre (DOA), Zella Scheve (LMA), and John Freeman (LAGIC).
- **Civil Service Job Classifications**  
Mr. Bo Blackmon (DNR) reported that the proposed GIS job classifications are currently under review by Civil Service.
- **DOQQ's**  
New information was not available.

#### **10. New Business**

- LGISC must investigate its authority to promulgate and determine if Council motions are bonding upon State agencies.
- Glen Daigre (DOA) proposed that metadata be generated and maintained for all new data sets developed by State agencies effective January 1, 1999 and that all legacy data be fully documented with metadata by January 1, 2000. The LGISC will discuss this measure at the next LGISC meeting.
- Bob Zurfluh (National Geodetic Survey) was recommended to speak at the next LGISC meeting regarding conversion of data from NAD27 to NAD88.

#### **11. Next Meeting Date:**

The next meeting date was set as June 11, 1998 at 1:30 in the Louisiana Room on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of LA Wildlife and Fisheries Building.

#### **12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:10 p.m, based on a motion by Fred Whitrock (AGO) and seconded by Scott Leachman (LPJA).