

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of December 17, 1998

1. Call to Order

Chair Joe Holmes called the meeting to order and a quorum was declared at approximately 1:40 P.M. in the First Floor – Louisiana Room of the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

2. Roll Call

Agency Representatives:

Joe Holmes, Department of Environmental Quality
Sharon Balfour, Department of Transportation and Development
Bo Blackmon, Department of Natural Resources
Glen Daigre, Division of Administration
Jim Patton, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Kathleen Randall, House of Representatives
Sherel Martin, Louisiana Assessor's Association
Virginia Smith, Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
Truman McDaniel, Department of Health and Hospitals
Fred Whitrock, Attorney General's Office

Others:

Lynda Wayne, LAGIC
John Freeman, LAGIC
Joel Register, LAGIC
DeWitt Braud, LSU/G&A
Hampton Peele, LSU/LGS
Joshua Kent, Division of Administration/SLO
Rob Cunningham, LSU/CCEER
David Gisclair, LOSCO
Kay Henderson, DOTD
Eric Jeansonne, DOTD
Ed Leachman, ODBC
Steve Hartley, USGS/NWRC
Antonio Martucci, USGS/NWRC
Kim Manning, Senate

3. Presentation: Discrepancies Among Parish Boundary Files

Hampton Peele, Louisiana Geological Survey

Hampton Peele (LSU/LGS) provided a summary of issues that he and DeWitt Braud (LSU/Geography and Anthropology) encountered at LSU while compiling an updated version of the LOSCO-sponsored *Louisiana Oil Spill Contingency Plan Map CD*. Key among those issues were discrepancies among various GIS representation of the Louisiana Parish Boundary files. A brief assessment of available parish boundary data sets identified the DOTD parish boundary files and the recently digitized USGS/National Wetland Research Center parish boundary files as the two most appropriate data sets. Discrepancies remain,

Member Agencies: Louisiana Senate; Louisiana House of Representatives; Division of Administration; Military Department; Departments of Justice; Agriculture and Forestry; Culture, Recreation and Tourism; Economic Development; Environmental Quality; Health and Hospitals; Natural Resources; Public Safety and Corrections; Transportation and Development; Wildlife and Fisheries; the Louisiana Assessors Association; the Police Jury Association; and the Louisiana Municipal Association

however, between the data sets. The discrepancies can most likely be attributed to 1) use of physical features vs. legal descriptions to locate boundaries and 2) improvements in digitizing technology. The researchers were unable to ‘select’ a data set in that each provided specific merits. They identified the need for short-term and long-term solutions to the immediate Parish Boundary problem and requested that LGISC address the need for policies and procedures to address discrepancies among other common state-related data sets.

4. Chairman’s Report

Minutes for the Last Meeting

- The minutes of the November 19th, 1998 meeting were submitted and approved after a motion to accept was made by Glen Daigre (DOA) and seconded by Fred Whitrock (AGO).
- Joel Register (LAGIC) will be leaving his position as Data Manager for LAGIC and moving to Atlanta. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) will participate in LAGIC’s effort to fill the position.
- Joe Holmes, Chair (LGISC) recommended the LGISC further consider the issues raised by the parish boundary file research presented by Mr. Peele. Glen Daigre (DOA) motioned that the LGISC create a “boundary mapping policy committee that would work to establish guidelines to be used in mapping decisions regarding state-related political boundaries.” The motion was seconded by Sharon Balfour (DOTD) and passed unanimously.
- Joe Holmes, and other members of LGISC and LAGIC, continue to meet with the Office of the Database Commission (ODBC) Geospatial Working Group (GSWG) to develop a pilot study to highlight the value geospatial data and technology to the ODBC. Based on feedback from Senate staff and legislators, data will be collected for schools, hospitals, and prisons for Senate District 28.

5. LAGIC Report

Metadata Workshop

Lynda Wayne (LAGIC) reported that the LAGIC/LGISC metadata workshop on December 11th was a success and that six LGISC member agencies, two federal agencies, and the private sector were represented. The scope of training included introduction to the CSDGM metadata standard, using the *Corpsmet* metadata tool, creation of records, optional tools, editing and parsing records. Records created by participants will be posted to the LAGIC website for review and edit.

Inventory Final Report

Joel Register (LAGIC) reported that the new server was currently online and that the website can be accessed at <http://lagic.lsu.edu>. New passwords will be emailed out soon and Council members were reminded to use the website to complete their online resource inventory.

6. Old Business

Elections Committee Report

LGISC Nomination Committee members Kay Henderson (DOTD), Fred Whitrock (AGO), and Scott Leachman (LPJA) drafted a procedure for electing the Chair and Vice-Chair for 1999. Election procedures were submitted and approved based on a motion to accept by Sharon Balfour (DOTD) and seconded by Glen Daigre (DOA).

DOQQs Update

David Gisclair (LOSCO) announced that the USGS received the first shipment of DOQQs and the second group will be going out in late December (1998). Funding is still being pursued for converting photos for northern LA into DOQQ (\$500,000).

Archive Committee Report; Final Report

The Archive Committee's final report was submitted and approved after a motion to accept was made by Sharon Balfour (DOTD) and seconded by Glen Daigre (DOA). Virginia Smith (CRT) suggested that archive efforts begin with the submission of two paper copies of the approved LGISC minutes to the Recorder of State Documents Office, State Library of Louisiana, P.O. Box 131, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. LAGIC staff will see that all 1998-1999 minutes are submitted.

7. New Business

- Joe Holmes (DEQ) suggested that LGISC consider having a Strategic Planning Session in February 1999. It was approved after a motion to accept was made by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by Sharon Balfour (DOTD).
- The 15th annual Louisiana Remote Sensing and GIS Workshop will be held April 13-15, 1999. A ½ day session has been reserved for the LGISC to highlight State efforts and activities.

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was set as Thursday, January 21, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. at the LA Wildlife and Fisheries Building.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:55 p.m.