

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of January 21, 1999

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
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
Fred Whitrock, Attorney General's Office
Brad Spicer, Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Scott Leachman, Louisiana Police Jury Association
Kay Henderson, Department of Transportation and Development
Gene Stephens, Department of Economic Development
Jay Isacks, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

Others:

Lynda Wayne, LAGIC
John Freeman, LAGIC
DeWitt Braud, LSU/G&A
R. Hampton Peele, LSU/LGS
Michael Leitner, LSU
Virginia Smith, CRT
Joshua Kent, DOA/SLO
Rob Cunningham, LSU/CCEER
David Gisclair, LOSCO
Louis A. deLatour III, DOTD
Ed Leachman, ODBC
Mattie Cox, EBR Community Development
Emile Borne, Tower Technology
R. Brent Yantis, NASA/USL RAC
C.P. "Pat" O'Neil, USGS/NMD
Bill Blair, House of Representatives

3. Presentation: Dr. Michael Leitner, Louisiana State University

Michael Leitner (LSU/Geography and Anthropology) provided a summary of his work using GIS to analyze crime and described the Crime Mapping Research Center's (CMRC) new internet crime analysis initiative. The New Orleans police department currently has a website dedicated to mapping and describing crimes and suspects by area and encouraging the public to provide information. A similar crime website is planned for Baton Rouge in the near future. Dr. Leitner has identified crime "hotspots" in Baton Rouge using digital "pin" maps from Tiger file street maps. He is investigating the correlation between crime location and various socioeconomic variables. He is also interested in looking at the relationship of distance between homicide location and victim residence.

4. Chairman's Report

Minutes for the Last Meeting

The minutes of the December 17, 1999 meeting were submitted and approved with minor corrections following a motion to accept by Brad Spicer (LDAF) and seconded by Glen Daigre (DOA).

GIS Inventory Results

Chair Joe Holmes (DEQ) requested that each agency review their agency's inventory status and that all inventory updates be completed within three weeks. Agencies that do not complete their inventory will be placed on the record as having not participated.

Boundary Mapping Resolution

DeWitt Braud (LSU/G&A) and Hampton Peele (LSU/LGS) reviewed parish boundary data sets from the USGS/NWRC and LA DOTD and compared which set would be used for the new GIS CD of Louisiana. The LGISC had suggested during December's meeting that the sponsors meet and resolve the boundary issue. The sponsors (David Gisclair (LOSCO), Joshua Kent (SLA/DOA), Kay Henderson (DOTD), Steve Hartley (NWRC), Bo Blackmon (DNR), Lynda Wayne (LAGIC/LSU), Hampton Peele (LSU/LGS)), and DeWitt Braud (LSU/G&A), met on December 23, 1998 and discussed differences in boundary digitizing and registration and the major source for each boundary data set (NWRC – DRG's; DOTD – USGS and legal descriptions). The sponsors recommended that the DOTD boundary data set be used in the new GIS CD of Louisiana and may include the USGS boundary as a separate file (not as a project file).

Meeting attendance

The LGISC meeting attendance sheet will be submitted to the Agency Secretaries in the year end report.

5. Election of New Officers

Nomination 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 began with the nomination of Chair (Joe Holmes – DEQ, Scott Leachman – LPJA) and Vice-Chair (Sharon Balfour – DOTD, Scott Leachman – LPJA).

Nominees Acceptance and Vita

Scott Leachman (LPJA) is a civil engineer and worked as a consultant in New Orleans (Jefferson Parish) for eight years. Currently, Mr. Leachman is Director of the Lincoln Parish GIS Council and a member representative (LPJA) of the LGISC since its inception.

Joe Holmes (DEQ) has a Bachelors and a Masters in Geography from LSU and has worked with DNR and DEQ as a GIS Analyst, Supervisor, and Manager (current). Mr. Holmes has been a member representative (DEQ) of the LGISC since its inception.

Acceptance of Nominees by motion

The nominees for Chair and Vice-Chair were accepted based on a motion by Brad Spicer (LDAF) and seconded by Bo Blackmon (DNR). Nominees for Chair were closed based on a motion by Brad Spicer (LDAF) and second by Glen Daigre (DOA). Nominees for Vice-Chair were closed based on a motion by Brad Spicer (LDAF) and second by Fred Whitrock (AGO).

Nominations from the floor

There were no other nominations from the floor for Chair or Vice-Chair.

There was discussion as to an alternate's right to vote. A review of the bylaws was inconclusive and Scott Leachman (LPJA) moved that for the January 21, 1999 meeting, alternates be allowed to vote in the member's absence. Brad Spicer (LDAF) seconded the motion. Kathleen Randall (House) and Fred Whitrock (AG) objected to the motion and suggested that the LGISC use a conservative interpretation of the by-laws and limit voting to members. Scott Leachman (LPJA) withdrew the motion and Brad Spicer (LDAF) withdrew the second. An additional interpretation by Fred Whitrock (AG) rendered the term 'majority' to indicate the majority present at the election.

Verbal Vote by Members for Chair

Senate – absent	DHH – absent
House – Holmes	DNR – Leachman
DOA – Leachman	Public Safety – absent
Military – absent	DOTD – alternate only
DOJ – Leachman	LDWF – Leachman
LDAF – Holmes	Assessors – Leachman
CRT – alternate only	LPJA – Holmes
DED – absent	LMA – absent
DEQ – Leachman	

Scott Leachman (LPJA) was elected LGISC 1999 Chair by a verbal vote of 6 to 3.

Acceptance of additional nominations by motion

The nominees for Vice-Chair were reopened based on a motion by Brad Spicer (LDAF) and seconded Scott Leachman (LPJA). Joe Holmes (DEQ) was added to the nominees for Vice-Chair based on a motion by Brad Spicer (LDAF) and seconded by Kathleen Randall (House).

Verbal Vote by Members for Vice-Chair

Senate – absent	DHH – absent
House – Holmes	DNR – Holmes
DOA – Holmes	Public Safety – absent
Military – absent	DOTD – alternate only
DOJ – Holmes	LDWF – Holmes
LDAF – Holmes	Assessors – Holmes
CRT – alternate only	LPJA – Holmes
DED – absent	LMA – absent
DEQ – Balfour	

Joe Holmes (DEQ) was elected LGISC 1999 Vice-Chair by a verbal vote of 8 to 1.

Newly Elected Chair assumes office and control of meeting

DOQQs Status (moved from Old Business)

David Gisclair (LOSCO) announced that under Phase 1 the USGS has received 3 control blocks (3091-93) of DOQQs. Funding is still being pursued for converting photos for northern LA (north of 30.5). Request for funding was submitted as part of the Governor's Office budget but the status is unknown at this time. Louisiana Senator Ewing asked Brad Spicer (LDAF) to initiate a meeting to highlight the importance of DOQQs for Louisiana's state agencies. Joe Holmes (DEQ) asked what level of agency participation Senator Ewing expects. Brad Spicer (LDAF) suggests that Agency Secretaries attend the meeting with Senator Ewing to pledge their support.

6. LAGIC Report

Quarterly Report

The LAGIC Quarterly Report (Sept-Dec 1998) has been completed and reviewed by Sharon Balfour (DOTD and LAGIC/LGISC liaison) and Ed Leachman (ODBC). The report includes information about participation in meetings and coordination activities with LGISC, GIS/LIS '98, NSGIC, UCGIS, MMS, and USL EE-IRC/NASA, RAC. Other highlights include the addition of a new server (lagic.lsu.edu), metadata workshop, and resource inventory.

Data Certification Project

The primary purpose of this FGDC sponsored research is to identify the key issues – administrative, technical, and organizational - that must be addressed by a GIS data certification program. The research was prompted by LGISC interest in creating a 'corporate' data set and providing some form of data 'blessing'. LAGIC will perform an online survey of other related organizations, extract key issues, and develop staged implementation strategies for data

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

certification. LGISC participation in this research is vital. Research results are expected in the fall of 1999.

Metadata Records from Workshop

Once website revisions are complete – a metadata section will be available to participants to create, store and edit metadata records using Corpsmet. Metadata records created at the December workshop will be available via the metadata section of the LAGIC website.

Data Manager Position

LAGIC is seeking to fill the data manager position vacated by Joel Register. The position closes Friday and the new hire is expected to be in place by mid to late February.

Website Improvements

Both the LAGIC and LGISC websites are under heavy construction. The websites are being reorganized to improve usability, highlight the resource inventory, provide added sections for metadata and the LGISC minutes.

7. Old Business

RSGIS Workshop

Bo Blackmon (DNR) will work with a LGISC committee to develop the LAGIC half-day RS/GIS Workshop session in Lafayette on April 13-15, 1999. Those interested in presenting should contact Mr. Blackmon ASAP.

Civil Service Changes

Bo Blackmon (DNR) discussed changes in the state's civil service jobs specification. The civil service website describes major changes in levels and services. GIS jobs specifications and qualifications are now included within the information technology category.

ODBC Request

Ed Leachman (ODBC) requests that the LGISC review the data sets collected by the ODBC. The LGISC may make recommendations as to the inclusion of these data sets in the Louisiana ODBC key data catalog. A subcommittee was formed to review the process and criteria - Josh Kent (SLA/DOA), Fred Whitrock (AG), Joe Holmes (DEQ), Bo Blackmon (DNR), Kathleen Randall (House), and Lynda Wayne (LAGIC).

8. New Business

Federal Report

C.P. "Pat" O'Neil (USGS/NMD) announced that the Louisiana State – Federal Geographic Information Working Group would meet on April 12, 1999 at 9 a.m. (day prior to the RS/GIS Workshop). The NWRC and state agencies are invited to the meeting, which will provide an opportunity to identify existing databases that haven't already been discovered.

Strategic Planning Session

Joe Holmes (DEQ) requested the Chair designate a committee to set up the Strategic Planning Session planned for late February 1999. The committee for pre-planning includes Glen Daigne (DOA), Sharon Balfour (DOTD), Joe Holmes (DEQ), and Lynda Wayne (LAGIC).

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Website Additions

The approved LGISC minutes will be added to the Council's website.

Volunteer By-Laws Committee

Glen Daigre (DOA) requested the Chair designate a By-laws committee. Chair Scott Leachman (LPJA) appointed Fred Whitrock (AGO), Kay Henderson (DOTD), and Glen Daigre (DOA).

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was set as Thursday, March 25, 1999, at 1:30 p.m. at the LA Wildlife and Fisheries Building.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m. based on a motion by Joe Holmes (DEQ) and seconded by Glen Daigre (DOA).