

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of August 18, 1999

1. Call to Order

Chair Scott Leachman (LPJA) called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M. in the First Floor Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A quorum was declared at 2:40 p.m. with nine agency/organization representatives present.

2. Roll Call

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Office of the Governor, Division of Administration

Glen Daigre, **Member**

Department of Economic Development,

Gene Stephens, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality,

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department of Health and Hospitals,

Truman McDaniel, **Alternate**

House of Representatives

Kathleen Randall, **Member**

Department of Justice

Fred Whitrock, **Member**

Department of Transportation and Development

Sharon Balfour, **Member**

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Jim Hanifen, **Alternate**

Louisiana Police Jury Association

Scott Leachman, **Member**

Others Present:

Office of the Governor, Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, State Land Office

Department of Environmental Quality,

Paul Zundel, **Alternate**

Aimee Preau

Fulbert Namwamba

Department of Natural Resources

Sean McLaughlin

Department of Transportation and Development

Mary Kay Henderson, **Alternate**

Louis deLatour

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Robert Gottfried

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Lynda Wayne

Joshua Kent

Office of the Louisiana Database Commission

Ed Leachman

National Wetlands Research Center / USGS

Pat O'Neil

Jimmy Johnston

Steve Hartley

Suzanne Harrison, EE-IR Center

University of Southwestern Louisiana

Brent Yantis, NASA Regional Applications Center

National Geodetic Survey

Bob Zurfluh

C-K Associates

Perry Lopez

GEC, Inc

James Taylor

Scott Knaus

Tulane University

Stephanie Smith

3. Approval of June 18, 1999 Minutes

The minutes were submitted and approved on a motion made by Sharon Balfour (DOTD) and seconded by Glen Daigre (DOA).

4. Presentation:

New Louisiana Land Use / Land Cover Data

Steve Hartley, National Wetlands Research Center/USGS

Steve Hartley gave a brief presentation of the GAP data recently produced by the USGS for Louisiana. The data was produced statewide and was compiled from various sources including the 1998 National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and 1993 Thematic Mapper (TM) imagery and was subjected to thorough ground-truthing. The data set categorizes land cover into 23 classes based upon the Anderson Classification Scheme. Composite resolution of the data set is 30 meter pixels with a minimum mapping unit of 8 pixels. The data will be available online when the new NWRC server is installed, anticipated to be mid-September.

5. Chairman's Report

Chair Scott Leachman (LPJA) provided a summary of the activities of the National Governors' Association's Technological Information Committee. This committee is exploring issues pertinent to state information management and has recently recognized the role of GIS. Chair Leachman also encouraged LGISC member organizations to consider participation in the GIS Day, November 19, 1999. He indicated the LAGIC would provide additional information about the

GIS Day program later in the meeting.

6. LAGIC Report

Metadata Workshop and Online Workbook

Lynda Wayne (LAGIC) reported the August 6, 1999 Metadata Workshop at LSU was well attended and successful. Five member organizations, DOTD, DHH, CRT, SLO/DOA and the House attended. Other attendees included the City of New Orleans, the Louisiana University Marine Consortium (LUMCON) and several research librarians. The success of the day was due in great part to the new Metadata Workbook produced by LAGIC. Josh Kent (LAGIC) lead a demonstration of the workbook which served as a workshop guidebook, user CD, and, now, online resource. The LAGIC Metadata Workbook can be accessed at: <http://lagic.lsu.edu/metadatabook>

DOQQ Distribution

Lynda Wayne (LAGIC) presented the conceptual design of the Metadata Catalog and methods for linking to available data holdings. The DOQQ's will be used to pilot the program with the 'Statewide GIS' hosted by LSU's Department of Geography and Anthropology. Additional links will be established with the Environment and Energy Information Center of NWRC and USL.

GIS Day (<http://www.gisday.com>)

As part of National Geography Awareness Week, the National Geographic Society, American Society of Geographers and Environmental Systems Research, Inc. (ESRI) are sponsoring Friday, November 19, 1999 as GIS Day. The last day of Geography Awareness Week, organizations are encouraged to host events that promote GIS technology. Special emphasis is placed upon outreach to K-12. Organizations interested in hosting GIS Day events should register with the website above to receive a CD of information including banners, web materials, and event ideas.

Archive Activities

LAGIC has added a Library Science graduate assistant, Giovanni Tairov to lead development of the LGISC Archive. Giovanni, a native of Kazakhstan, holds a Masters degree in Library Science and is currently pursuing an advanced certificate in Library Science from LSU. To date, Giovanni has developed a GILS (Government Information Locator System) format record for documenting LGISC resources and will work with LAGIC staff to produce an archive work plan for presentation to the LGISC during September's meeting. He will be a valuable addition to the LAGIC team and will be particularly effective at aiding agencies in developing metadata.

6. Old Business

Data Lineage Guidelines

The 'Data Lineage Guidelines' developed and proposed at the last LGISC meeting were reviewed and discussed. Glen Daigre (DOA) suggested that the term 'agree to' should be replaced with the term 'will'. The Guidelines were approved with the amendment on a motion by Sharon Balfour (DOTD) and seconded by Fred Whitrock (DOJ). Balfour requested that the language be posted to the LGISC website.

LAGIC's Technical Support Role

Sharon Balfour (DOTD) reported that the committee established at the last meeting to further explore this issue had yet to convene and would prepare a report for the next LGISC meeting.

DOQQ Status

Pat O'Neil (USGS) provided the LGISC a tabulation of DOQQ production status and presented a mapped representation of the information. He is working on producing a web-based version of the graphic for future updates.

LGISC 1998 Annual Report

Scott Leachman, (Chair/LPJA) asked that the LGISC 1998 Annual Report be summarized. Once discussed, the LGISC approved the final report on a motion by Sharon Balfour (DOTD) and seconded by Glen Daigre (DOA).

NGS Advisor

Pat O'Neil (USGS) reported that the NGS Louisiana State Advisor position had been secured with the National Geodetic Survey. Several state and federal agencies provided support including NWRC/USGS, DOTD, DNR, USACE, and DOA. Bob Zurfluh will resume the position that will be housed in the State Land Office. The State was unable to generate the total funds needed to support the position so the NGS will dispatch Zurfluh to projects outside of the state if needed.

NSGIC Conference in New Orleans August 27- September 2, 1999

Sharon Balfour (DOTD) reviewed the meeting events and encouraged all to participate in the upcoming NSGIC Conference. She reported that most of the logistics had been finalized, however, assistance is still needed with registration and preparation of conference materials

8. New Business

Department of the Military / National Guard GIS Services

Glen Daigre (DOA) provided information about the National Guard GIS laboratory and staff in Pineville LA. The Guard has recently assisted the State Archaeologist Office in developing GIS products and is now offering GIS system design capabilities. This has raised some concern in that various offices within

CRT are currently pursuing similar efforts to develop GIS capabilities. Glen Daigre (DOA) suggested CRT should pursue an agency-wide approach. The discussion focused on methods of balancing individual office needs with an overall agency implementation strategy. Brent Yantis (NASA RAC / USL) provided additional insight regarding the National Guard capabilities and role. It was made clear that the National Guard was responding directly to needs of the Archaeologist Office and was in no way responsible for coordinating other CRT agency interests. Glen Daigre (DOA) noted that the LGISC previously voted to provide technical services to CRT in their effort to develop a department-wide GIS implementation plan that would maximize the use of their limited resources. Daigre expressed concern that programs within CRT might broker for individual GIS consulting services and that such action may prove counterproductive to the department-wide effort. Kathleen Randall offered a motion that Glen Daigre contact CRT as an informative gesture and offer the LGISC's assistance in addressing this matter. Sharon Balfour seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Louisiana Federal/State GIS Working Group

Pat O'Neil (USGS) announced that the Fed/State GIS Working Group would meet August 24, 1999 in Alexandria, Louisiana. Jerry Daigle and the Natural Resource Conservation Service will host the meeting

DEQ Offers SOP Language for GPS Equipment Acquisition

Joe Holmes (DEQ) announced that DEQ has finalized standard operation procedures (SOP) for the acquisition of GPS equipment and will gladly distribute the document among other agencies. Paul Zundel (DEQ) explained that the document was developed to assure three meter or less 'map quality'. Those interested in the document should contact Joe Holmes at 225.765.0884. Joe will bring copies to the next LGISC meeting.

7. Determine Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 1999 (3rd Thursday of the month) at 1:30 in the Louisiana Room of the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:40 P.M. on a motion by Joe Holmes (DEQ) and seconded by Fred Whitrock (DOJ).