

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of March 15, 2000

1. Call to Order

Chair Bo Blackmon (LDNR) 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 not present as there were only six agency representatives present. Chair Blackmon called the meeting to order as a committee of the whole.

2. Roll Call

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Economic Development,

Gene Stephens, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality,

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department of Natural Resources

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

Department of Transportation and Development

Sharon Balfour, **Member**

Louisiana Police Jury Association

Scott Leachman, **Member**

Louisiana Municipal Association

Mattie Coxe, **Member**

Others Present:

Department of Economic Development,

Andrew Kuyoro, **Alternate**

Department of Transportation and Development

Mary Kay Henderson, **Alternate**

Eric Jeansonne

George Gele

John Wells

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, State Land Office

Intergraph Corporation

John Speice

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Dina Sa, GIS Analyst

Joshua Kent, Data Manager

Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office

David Gisclair, Technical Assistance Program Director

Louisiana State University

Pat Skinner, LSU Agricultural Center

Dearma K. Dokey, LSU Agricultural Center

Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON)

Ben Cole

Office of the Louisiana Database Commission

Ed Leachman

Regional Planning Commission

Lynn Dupont

USGS / Water Resources Division

Trish D'Arconte

3. Approval of February 16, 1999 Minutes

The minutes were submitted and reviewed. No changes were recommended and action will be made upon quorum of the council.

4. Chairman's Report

Chair Bo Blackmon (LDNR) reported that he had attended the Louisiana Digital Government presentation by Don Hutchinson (DOA) on March 1, 2000. The LA Digital Government program is intended to provide governmental services to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Chair Blackmon also summarized his 3/15/2000 report to the Louisiana Data Base Commission. The council report addressed four (4) important issues: Data Certification, Louisiana Geospatial Metadata Catalog, GIS Primer, and the status of the LAGIC director position.

Finally, Chair Blackmon reported that Mr. Ben Cole (LUMCON) is in need of information regarding the software licensing of SURFER software. Anyone using SURFER is requested to contact Mr. Cole.

5. LAGIC Report

Status of NSDI Metadata Server

Mr. Josh Kent (LAGIC) reported that the final hardware upgrade to the metadata server has been completed and that the server is now capable of handling the resource requirements of data distribution.

Regarding the NSDI node software, ISITE, LAGIC reported that the software patch failed to solve the current distribution limitation problem. Those interested in the entire catalog of data can download it from the LAGIC website (<http://lagic.lsu.edu>).

Data Themes for the LAGIC Thesaurus UPDATE

The Data Themes categories proposed by LAGIC and supported by the Council have been incorporated into the metadata on the LAGIC website without problems. The theme categories have enhanced the search capabilities of metadata on the LAGIC website.

GIS Primer Status

Mr. Kent reported that development of the GIS Primer is underway. The Technical Services Committee meeting was held immediately following the council meeting to discuss particular aspects of the Primer's development.

The GIS Primer is a web-based introduction to GIS for policy makers and agency management. It is intended to provide detailed discussions regarding the development and implementation of GIS for organization interested in utilizing its capabilities.

LAGIC Director Status

Mr. Kent reported that the Center for Coastal, Energy, and Environmental Resources (CCEER) has requested references from the Director candidates. Invitations for interviews are expected to be sent to the candidates soon.

6. Old Business

DOQQ Update

Mr. David Gisclair (LOSCO) submitted a DOQQ status report to the Council.

~~✍~~ FLIGHT Production Status

- Re-Flight film has been reviewed and accepted.
- Statewide photography is 100% complete.

~~✍~~ DOQQ Production Status

- Phase 1 – USGS Production 98% Complete
- Phase 1 – Mr.Sid Imagery: Available on Atlas (<http://atlas.lsu.edu>)
 - ~~✍~~ UTM Zone 16 images will be converted to Zone 15 and available online by Mid March.
- Phase 2 – USGS Production: No procurement task orders have been processes as of this date.
 - ~~✍~~ Task Orders will be submitted upon signed MOU from USACE and USGS for contract funding and QA obligations.
 - ~~✍~~ USGS stated that no Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for contract funding arrangement could be made between the US Geological Survey (USGS) and US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for Phase 2, because the USGS already has funding arrangements with LOSCO through an Innovative Partnership. However, the USGS and USACE will enter into a MOA to address the issues of QA review. The USGS will provide a QA review and USACE will process payments once the product meets USGS specifications.
 - ~~✍~~ LOSCO has prepared the first five Task Orders for procurement of Phase 2 DOQQs. They will be submitted to DNR when the MOA between USGS and USACE for QA review is executed.

NGS Advisor

Ms. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) reported that the National Geodetic Survey has not moved the multi-party agreement out of their legal department as of this date. Contributing state agencies need the agreement to move forward due to the year-end fiscal spending period.

Ms. Balfour also reported that there are indications that DOTD's current funding may not be available for the NGS Advisor's position next fiscal year.

LA RS/GIS Workshop

Chair Blackmon (DNR) reported that the RS/GIS Workshop planning is under way. A budget meeting is expected to convene soon to discuss concerns regarding the expense of food, specifically crawfish. There are indications from vendors that crawfish may not be available as late as May.

Current schedule for the workshop:

- LAURISA/LGISC co-sponsored paper session Wednesday
- Technical Session Thursday Morning regarding DOQQs, Data distribution, and LA Statewide GIS CD
- Crawfish Boil Thursday afternoon at the Kenilworth Country Club (acquired by Vice Chair Dennis Eilers (CRT)).

Ms. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) informed the Chair that the printable registration form is un-dated, un-titled, and fails to indicate price. Chair Blackmon made note of the problem for correction.

State GIS Job Specification Changes

Chair Blackmon has reported that Dual Career Ladder Positions (higher position without supervisory requirements) have been developed by state Civil Service. This policy allows a department to establish their own career tracks for positions in that agency.

Chair Blackmon also reported that minor changes to the current Civil Service GIS qualifications have eliminated previously eligible candidates.

Chair Blackmon will also investigate the errors listed for the current job qualification specifications available on the Civil Service web site.

Digital Data Committee report Data Stewardship

Committee chair, Joe Holmes (LDEQ) reported to the council the results of the first Digital Data Committee meeting. Mr. Holmes expressed the need for a representative from the Attorney General's office on the committee. Discussions focused on the details regarding the parish boundary and what agency is the custodian of the boundary. The committee developed a list of issues that need to be addressed in future meetings:

- Need for more input from Council
- Need for representation from the Attorney General's Office
- Custodian maintenance requirements
- Revisions of data schedule
- Data Distribution Responsibilities
- Criteria for judging what data is "blessed"
- Criteria for judging what data should not be "blessed"

Ms. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) initiated discussion regarding the potentially difficult issues associated with the "Official Map of Louisiana" published by the Department of Transportation and Development, Public Works. DOTD/PW is developing a digital version of the "Official Map of Louisiana" with the Louisiana Geological Survey. Recommendation was made to invite Curtis Patterson of DOTD/PW to the Digital Data Committee.

Mr. John Wells (DOTD) and Ms. Mary Kay Henderson (DOTD) reiterated the concerns associated with 'blessed' datasets and the criteria for determining who is responsible for that data and how it is updated.

Chair Blackmon reported that a discussion with Mr. Gary Kaiser (AG) might result in a representative soon.

7. New Business

2000 NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP)

Ms. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) informed the council of the FGDC CAP grants available. Anyone interested in the CAP grants can visit the FGDC web site for more information.

NSGIC Balance

Ms. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) reported on the request by NSGIC to waive or spend the current \$500.00 balance remaining in the NSGIC coffers. Anyone recommending a use of the money should contact Sharon Balfour.

Louisiana State/Federal GIS Coordinating Committee

Ms. Balfour reported a request from Pat O'Neil (USGS) regarding the attendance of the State/Federal GIS Coordinating Committee at the next LGISC meeting in April 2000. Chair Blackmon requested that LAGIC take steps to reserve a meeting room to accommodate the State/Federal GIS Coordinating Committee morning meeting and LGISC meeting in the afternoon.

DOQQ Distribution by private organization

Mr. David Gisclair (LOSCO) requested information from the council regarding the issues associated with a private company developing and distributing customized recordings of DOQQ data on CD-ROM for a fee. The Council recommended that LOSCO contact the Attorney General's office for more information.

8. Determine Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for April 19th 2000 at 1:30 in the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:15 P.M. without motion.