

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of April 19, 2000

1. Call to Order

Chair Bo Blackmon (LDNR) called the meeting to order at 1:45 P.M. in the Third Floor Conference Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A quorum was present with nine agency/organization representatives present.

2. Roll Call

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism,

Dennis Eilers, **Member**

Department of Economic Development,

Gene Stephens, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality,

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department Health and Hospitals,

Truman McDaniel, **Alternate**

House of Representatives

Kathleen Randall, **Member**

Department of Natural Resources

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

Department of Transportation and Development

Sharon Balfour, **Member**

Louisiana Assessors' Association

Sherel Martin, **Member**

Louisiana Police Jury Association

Scott Leachman, **Member**

Others Present:

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, State Land Office

Department of Economic Development,

Andrew Kuyoro, **Alternate**

House of Representatives

William Blair, **Alternate**

Department of Transportation and Development

Eric Jeansonne

Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office

David Gisclair

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Dina Sa

Joshua Kent

Louisiana State University

DeWitt Braud, Geography and Anthropology

Rob Cunningham, CCEER

Pat Skinner, LSU Ag Center

USGS / National Wetlands Research Center

Pat O'Neil

National Geodetic Survey

Bob Zurfluh

3. Approval of February 16 and March 15 Minutes

The minutes were submitted and approved on a motion made by Mr. Scott Leachman (LPJA) and seconded by Ms. Sharon Balfour (DOTD).

4. Chairman's Report

Chair Bo Blackmon (DNR) deferred the chairman's report for inclusion through the council meeting.

5. LAGIC Report

FGDC Metadata to MARC21 Conversion

Mr. Joshua Kent (LAGIC) reported on a project developed by Mr. Adam Chandler and Mr. Dan Foley of the USGS, Energy and Environmental Information Resources Center (EEIRC). The project was developed to expand the access and availability of Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) geospatial metadata records via a worldwide library catalog system.

Mr. Chandler and Mr. Foley have worked to develop a tool that converts an *.SGML metadata file into a MARC21 compatible library indexing format. LAGIC provided metadata records used to test and evaluate the function and capabilities of the conversion tool. Successfully converted files were compiled and included into the worldwide library catalog (known as WorldCat) by Ms. Anne Stanton and Ms. Linda Griffin of the LSU Library.

With some technical issues remaining to be resolved, this mechanism has proven the validity of the project by expanding the accessibility of geospatial data.

GIS Primer Framework

Mr. Joshua Kent (LAGIC) presented the current development stage of the LGISC GIS Primer web site. The presentation demonstrated the information available to local and state entities interested in developing a GIS for their organization.

Concern was expressed regarding the listing of commercial vendors on the site. Discussion regarding the appropriateness of listing vendors concluded with the

recommendation that the technical committee review input obtained from the RS/GIS Workshop.

The Primer will be available to the public during the RS/GIS workshop in May 2000. The workshop will act as a testing ground, validating the content and resources available from the web site. Prior to the workshop, a review of the content will be available to the LGISC technical committee. Recommendations and corrections will be implemented in time for its public release.

LAGIC Director Status

Candidate interviews are scheduled for May.

Farewell to Sastry Chundury

Mr. Joshua Kent (LAGIC) reported on the departure of Graduate Assistant, Sastry Chundury.

6. Presentation: FGDC Transportation Framework Layer: Standards & Subcommittee Report by Kay Henderson (LADOTD)

Ms. Henderson was unable to make the presentation and has requested that it be rescheduled for June.

7. Old Business

DOQQ Update

Mr. David Gisclair (LOSCO) reported on the current DOQQ status.

- *Phase One:* Currently 1362 DOQQs have been submitted to the ATLAS web site. These maps are expected to be online in the immediate future.
- *Phase Two:* Procurement task orders remain un-submitted awaiting approval of Quality Control Plan negotiated and signed by the US Army Corps of Engineers and US Geological Survey. In the Quality Control Plan, the US Army Corps of Engineers, responsible for procuring CIR DOQQs, agreed to continue the quality assurance review performed by the USGS on Phase 2 of the Louisiana - USGS Innovative Partnership project. Upon completion of Phase 2, statewide CIR DOQQ coverage will be available.

NGS Advisor Status

Ms. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) reported on the status of the NGS Advisor's position. Currently, the NGS has approved the Multi-party agreement between the NGS and Louisiana state agencies. Ms. Balfour is currently in the process of contacting the correct account personnel for the participating agencies.

Mr. Pat O'Neil (USGS) reported that the Feds will agree to the agreement but will not be able to sign the MOU.

Discussion regarding the future funding and long-term objectives for the NGS advisor were discussed. Mr. O'Neil reported to the Council that there is a long-term need for the NGS advisor (projects including shoreline restoration, HARN

base stations, and conflict resolution). Mr. O'Neil encourages a long term funding solution in order to prevent the uncertainty of the position.

NSGIC 'credited' funds

The LGISC has a \$500 credit with NSGIC and must decide how to use the money. A proposal was made to use the money to pay for the LGISC Chair's registration fee for the next NSGIC annual conference. Joe Holmes (LDEQ) moved to accept the motion, Sherel Martin (LAA) seconded.

6. New Business

Data Themes

David Gisclair (LOSCO) reported on the development and improvements made to the data themes category developed by LOSCO, Hugh Phillips (3001,Inc), and Lynda Wayne (formerly LAGIC). The theme classification scheme is based on the 7 FGDC Framework Data Layers and the Proposed LAGIC Data Themes. Because most of the datasets developed for the LOSCO EBI fall under a "MISCELLEANOUS" category of the FGDC Framework data layers, the EBI datasets demonstrated a need for the FGDC to expand their framework.

As such, LOSCO developed a new theme category scheme that organizes EBI data in a more meaningful way. LAGIC recommends the implementation of these categories for all datasets available from the LAGIC web site as it represents the best categorization scheme to date.

Chair Blackmon recommended that these categories be reviewed and a formal resolution be developed to recommend the use and development of these data theme categories.

LGISC Resource Inventory

Mr. Joshua Kent (LAGIC) provided handouts to the LGISC members regarding the 2000 Resource Inventory. LAGIC encourages Council members to begin the inventory as soon as possible. Additional reminders will be made frequently.

Satellite Tour of Louisiana

DeWitt Braud (LSU-G&A) worked with LAGIC to provide the Satellite Tour of Louisiana presentation on the Internet. The presentation, created by the Dept. of Geography and Anthropology, details the diversity of features in Louisiana and includes detailed explanation of the satellite imagery. The presentation is available online at <http://lagic.lsu.edu/satellitetur>.

LIDAR

Mr. David Gisclair (LOSCO) reported to the council on the status of 2 task orders submitted to the US Corps of Engineers. Additional task orders are under development and are expected to be submitted soon.

USGS-States Workshop Meeting

Mr. Pat O'Neil informed the council of a nation wide workshop for mapping tentatively scheduled for September 2000.

State/Federal GIS Coordinating Committee and LA GIS Council Meeting

Mr. Pat O'Neil expressed the State/Federal GIS Coordinating Committee's interest in attending/sharing LGISC meeting date in July 2000. Chair Blackmon recommended that a day consisting of two sessions (morning and afternoon) be scheduled and requested that LAGIC take the steps necessary to accommodate the meetings tentatively scheduled for July 26, 2000.

7. Determine Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2000 (3rd Wednesday of the month) at 1:30 pm in the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:50 P.M. on a motion by Scott Leachman (LPJA) and seconded by Sharon Balfour (DOTD).