

## **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of August 23, 2000

### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Bo Blackmon (LDNR) called the meeting to order at 1:34 P.M. in the First Floor Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A quorum was declared at 1:40pm as ten agency /organization representatives were present.

### **2. A Word from Don Hutchinson, Dept. Commissioner of Administration**

Chair Blackmon initiated the Council meeting by introducing Don Hutchinson, Deputy Commissioner of Administration. Mr. Hutchinson thanked the Council for inviting him and immediately began to explain a technology initiative currently being developed for the state called, "LA Connections."

With handouts, Mr. Hutchinson explained the goal to transform Louisiana to Digital State Government. The vision of LA Connections is to provide every citizen with access to its government digitally, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The presentation focused on seven goals outlined in the LA Connections handout.

Following the presentation, Mr. Hutchinson entertained questions from the Council. The first question asked by Chair Blackmon inquired about the roll the new Chief Information Officer will take with the Council. Mr. Hutchinson informed the Council that the new CIO will be appointed sometime in September 2000 and will focus primarily on the LA Connections initiative. Mr. Hutchinson continued by suggesting that the Council participates extensively in the strategies to develop and deploy GIS across the state.

Ms. Sharon Balfour asked Mr. Hutchinson if he were aware of the National and State movement to create a Model Law for Professional Surveyors. Mr. Hutchinson indicated interest in the topic and received more details about the attempts to move GIS data development into the hands of surveyors.

Following additional discussion of the surveyor model law and its implications, Chair Blackmon thanked Mr. Hutchinson for attending the council meeting.

Following the departure of Mr. Hutchinson, the Chair requested that Mr. Daigre work with the council and Mr. Hutchinson to ensure the attendance of the appointed CIO at the earliest possible Council meeting.

### **3. Roll Call**

Attendance was confirmed by Roll Call. Council members indicated their presence to the chair for confirmation.

#### **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 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**

Rich Bailey, **Alternate**

**Louisiana Police Jury Association**

Scott Leachman, **Member**

**Louisiana Municipal Association**

Mattie Coxe, **Member**

#### **Others Present:**

**Office of the Governor, Division of Administration**

Marty Beasley, **Alternate**

Don Hutchinson

Chris LeBlanc

**Department of Economic Development,**

Andrew Kuyoro, **Alternate**

Dale Aydell

**Department of Transportation and Development**

Mary Kay Henderson, **Alternate**

Eric Jeansonne

John Wells

**Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office**

David Gisclair

**Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)**

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

Dina Sa

**Office of the Louisiana Database Commission**

Ed Leachman

Karen Paterson

**Louisiana State University**

DeWitt Braud, Geography and Anthropology

Roy Dokka, Geology

Hampton Peele, LGS

**National Geodetic Survey**

Bob Zurfluh

**City of Lake Charles**

Carl L. Chanle

**Calcasieu Parish**

Michael Baily

**Amite River Base Commission**

Dietmar Rietschier.

**ESRI**

Danny Spillman

**PSI**

Chris Klahorst

#### **4. Approval of April, May, June, and July 2000 Minutes**

The minutes, having already been submitted and reviewed, went to vote immediately on a motion to approve by Mr. Glen Daigre (DOA) and seconded by Ms. Sharon Balfour (LADOTD).

The July 2000 minutes were submitted and reviewed by the council. A motion to approve the July 2000 minutes was made by Mr. Daigre and seconded by Mr. Rich Bailey (LAA).

#### **5. Chairman's Report**

Chair Bo Blackmon (LDNR) discussed current efforts on behalf of Mr. Glen Daigre (DOA) and Don Hutchinson (Deputy Commissioner of Administration) to encourage member agencies to participate in council meetings.

Chair Blackmon thanked Joshua Kent (LAGIC) for presenting the GIS Primer to the Data Base Commission on August 9, 2000.

#### **6. LAGIC Report**

**Introducing the new LAGIC Director:**

Chair Blackmon introduced to the Council the new LAGIC Director, Mr. Craig Johnson. Mr. Johnson thanked the chair and introduced himself. Mr. Johnson described his experiences in Federal, State, and local governments, included information about his education, and expressed his desire to meet with all of the council members.

**GIS Primer Update:**

Mr. Joshua Kent (LAGIC) reported that there will be some additions and content added to the GIS Primer web site in the coming future. Additions include an introduction to Cartographic concepts, implementation experiences, and more.

Ms. Kathleen Randall (HOUSE) asked for an estimated visitor count on the GIS Primer site. Mr. Kent reported that there have been approximately 100 hits since its beginning, primarily do to it being in 'beta' review. Additionally, the GIS Primer will soon become accessible from *Info Louisiana* in the near future.

**7. Presentation: LSU National Center for Geoinformatics by Dr. Dokka (LSU) and Mr. Braud (LSU)**

Dr. Roy Dokka and Mr. DeWitt Braud presented to the Council the NASA initiative for a National Center for Geoinformatics at LSU. The Presentation demonstrated the need for Remotely Sensed data in Louisiana and capabilities that the center can provide.

Following the presentation, Dr. Dokka entertained questions from the Council. The first question asked by Mr. Glen Daigre inquired about the overall influence NASA would have over the use of the services provided by the Center. Mr. Dokka informed the Council that the services are not so much influenced by NASA as just a means to provide results.

Additional questions regarding cost and extent of the services provided by the center were addressed as well.

Dr. Dokka also emphasized the roll the center will play with the goals of the Data Base Commission and the LGISC. A formal invitation will be made to LGISC Members to attend the Geoinformatics Seminar on August 30, 2000 at the Pennington Biomedical Center.

**8. Presentation: Geospatial Portal – LA Connections by Ed Leachman (ODBC)**

Mr. Leachman began his presentation by picking up where Mr. Hutchinson left off. Focusing primarily on Goal One, Initiative Three: the geospatial portal on the Info Louisiana web site. Mr. Leachman explained how the goal of the portal is to ensure that geospatial services are available to everyone.

Mr. Leachman informed the council that a meeting of volunteers from the council and other agencies meet on August 15, 2000 to help establish a procedure for the portal's development.

The portal will be developed in a number of stages. The group, meeting in August, was asked to provide the requirements necessary to highlight the geospatial services and information available in the state. Additional meetings will be held soon and are open to anyone interested in participating.

Mr. Ed Leachman requested that the Council pass a resolution or provide its official support in the development of the Geospatial Portal. Chair Blackmon, following some discussion, requested that a draft resolution be distributed via email to council members for review prior to the next Council meeting. The resolution, following necessary revisions and discussion will then come to vote in September 2000.

## **9. Old Business**

### **ESRI Digital America Seminar by Danny Spillman (ESRI):**

Mr. Spillman reminded the council of the Digital America Seminar in Baton Rouge on August 29, 2000. Mr. Spillman summarized the agenda and workshops available to attendees.

### **Digital Data Committee Update:**

Committee Chair, Joe Holmes (LDEQ) reported to the council of the current proposal to establish a procedure for Recognizing Digital Data is being reviewed. Mr. Holmes will provide a recommendation for the procedure to the Council at September 2000 meeting.

### **DOQQ/LIDAR Update:**

Mr. David Gisclair (LOSCO) provided a brief update on the status of the DOQQ and LIDAR projects.

All 1564 DOQQs for Phase One are available for download from the ATLAS.LSU.EDU web site. Mr. Gisclair continues by explaining the task order for Phase Two (30.5 degrees north). Mr. Gisclair explained that the development of DOQQs should be completed by December 2000 with an anticipated availability of March 2001.

Mr. Gisclair also updated the council on the Current LIDAR status, detailing the different phases. Current data is being developed in Phase One, South East Louisiana. Phase One is divided into 7 tasks beginning in the Amite River Basin. Mr. Gisclair indicated that data for each phase would take upwards of one year to complete.

**NOS/ NGS Advisor Status:**

Ms. Sharon Balfour (LADOTD) informed the council that the agreement for 1999-2000 as been accepted and that all parties are awaiting the bill. Ms. Balfour continued by informing the council of the uncertainty of the next contract other than Larry Hanley (USGS) and the US Corps of Engineers are willing to participate in maintaining a NGS advisor for LA.

Additionally, information about a NSGIC pilot project to provide an NGS advisor to Louisiana is under consideration.

**DEQs IRS/TM satellite Image Merge Update:**

Mr. Joe Holmes (LDEQ) reported on the current status of the IRS/TM satellite merge. Currently, only two parishes remain to be merged. When completed, the image histograms will be matched for each merge. When available, the images will be trimmed by parish and converted to GeoTiff files. These data are expected to be available for download from the DEQ web site in approximately three months.

**NSGIC 'credited' funds:**

Ms. Sharon Balfour (LADOTD) requested that the current \$500 NSGIC credit be appointed to a council member attending the 2000 NSGIC conference. Following discussion, it was concluded that the current NSGIC Treasurer, Mr. Glen Daigre (DOA), would use the \$500 credit.

**10. New Business****LSU National Center for Geoinformatics: Geospatial Technology Seminar:**

See item 7 above.

**Louisiana Chief Information Officer:**

Chair Blackmon (LDNR) provided known details about the CIO position to the Council. Mr. Glen Daigre (DOA) reiterated that he would work with the Council and Dept. Commissioner Hutchinson in securing the attendance of the appointed CIO at the earliest Council meeting.

**USGS Mid Continental Mapping Center Re-Organization:**

Mr. Joshua Kent (LAGIC) informed the council of the current re-alignment of the As of Oct. 1, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, Wisconsin, and Mississippi are to be assigned to the Reston Mapping Applications Center (MAC), as part of the USGS Eastern Region. This basically means the liaisons for these states will report to the MAC rather than the MCMC.

Mr. Pat O'Neil (USGS) was not present to elaborate.

**MAPPS Stakeholders Conference - "Licensing Data, Licensing People":**

Mr. Glen Daigre (DOA) reminded the Council that the Management Association for

Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS) will have its Stakeholders Conference on October 30-November 1, 2000 in New Orleans, LA. Mr. Daigre and Ms. Sharon Balfour (LADOTD) encourage all members to attend the meeting.

**MAPPS Model Law becomes Law in South Carolina:**

Chair Blackmon (LDNR) provided information submitted by Ms. Sharon Balfour (LADOTD) regarding a bill to license photogrammetrists and GIS practitioners in South Carolina. The signed bill includes photogrammetry and geographic information systems (GIS) in the definition of land surveyor. Certain general-purpose GIS activities are exempt. The bill provides a grandfather period for currently practicing professionals. To view the text of the bill, visit the MAPPS web site at <http://www.mapps.org/sclicens.htm>.

**Expanding LGISC Membership:**

Mr. Glen Daigre (DOA) requested that the Council consider the benefits of expanding its membership to include Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). Such an action would benefit the agencies, GIS activities in LA, and increased active participation. Following discussion, it was decided that the Council continue this topic in the September 2000 meeting.

**Proposed resolution to support the LSU National Center for GeoInformatics:**

Mr. Glen Daigre (DOA) recommended that the Council develop and pass a resolution to provide cooperation and coordination with the LSU National Center for GeoInformatics. Following discussion, a draft resolution will be circulated via email for vote in the September 2000 meeting. Additionally, the Technical Advisory Committee should provide a liaison to the GeoInformatics center on behalf of the Council.

**11. Determine Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting date was scheduled for September 20, 2000 at 1:30pm in the Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Building. No vote was passed in the absence of a quorum.

**12. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned as a Council of the Whole at approximately 4pm.