

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of September 20, 2000

1. Call to Order

Chair Bo Blackmon (LDNR) called the meeting to order at 1:45 P.M. in the First Floor Louisiana Room, Wildlife and Fisheries Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A quorum was declared at 1:50pm as ten agency /organization representatives were present.

2. Roll Call

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

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Economic Development,
Gene Stephens, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality,
Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department Health and Hospitals,
Truman McDaniel, **Alternate**

Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
Dennis Eilers, **Member**

Department of Natural Resources
Bo Blackmon, **Member**

Department of Transportation and Development
Sharon Balfour, **Member**

House of Representatives
Kathleen Randall, **Member**

Louisiana Assessors' Association
Sherel Martin, **Member**

Louisiana Police Jury Association
Scott Leachman, **Member**

Office of the Governor, Division of Administration
Marty Beasley, **Alternate**

Others Present:

Department of Economic Development,
Andrew Kuyoro, **Alternate**

Department of Transportation and Development
Mary Kay Henderson, **Alternate**

C.H. Fenstermaker
Cynthia Feirman

Louisiana Assessors' Association
Rich Bailey, **Alternate**

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Craig Johnson

Dina Sa

Louisiana State University

DeWitt Braud, Geography and Anthropology

Constance Christenson, Geology

Rob Cunningham, CCEER

Farrell Jones, CADGIS

Hampton Peele, LGS

Office of the Louisiana Data Base Commission

Ed Leachman

PSI

Chris Klahorst

3. Approval of August 2000 Minutes

The August 2000 minutes were submitted and reviewed by the council. A minor spelling correction was made and a motion to approve the July 2000 minutes was made by Ms. Balfour (LDOTD) and seconded by Mr. Scott Leachman (LPJA). The August minutes were approved and will be available on the LSGIC website within a week.

4. Chairman's Report

Chair Bo Blackmon discussed current roles for LAGIC in a meeting of the LAGIC Oversight Committee. He mentioned the growing responsibilities of LAGIC resulting from the increased number of tasks that the Council has accepted.

Chairman Blackmon asked that anyone with information on GIS activities related to marsh dieback to contact him. Those organizing the RS/GIS Workshop would like to have one session devoted to the marsh dieback topic.

5. LAGIC Report

LAGIC Director Craig Johnson discussed preparations for an Intro to Metadata Workshop to be held at LSU CADGIS Laboratory in early December. Earlier plans to hold the workshop in November conflicted with a state holiday. Registration information will be available on the LAGIC and LSGIC websites within two weeks. There is no charge for the workshop, seating is limited to 18.

Mr. Johnson noted that the LGISC list server is currently down. The server will be back up as soon as site security software can be loaded and tested.

Mr. Johnson stated that he will represent LAGIC, and that Ms. Balfour (LDOTD) and Mr. Daigre (DOA) will represent the Council at the NSGIC Conference at Crystal Bay, Nevada. With Council approval, LAGIC will renew its Institutional

Membership in NSGIC.

LAGIC will have a booth, at the Environmental State of the State Conference at Pennington Conference Center on November 16th and 17th.

6. Presentation: ATLAS Website – by Farrell Jones, CADGIS Laboratory LSU

Mr. Farrell Jones presented to the Council the “Atlas” website housed at the Computer Aided Design and Geographic Information Systems (CADGIS) Laboratory in the Design Building on the LSU Campus. Atlas has four components: from the “raster down loader” one can select Digital Ortho Quarter Quads (DOQQ’s), DEM’s and DRG’s. ” Atlas Central” is a GIS news site. “Atlas search” links to numerous GIS data sites searched by area or attributes, finally one can explore Louisiana digitally by taking the “Satellite Tour of Louisiana”. Mr. Jones will be working with LAGIC this fall on sharing GIS Links.

7. Digital Data Committee Report

Committee Chair, Joe Holmes (LDEQ) read to the council the Draft Procedure for Formal Recognition of Digital Data and requested additional comments. Among the topics discussed were: the need for data evaluation procedures, how do we determine “best available” data, minimum data acceptance criteria etc. Mr. Holmes will meet with the Digital Data Committee in October to review all of the comments and report back to the Council at the October Meeting. Chair Blackmon recommended that the Data Set Review Committee include Mr. Braud, Mr. Jones and others with experience in error checking spatial data sets.

8. Proposed resolution to support the Office of the Database Commission, Geospatial Portal:

Mr. Bo Blackmon (LDNR) recommended that the Council pass a resolution to provide cooperation and coordination with the Office of the Data Base Commission in its Geospatial Portal Project. Mr. Ed Leachman (ODBC) recommended some wording changes, which were added. Ms. Sharon Balfour (LDOTD) motioned for approval with Mr. Scott Leachman (LPJA) seconding the motion. The resolution was then approved by the Council.

9 Old Business

DOQQ/LIDAR Update

Mr. Rob Cunningham (CCEER) provided a brief update on the status of the DOQQ and LIDAR projects. The DOQQ’s for North Louisiana should be in Geotiff format by January. The Geotiff products will be followed by images in Mr. Sid format and later that year they will be available on the web. Data post

processing challenges are slowing the release of the LIDAR data set.

NOS/ NGS Advisor Status

Ms. Sharon Balfour (LADOTD) informed the Council that a NSGIC pilot project to provide funding for a NGS advisor to Arizona, Louisiana and Kentucky is under consideration. At a more recent meeting of federal agencies (NOS, COE, NASA and USGS) there was discussion of creating a statewide high accuracy GPS network under the GeoInformatics Initiative. It was suggested that the NGS Advisor be incorporated into this proposal. Chairman Blackmon recommended working with Roy Dokka (LSU) and Tim Osborne (NOS) to secure more permanent financing for the Louisiana NGS Advisor.

LGISC Archive Summary Report

Mr. Craig Johnson, LAGIC Director, presented the results of a report on the status of the LGISC Archive. The report was compiled by Josh Kent of LAGIC and noted 10 missing documents that should be located in order to complete the Archive for the period 1995 to the end of 1999. Chair Blackmon recommended that a list of missing documents be e-mailed to each member to assist in locating them.

MAPPS – “Licensing Data Licensing People” Stakeholders Conference

The LAGIC Director, Craig Johnson, noted that registration forms and a preliminary agenda were now available for the MAPPS Conference in New Orleans on October 30th and encouraged all members to attend. Chair Blackmon recommended that the Council send a representative to the meeting. Mr. Johnson (LAGIC) volunteered to represent the Council.

9. New Business

Initiate New Resource Inventory

At the LAGIC Oversight Committee Meeting it was decided that the Resource Inventory should be expanded to identify all GIS projects within Louisiana at the state and local government level. A list of GIS projects and contacts is being developed by LAGIC for review by the Council. Mr. Johnson gave an update on those activities and said the list would be disseminated among Council members before the next October Council meeting.

RS/GIS Conference

Chairman Blackmon reiterated the desire of the Council to be actively involved in the planning and organizing of the Remote Sensing Geographic Information Systems Workshop in April of 2001. The Council is requesting that anyone who would like to present a paper or poster for the workshop notify Chairman Blackmon.

Louisiana Chief Information Officer:

Chair Blackmon (LDNR) provided known details about the CIO position to the Council. The Council reiterated its desire to invite the new CIO to address the Council at his or her earliest convenience.

Mr. Blackmon invited Mr. Ed Leachman to speak about reorganization proposals at the Office of the Data Base Commission. Mr. Leachman hypothesized that the Governance Model, outlined in the Louisiana Connections, would have the Office of the Data Base Commission report directly to the Chief Information Officer, the highest level of authority. The Governance Model would also give LAGIC, if it were to move to the ODBC, more permanent financing.

10. Determine Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was scheduled for October 18, 2000, at 1:30pm in the Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Building.

11. Adjourn

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