

# **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of October 17, 2002

## **1. Call to Order**

Chair Marty Beasley (DOA) called the meeting to order called the meeting to order as a Committee of the Whole at 1:38 P.M., at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A quorum was not present.

## **2. Roll Call**

### **Member Agencies/Organizations Present:**

#### **Division of Administration**

Marty Beasley, **Member**

#### **Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism,**

Dennis Eilers, **Member**

#### **Department of Economic Development,**

Gene Stephens, **Member**

#### **Department of Environmental Quality,**

Herman Melancon, **Alternate**

#### **Department of Health and Hospitals**

Truman McDaniel, **Member**

#### **Department of Transportation and Development**

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

#### **Louisiana Association of Planning & Development Districts**

Lynn Dupont, **Alternate**

#### **Louisiana Senate**

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

### **Others Present:**

#### **City of New Orleans, City Planning Commission**

Victoria Caridas

#### **City of Slidell**

Ian Beer

#### **Department of Environmental Quality,**

Paul Zundel, **Alternate**

Sue Smith

#### **Department of Public Safety and Corrections**

Daphne Bencaz

#### **Department of Transportation & Development**

Sharon Balfour, **Alternate**

Pam Dixon

Neil Hohmann

Dora Michelli

**Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**

Doug Albert

**Division of Administration, OES**

Ed Leachman, **Alternate**

**Environmental Systems Research Inc.**

Traci Tracey

**GDT Inc.**

Walt Simpson

**Lincoln Parish**

Aaron Norby

**Louisiana Geographic Information Center**

Dina Sa

Craig Johnson

**Louisiana State University, Ag Center**

Thomas Dean

**South Central Planning & Development Council**

Richard Poche

**St James Parish**

Bobby Lear

**University of New Orleans, CUPA**

John Wildgen

**US Army Corps of Engineers**

Jude D. McCoy

**Weyerhaeuser Inc.**

Scott Leachman

**3. September 19, 2002 Minutes**

The September 2002 minutes were deferred until the November meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

**4. Chairman's Report**

Chair Marty Beasley (DOA) welcomed the GIS Council's newest representative, David Gisclair, who will be representing the Louisiana Senate.

Chair Beasley, noted that the Louisiana Police Jury Association (LPJA) was given a list of five parish GIS coordinators who were interested in representing the LPJA on the Council. The LPJA will submit a minimum of three names to the Governor for his consideration.

Chair Beasley mentioned that the Urban Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) has drafted Code of Ethics for GIS professionals. This document is available at [http://www.urisa.org/ethics/code\\_of\\_ethics.htm](http://www.urisa.org/ethics/code_of_ethics.htm). URISA is soliciting comments on the proposal.

Chair Beasley noted that the Louisiana Chapter of URISA is sponsoring a Town Hall Meeting at the Corps of Engineers New Orleans District on the need for “Positioning Control for Geospatial Activities”. The meeting is scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00am until 4:00pm. Contact Ms. Suhayda for reservations, she can be reached at [msuhayda@c4g.lsu.edu](mailto:msuhayda@c4g.lsu.edu).

Governor Foster has signed the “GIS Day” Proclamation, which proclaims November 20<sup>th</sup> “GIS Day in Louisiana”.

Chair Beasley noted that the Department of Environmental Quality has launched the “Make a Map” website, where the public can make various maps using data provided by DEQ and other sources. The URL is [www.imsworld@ldeq.org](http://www.imsworld@ldeq.org)

Chair Beasley introduced Neil Hohmann with DOTD who invited anyone in the GIS community who wanted to sample a commercially available road data set covering the state of Louisiana to look at the data on workstations provided by DOTD for that purpose. He asked that interested data viewers call him first to set up an appointment, and that they fill out an evaluation form when they finish.

## **5. Presentation: Louisiana State Lands Water bottoms Database: A Preliminary Review by Marty Beasley, State Lands Office**

Chair Beasley (DOA) gave a presentation on the State Lands Office Water Bottoms Database. Mr. Beasley explained that Act 919 of the 2001 Regular session required the State Lands Office identify all public lands and water bottoms and to keep a current and master list of these lands on file. State Lands decided that a geospatial database would be the most effective tool for this project. State Lands developed standardized criteria for collecting this information, which included the use of Township plats, historic Quad maps (especially the 1935 series), existing property title files, historical photography and T-Sheets. The State Lands Office is collecting the data one parish at a time starting in alphabetical order with Acadia Parish.

## **6. LAGIC Report**

### **Metadata**

LAGIC completed the final report for the FGDC Metadata CAP Grant. In total, 118 people attended Metadata Workshops throughout the state. They included federal, state and local government employees as well as private consultants and academics. LAGIC has asked permission of the LAGIC Oversight Committee to apply for the next series of FGDC CAP Grants in the spring of 2003. Sharon Balfour, Chair of the LAGIC Oversight Committee, will talk more about LAGIC’s grant activities later in this meeting.

### **Outreach Activities – GIS Day**

LAGIC is working with the Louisiana Center for Educational Technology, the Louisiana Red Cross, the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness, LSU and the Department of Transportation and Development in sponsoring a GIS Day “Kickoff” on November 20<sup>th</sup>. LCET is designing a GIS Day project with associated lesson plans that will be completed by elementary, middle and high schools throughout the state. The project will begin on GIS Day (November 20<sup>th</sup>) and be completed by Educational Technology Week, the last week in January.

LAGIC has received the Governor’s GIS Day Proclamation, which is being framed for the November Council meeting.

## **7. I-Team Report**

Sharon Balfour (DOTD), the I-Team Coordinator, noted that the I-Team Committees are still waiting for the Executive Order to be signed by the Governor. After the Executive Order is signed the CO, Chad McGee, will deliver the I-Team Status Report to the Governor. In addition, letters will be drafted to the agency and department heads from the Governor asking for their assistance in the I-Team effort. Ed Leachman (DOA) noted that the Executive Order had recently crossed his desk for review, so it should be available soon.

The Steering Committee decided that a Requirements and Technical Subcommittee Reports should be added to the I-Team Status Report. The Framework Subcommittees agreed to complete the Requirements Form by GIS Day (November 20<sup>th</sup>). Ed Leachman noted that a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) with Tech Park is now in place to host LouisianaMAP, the geospatial portal.

There was agreement among the I-Team Steering Committee members that there should also be a Homeland Security Workgroup to ensure that Homeland Security issues are adequately covered in the final I-Team plans. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) noted that at the recent NSGIC Meeting in Salt Lake City NIMA offered to work with Louisiana agencies on a Pilot Project for Homeland Security. Chair Beasley, noted that we have asked OEP and State Police to let us know what they need in the way of data sets for Homeland Security. Ms Balfour asked Council members to review the document that NIMA and USGS published the “Homeland Security Infrastructure Program” (HSIP) and provide comments.

Ms Balfour recommended that Council members consider joining NSGIC because of the wealth of information and contacts available to its’ members. Next I-Team meeting will be the morning of November 21<sup>st</sup> before the next Council meeting. The Draft Master Plan will be do by the end of January, so Committee members will need to get busy and complete their data inventories and plans.

## 8. LAGIC Oversight Report

Sharon Balfour (DOTD), Chair of the LAGIC Oversight Committee, noted that the LAGIC Oversight Committee met last week to discuss a shortfall in LAGIC's budget. Bob Allen (LSU) and Craig Johnson (LAGIC) noted that the \$9,000 shortfall can be corrected by moving funds within budget categories and will not pose a serious problem if LAGIC can supplement their funds with grant proposals. The Oversight Committee gave LAGIC permission to apply for grants as long as they fit LAGIC's overall mission. The Committee specifically recommended applying for the FGDC CAP Grants to continue providing Metadata workshops. The Oversight Committee asked LAGIC to work on a new three-year contract to be reviewed by the Oversight Committee at their next meeting.

## 9. Old Business

### DOQQ/LIDAR Update

David Gisclair (LOSCO) gave an update on the status of the DOQQ/LIDAR project. LOSCO is still working with the DOQQ's in terms of mosaicing them together by parish. There are currently 195 LIDAR panels on the ATLAS website, and LOSCO has received another 44 more panels this week for a total of 239 completed panels (1/4 quads) of LIDAR data. Relative to the entire project these 239 panels represent 45% completion of Phase 1. Chair Beasley noted that DOA would not recommend that additional funding for LIDAR come out of surplus State Land Office funds. Those surplus funds will be allocated for other uses. Mr. Gisclair noted that some of the LIDAR tasks have been requested by particular agencies. In particular the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness has asked for the completion of Tasks 6 & 7 and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has requested the completion of Tasks 12 & 13. FEMA has hired Watershed Concepts Inc. to provide QA/QC oversight for the LIDAR project. The hiring of a contractor will add overhead costs, approximately 25% that will have to be taken out of the overall appropriation. Mr. Gisclair noted that the number of tasks might be reduced.

### Resolution: "Building the National Spatial Data Infrastructure in Support of Public Safety"

Chair Beasley described the contents of a resolution entitled "A Declaration of Interdependence, "Saving Lives and Saving Money an Urgent Call to Build the National Spatial Data Infrastructure in Support of Public Safety. This resolution was presented to the membership at the September Council meeting. The document points out the need for statewide coverage of specific critical data sets in order for state and local governments to fulfill their responsibilities to provide public safety. Marty Beasley (DOA) noted that NSGIC has asked that each state council review the document and either endorse it or reject it, but do so as soon as possible. Chair Beasley read the resolution and then asked for comments from the Council regarding the document. Jim Mitchell (DOTD) asked what

would happen next, if we vote in favor of the resolution? Sharon Balfour (DOTD) noted that NSGIC is preparing to send a large delegation to Congress to present the document early next year. An informational packet will be put together for incoming congressman. NSGIC recommends that individual state GIS councils send their state congressional delegation copies of the resolution, as well. Due to the lack of a quorum, a vote on this resolution will occur at the next Council meeting in November.

**Resolution: “To Adopt the Federal Geographic Data Committee’s Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata ”**

Chair Beasley (DOA) recommended some wording changes to the resolution regarding adopting the FGDC Metadata Standard. He asked that Council members e-mail their comments on the resolution to him and that he will report back to the Council at the next meeting.

**Discussion: QuickBird Satellite Imagery Proposal**

Chair Beasley (DOA) read a letter from Digital Globe management responding to a series of questions that were addressed to them regarding the QuickBird Imagery Proposal for the State of Louisiana. In general, Digital Globe was concerned that conditions proposed by the Louisiana GIS community would affect future sales in the state and not be compatible with their business model. Chair Beasley asked for comments on Digital Globes use restrictions and agreed to compile them in response to Digital Globes letter.

## **9. New Business**

**New LOSCO Data Layer**

Mr. Gisclair noted that the Oil Spill Interagency Council would be providing a new data set entitled “Louisiana Marinas and Boat Launches”. This data set includes all public and semi-private marinas and launches in the southern part of the state (Coastal Zone). This data set will soon be available through the LAGIC and ATLAS websites and at <http://lamarinas.losco.lsu.edu>.

**ESRI User Group Conference Recap**

The Conference Recap has been rescheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup> from 9-4 at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans.

## **10. Determine Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for November 21st at 1:30 in Room 214 at Efferson Hall on the Louisiana State University campus. A map will be posted to the LAGIC website.

## **11. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned as a committee of the whole at 4:15.