

# Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of December 18, 2002

## MINUTES

### 1. Call to Order

Chair Marty Beasley (DOA) called the meeting to order at 1:38 P.M., at the Louisiana Assessors Association Office, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A quorum was 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 Natural Resources**

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

**Department of Public Safety,**

Rhonda Barber, **Member**

**Department of Transportation and Development**

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

**Department of Wildlife & Fisheries**

Jorge Icabalceta, **Alternate**

**Louisiana Assessors Association**

Sherel Martin, **Member**

**Louisiana Municipal Association**

Mattie Coxe, **Member**

**Louisiana Senate**

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

#### Others Present:

**BC&G Inc.**

Andre Dehaan

**Department of Health and Hospitals**

Gary Balsamo

**Department of Public Safety and Corrections**

Daphne Bencaz

Mark Morrison, **Alternate**

**Department of Transportation & Development**

Sharon Balfour, **Alternate**

Pam Dixon

Neil Hohmann

Li Yang

**Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**

Doug Albert

**Division of Administration, OES**

Ed Leachman, **Alternate**

**Environmental Systems Research Inc.**

Traci Tracey

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

Ben Boone

**Gulf Engineers and Consultants Inc.**

Jerri Daniels

Scott Knauss

Bill Wiesepape

**Louisiana Assessors Association**

Rich Bailey, **Alternate**

**Louisiana Geographic Information Center**

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

Dina Sa

**Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness**

Billy Douglas

Brant Mitchell

**Louisiana State University**

DeWitt Braud

**Louisiana Tax Commission**

Pete Peters

**New Orleans Communication District**

Kathrine Cargo

**University of Louisiana Lafayette**

Brent Yantis

**US Army Corps of Engineers**

David McDaniel

Tim Ruppert

### **3. November Minutes**

The November 2002 minutes were approved as amended by voice vote on a motion by Mattie Coxe (LMA) and seconded by Dennis Eilers (CRT).

### **4. Chairman's Report**

Chair Beasley (DOA), noted that the Louisiana GIS Council has added its voice to the "Declaration of Interdependence" promoted by the National State GIS

Council (NSGIC) to ensure adequate funding for the creation of a national spatial data infrastructure. The “Declaration of Public Safety” was passed as a Council resolution at the November Council meeting.

Chair Beasley (DOA) reminded Council members that they needed to turn in their LGISC Nomination forms for Chair and Vice Chair before the January 10, 2003. He noted that LAGIC would send the forms to everyone on the LAGIC and LGISC list serves.

Chair Beasley invited Sherel Martin (LAA) to introduce Pete Peters, with the Louisiana Tax Commission. Mr. Peters mentioned that he would like to meet with Council members in the future to ask their advice on geospatial data standards as they relate to cadastral data. In general, the Tax Commission will be using IAAO guidelines in developing cadastral mapping standards.

Chair Beasley noted that a member of the Louisiana GIS Community, Brad Mooney, authored a recent article in *Imaging Notes* in the November/December issue.

### **5. Presentation: “HAZUS, GIS and Consequence Assessment” by Dr. John Pine, Department of Environmental Studies Louisiana State University**

Dr. Pine demonstrated the capabilities of a new software package being developed by FEMA, called HAZUS that will be used by local governments to estimate the financial consequences of various natural disasters. The software employs GIS software as well as a variety of damage assessment techniques to derive a rough estimate of damage. The estimates can be vastly improved by the addition of more accurate local data on property values, flood zones, elevation information etc. Dr Pine emphasized the importance of developing standardized data sets with the models. He has been testing the potential of these software models using a variety of data sets, and is currently working with GIS Council member Sherel Martin (LAA) on a HAZUS demonstration project in St Mary Parish.

### **6. LAGIC Report**

LAGIC was recently invited to attend a meeting of the State Hazard Mitigation Team at the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness. Craig Johnson (LAGIC) introduced Bill Douglas, Assistant State Hazard Mitigation Officer, who was attending the Council meeting. The State Hazard Mitigation Team is inventorying hazards statewide as part of a FEMA planning grant.

Craig Johnson (LAGIC Director) noted that he would be attending a conference in early January called GeoTools where the new ISO Metadata Standard would

be introduced. LAGIC's next Metadata class, during LSU Spring Break, will conform to these new ISO standards.

LAGIC has a number of 2003 RS/GIS Workshop Posters available to anyone who agrees to post them at their work place.

LGISC election forms are available for anyone who would like to fill one out. Please let us know if you would be willing to serve as an officer in 2003.

At the suggestion of Jorge Icalcebeta (DW&F), LAGIC has added a task completion list to the end of the minutes so busy readers can skip to the primary accomplishments of the last meeting. Mr. Johnson (LAGIC) asked for comments on this new feature.

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

Ms Balfour (DOTD), the I-Team Coordinator, noted that she and other LGISC members have been invited to listen to the Open GIS Consortium (OGC), Technical Assistance Group (TAG) phone conference calls. The last conference call topic was GIS Interoperability Standards as well as projects using Census and Transportation data. OGC has asked for volunteers to test new methodologies. Karen Patterson with the Office of E-Services will be working with the Census group.

The OGC is trying to garner new members with special rates for local government organizations. There was some discussion as to the need for the Council to become a member of this organization. The Pros and Cons were discussed but no decision was made.

Ron Matzner, the National I-Team Coordinator, forwarded to the various state I-Team groups, templates that could be used for data themes. These templates will help standardize the collection of state I-Team plans. Dina Sa (LAGIC) will convert these forms from PDF format to editable documents and distribute to the data committee chairs

It was agreed that Ed Leachman (DOA) would draft a letter from the Governor to the various state agencies asking for their cooperation in implementing the I-Team effort as outlined in the Governor's Executive Order. The Steering Committee is hoping to have a first draft of the I-Team plan by the end of January.

DeWitt Braud noted that there is a mockup of the Technology Plan being developed that should be ready by late January.

Ms. Balfour noted that an I-Team Steering Committee Meeting was held in Room 214 at Efferson Hall (LSU) at 9:00am on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. It was decided that a meeting should be arranged between the Homeland Security Coordinator for OEP and the I-Team Steering Committee to facilitate the creation of data sharing protocols. The meeting with OEP occurred on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Ms Balfour (DOTD) introduced Brant Mitchell, Homeland Security Coordinator, to the Council. Mr. Mitchell was recently named as an Alternate to the GIS Council from OEP.

Ed Leachman (DOA) noted that many of the critical steps needed to implement the Geospatial Portal (LouisianaMAP) are now in place, including the drafting of a contract to hire consultants to the project and the hardware and software needed to host the site at Technology Park.

## **8. Old Business**

### **DOQQ/LIDAR Update**

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that he was working with the Regional Planning Commissions on the 2005 re-flight. The MPO's would like more detailed photo coverage (.5 foot pixel resolution) in the state's metropolitan areas. The MPO's have committed to making up the difference between the cost of one-meter resolution photography and the more detailed coverage.

LOSCO is looking at the possibility of using a completely digital softcopy flight for the next round of DOQQ's. There would still be continuous DOQQ coverage statewide at one-meter resolution, but the higher resolution presents storage and delivery challenges that have not yet been answered.

At present, 344 LIDAR panels have been delivered to ATLAS for posting. The last shipment on Tasks 1–4 should be completed by the end of the month. Task 5 (Barataria Basin) will be flown in January. Tasks 12 and 13 have already been flown and are being worked on by the contractor. Tasks 6, 7 & 11 are being worked on as well. Tasks 8, 9 & 10 are scheduled to be flown in this flying season. Other Tasks in Phase 2 & 3 will be done as funds become available.

### **LouisianaMAP Update**

In response to a question from Jim Mitchell (DOTD), Ed Leachman (DOA) noted he would be using CSSA to hire contractors for the project. Marty Beasley asked if LouisianaMAP would definitely be hosted at Technology Park, which Mr. Leachman confirmed that all servers would be housed there. Mr. Leachman noted that he is very anxious to get the information from the I-Team data subcommittees in order to set budget priorities for the new year.

## **10. New Business**

Mr. Beasley noted that we need volunteers to agree to serve as Chair and Vice Chair of the Council in 2003. Please fill in the nomination forms.

Free ESRI Seminar on Public Works – January 23, 2003 at the Sheraton, New Orleans. Please go to the ESRI website under Events.

ESRI Seminar “Migrating Geo Databases” will occur in February in Baton Rouge, place and time to be determined. There will be a \$100 cost associated with this particular seminar.

## **11. Determine Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 16th at 1:30 at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

## **12. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm. The annual LGISC Holiday party followed the meeting.

## Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of December 18, 2002

### Summary of Action Items

Marty Beasley (DOA), Chair of the GIS Council, noted that the **Council signed a resolution endorsing the “Declaration of Interdependence”** promoted by the National States GIS Council (NSGIC) to ensure adequate funding for the creation of a national spatial data infrastructure.

**LGISC 2003 Election of Officers:** Please turn in your election nomination forms to the election committee. The election will take place at the January 16<sup>th</sup> Council meeting

**I-Team Report:** I-Team Coordinator, Sharon Balfour (DOTD), noted that the draft I-Team report is due by late January. I-Team data subcommittees should submit their data reports to Sharon or Dina Sa by January 17<sup>th</sup>.

She asked Ed Leachman (DOA) if he would draft a letter from the Governor requesting agency participation in the I-Team effort.