

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of December 18, 2003

1. Call to Order

Chair Dennis Eilers (CRT) called the meeting to order at 1:44 P.M. as a quorum was present. The meeting was held in the Energy Coast and Environment Building on the LSU Campus.

2. Roll Call

Attendance was confirmed by a sign in sheet.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Brad Mooney, **Alternate**

Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism

Dennis Eilers, **Member**

Department of Economic Development

Gene Stephens, **Member**

Department of Education

Susan Gauthier, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department of Health & Hospitals

Truman McDaniel, **Member**

Department of Labor

Ramona Robichaux, **Member**

Department of Natural Resources

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

Department of Social Services

Pam Smith, **Member**

Department of Transportation and Development

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

Jorge Icabalceta, **Member**

Division of Administration, SLO

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Louisiana Assessors Association

Sheryl Martin, **Member**

Louisiana Association of Planning & Development Districts

Lynn Dupont, **Alternate**

Louisiana House

Kathleen Randall, **Member**

Louisiana Police Jury Association

Vicky Caridas, **Alternate**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Others Present:

BG&C Inc

Andre Dehaan

Department of Health & Hospital (OPH)

Emory Layton, **Alternate**

George Frierson

Clay Trachtman

Department of Labor

Jonathan Helis, **Alternate**

Department of Public Safety

Daphne Bencaz

Department of Social Services

David Jacobsen, **Alternate**

Department of Transportation and Development

Sharon Balfour, **Alternate**

Neil Hohmann

John Wells

Division of Administration, OES

Ed Leachman, **Alternate**

Karen Patterson

Gulf Engineers and Consultants (GEC) Inc

Bill Wiesepape

Geographic Computer Technologies (GCT) Inc

Greg Hymel

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

Louisiana State University

Rob Cunningham

Oats Hudson Law Firm

David Peterson

Orleans Parish Communications District

Kathrine Cargo

St James Parish Government

Bobby Lear

Terrebonne Parish Government

Jack Gardner

Weyerhaeuser Inc.

Scott Leachman

3. Approval of November 2003 Minutes

The November 2003 Minutes were accepted without edits, on a motion by Marty Beasley (DOA) and seconded by David Gisclair (Senate).

4. Chair's Report

Chair Eilers (CRT) noted that for logistical reasons he would like to reorganize the agenda so that the presentation by the Department of Education and the LAGIC Report would take place in the auditorium at the end of the Council meeting rather than in the middle as originally scheduled.

5. Old Business

DOQQ Update

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that he had not received any information on the status of the upcoming DOQQ flights by USGS. Ed Leachman (DOA) requested that the project organizers provide a regular status report on the project, as there is considerable interest in the finished product. Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that because the project is 100% federally funding that the project participants were under no obligation to provide updates to state agencies.

LIDAR Update

David Gisclair reported that 953 panels of LIDAR data are now available on the ATLAS website. This completes the data acquisition for Phase 1 and Phase 2. Mr. Gisclair passed out a LIDAR status map for Council members to review. He noted that Lincoln Parish would be completed in Phase 3 because they provided FEMA with matching funds for the 100 year and 500 year flood plain reevaluation efforts in creating new digital flood rate insurance maps (DFIRMS). Mr. Gisclair also noted that the parish DOQQ mosaics are now complete for all of the state below 30 degrees 30 minutes, with the exception of St Bernard and Plaquemines Parish.

Mr. Gisclair attended an Elevation Change Workshop in New Orleans where federal officials (NOAA, NGS etc) met with local experts to discuss the problem of Louisiana's unreliable benchmarks and the problems of subsidence.

I-Team Report

Joe Holmes, the new Chair of the I-Team Steering Committee, scheduled the next steering committee meeting for morning of Thursday, January 22nd before the January Council meeting.

Election Subcommittee

Kathleen Randall, Chair of the Election Subcommittee, reminded Council members of the upcoming Council election for Chair and Vice Chair. She had nomination forms and a list of current members distributed to all of those present. Craig Johnson (LAGIC) distributed a copy of the LGISC election procedures.

There was some discussion among members as to whether all of the current members would be automatically reappointed by their appointing authorities. Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) volunteered to serve as Vice Chair in 2004.

6. New Business

Bo Blackmon (DNR) reported that the Annual Louisiana RS/GIS Workshop will be held in Lafayette on April 20 – 22. DeWitt Braud (LSU) is working on a poster for the workshop. Mr. Blackmon expressed concern that the planning for the Workshop was getting off to a late start. There is also appears to be a scheduling conflict between this workshop and a USGS Central States Mapping Meeting in Rolla, Mo., scheduled for that same week.

John Wells (DOTD) noted that the Department of Transportation will fly some of the urban areas of the state to acquire 1-foot pixel resolution photography. Among the areas being considered are Lake Charles, Monroe, Houma and the North Shore. David Gisclair (LOSCO) suggested that DOTD coordinate photo acquisition with the Ortho-Imagery Committee. Lynn Dupont (LAPDD) noted that some cities may be planning to acquire photography this season, and that DOTD might be able to coordinate with those urban areas. She also noted that The New Orleans Regional Planning Commission is contracting with Digital Globe to have imagery acquired for portions of St Tammany Parish.

7. Presentation: “GIS Day in Louisiana” by Susan Gauthier, Louisiana Center for Educational Technology (LCET), Department of Education

Susan Gauthier, an educational technology consultant with the Louisiana Department of Education, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the importance of integrating GIS in the classroom. The focus of the presentation was the “Quest with GIS” a web based program with statewide participation among parish school districts. On “GIS Day”, Council members visited three schools in St James Parish or three schools in Tangipahoa parish to see how they incorporated these web based materials in their curriculum. In each parish various age groups participated in the “Quest” from elementary to high school level. Teachers were given “free reign” in designing the curriculum to meet the needs of their students. Ms. Gauthier concluded the presentation with a discussion of next years “Quest with GIS” project. Pictures of the “Quest” in Tangipahoa can be found at <http://www.tangischools.org/dept/tech/SchoolTech/maryschooltech.html#gisdayh eu>

6. LAGIC Report

Craig Johnson (LAGIC Director) gave a presentation on Legislative Act #922 that created the Louisiana GIS Council and LAGIC and the bylaws that govern day to day Council activities. Mr. Johnson described the main issues that the Council has faced and gave a brief description of the most important Council Resolutions. Mr Johnson concluded his presentation with a description of LAGIC's role and how it has evolved over the last nine years. An overview of the history of the Council was specifically requested by the LAGIC Oversight Committee to address the questions raised by new Council members.

10. Determine Next Meeting Date and Location:

Chair Eilers (CRT) proposed the following date for the next GIS Council meeting: Thursday, January 22, 2004 at 1:30 in Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus. Chair Eilers (CRT) reminded Council members that an election of a new Chair would take place at the upcoming January Council meeting.

11. Adjourn

A motion was made by to adjourn by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by Sherel Martin (LAA). The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

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Summary of Action Items

DOQQ Update

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Election Committee

Kathleen Randall, Chair of the Election Committee, noted that the LGISC election for Chair and Vice Chair would take place at the January 22nd Council meeting. She asked if anyone was interested in serving in either position. She distributed a list of Council members and a nomination form. She explained the current LGISC nomination process. Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) volunteered to serve as Vice Chair in 2004.

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