

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of January 22, 2004

1. Call to Order

Chair Dennis Eilers (CRT) called the meeting to order at 1:39 P.M. as a quorum was present. The meeting was held in Room #212 in Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

2. Roll Call

Attendance was confirmed by a sign in sheet.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism

Dennis Eilers, **Member**

Department of Economic Development

Gene Stephens, **Member**

Department of Education

Janelle Koenig, **Alternate**

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 Public Safety

Rhonda Barber, **Member**

Department of Social Services

Pam Smith, **Member**

Department of Transportation and Development

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

Jorge Icabalceca, **Member**

Division of Administration, SLO

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Louisiana Association of Planning & Development Districts

Lynn Dupont, **Alternate**

Louisiana House

Kathleen Randall, **Member**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

Mike Liotta, **Alternate**

Others Present:

Applied Technical Services (ATS)

John Speice

Capitol Region Planning Commission

Mihwa Yang

Department of Health & Hospital (OPH)

Emory Layton, **Alternate**

Clay Trachtman

Department of Labor

Rodger Anderson

Jonathan Helis, **Alternate**

Jackie Mills

Department of Public Safety

Daphne Bencaz

Department of Transportation and Development

Sharon Balfour, **Alternate**

Pam Dixon

Neil Hohmann

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Doug Albert

Division of Administration, OES

Ed Leachman, **Alternate**

Karen Patterson

East Feliciana Assessor's Office

Bob McConnell

Jefferson Parish Sheriffs Office

Brian Denzer

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

Louisiana State University

Victoria Caridas

Rob Cunningham

Jennifer Meyer

Jimmy Wilson

St James Parish Government

Bobby Lear

Pratyush Kumar

US Census Bureau

Meredith Gillum

USGS – NWRC

Calvin "Pat" O'Neil

Young, Ana

3. Approval of December 2003 Minutes

The December 2003 Minutes were accepted with minor edits, on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by Ramona Robichaux (Labor).

4. Chair's Report

Chair Eilers (CRT) noted that Emory Layton, the alternate from DHH, will be leaving DHH to take a new job in Arizona. Chair Eilers received an appointment letter requesting that Daniel McDonald be appointed as the new alternate from DHH.

5. Presentation: "TIGER Modifications in Louisiana" by Meredith Gillum, Regional Geographer, Dallas Office, US Census Bureau.

The US Census Bureau has undertaken a large effort in Louisiana, and other states, to modernize the TIGER (Topologically Integrated Encoding and Referencing) data system and the MAF (Master Address Files) to support the Census Bureau's mission of collecting and cataloging accurate demographic and geographic data for the nation. The project has five objectives:

1. Accurately locate every street and map feature in the TIGER database
2. Implement a modern processing environment for the MAF/TIGER system using commercial off-the-shelf products
3. Expand and encourage geographic partnership programs with state, local and tribal governments
4. Launch the Community Address Updating System (CAUS) to ensure uniform and complete address and street coverage throughout the MAF/TIGER data base
5. Implement a comprehensive plan for periodic MAF/TIGER enhancements

Objective #1, the effort to locate every street and map feature, has been named the MAF/TIGER Accuracy Improvement Project (MTAIP). This effort is being contracted out to the Harris Corporation and will involve the physical correction of the existing MAF/TIGER data and acquiring digital data from local and tribal governments.

Ms Gillum noted that nine parishes have been completed in Louisiana and two more have been completed but not at the 7.6 meter accuracy standard required by MTAIP. Twenty three other parishes are in progress with three currently in negotiation with the Census Bureau.

6. LGISC Elections

Kathleen Randall, Chair of the LGISC Election Committee, distributed to the Council the 2004 LGISC Election Report. The LGISC Election Report, which is now required by the LGISC Bylaws, listed all GIS Council members who had been nominated for Chair or Vice Chair for the year 2004. Chair Randall then read the names of the nominees who had agreed to serve, Bo Blackmon (DNR) for Chair and Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) for Vice Chair. She asked for a public vote by a show of hands and asked if there were any other nominees for the position of Chair. Marty Beasley (DOA) moved to accept the nomination for Chair and David Gisclair seconded it. The vote for Chair was unanimous, 15 yeas and 0 neas. Bo Blackmon was officially elected Chair of the LGISC for 2004.

Ms Randall then asked if there were any other nominations for Vice Chair. As there were none, Bo Blackmon (DNR) moved to accept the nomination for Vice Chair and Joe Holmes (DEQ) agreed to second it. The vote for Vice Chair was also unanimous with 15 yeas and 0 neas. Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) was officially elected Vice Chair of the LGISC for 2004.

7. LAGIC Report

DEQ is hosting, and LAGIC is providing support for, a full day Metadata Workshop entitled "Metadata Creation Using Arc Catalog". ESRI has volunteered a trainer, Gayatri Kesavamurthy from the San Antonio office, to teach this hands-on workshop.

A metadata workshop is also scheduled for Intergraph GIS software users on February 16th at the CADGIS Lab at LSU. Bruce Westcott, SMMS Trainer, will

LAGIC is assisting with the RS/GIS Conference in Lafayette this April. LAGIC will be mailing our packets to vendors over the next week.

The LAGIC Director met with NOAA Coastal Data Center staff to investigate potential collaborations, especially in teaching Metadata workshops and in the development of a Louisiana Coastal Risk Atlas.

The Louisiana Chapter of URISA is sponsoring a seminar on the GIS Certification process. This seminar will occur at the Columns Hotel on Wednesday, February 18th from 3-5 in the afternoon followed by their annual social. Craig Johnson (LAGIC) asked if the Council would be interested in having a seminar in Baton Rouge. Bo Blackmon (DNR) suggested that a presentation at the Council meeting would not be sufficient time to answer all of the questions that are likely to be brought up. Mr Johnson asked the Council if they would like to have a longer seminar before the Council meeting. Mr Johnson agreed to speak with the LAURISA organizers to see if Mr Grams could

give a longer presentation on the same day as the Council meeting.

Mr Johnson (LAGIC) noted that Joshua Kent, LAGIC Data manager, is the proud father of a baby girl. Elise Kent was born over the Christmas holidays.

8. Old Business

DOQQ Update

Ed Leachman (DOA) noted that contractors are currently acquiring DOQQ data over Louisiana as part of the USGS/Corps/USDA over flight. A link will be created on the LAGIC website where current status reports can be accessed. When complete, uncompressed data will be provided to DEQ for distribution to state agencies and to EROS Data Center for nationwide distribution. Data will eventually be compressed at a 20:1 ratio using Mr SID image compression software.

LIDAR Update

David Gisclair reported that Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the LIDAR Project are complete and available on ATLAS. Mr. Gisclair passed out a LIDAR status map for Council members to review. He noted that data acquisition for Phase 3 has begun. Tasks 17, 18 & 19 will be acquired between January and March. 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.

I-Team Report

Joe Holmes (DEQ), the new Chair of the I-Team Steering Committee, discussed how the committee had met to compile examples of how GIS has been used to save money, create more efficient government or provide better services. He gave a couple examples of how state agencies use GIS, specifically the Department of Social Services, Fraud Investigation Unit and the Office of State Parks.

LouisianaMAP Report

Ed Leachman (DOA) noted that Dewitt Braud (LSU) and Joshua Kent (LAGIC) were working on Phase II of LouisianaMAP which would include new "mapping services". LouisianaMAP is being hosted at the Office of Computing Services.

9. New Business

Marty Beasley (DOA) noted that Cliff Mugnier, with the Louisiana Spatial Data

Center, was featured in a recent issue of Professional Surveyor and that GeoWorld featured an article on the new Baton Rouge City/Parish geospatial portal. Bo Blackmon (DNR) asked if LAGIC could create an archive containing an index of articles about Louisiana geospatial activities. Craig Johnson (LAGIC) agreed to discuss it with LAGIC staff and report back to the Council.

Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that DeWitt Braud (LSU) had corrected the state's 7.5 minute DLG's for a recent DEQ project.

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that a new 6k grid had been completed for the state. This grid will be used to index high resolution imagery, primarily for Homeland Security applications.

Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that as alternates to the Council are now confirmed by their appointing authority, they should be able to serve as Chair or Vice Chair of the Council. Sharon Balfour (DOTD) said that we would have to contact the Attorney General's Office to obtain a legal opinion as to whether and Alternate can be an officer. It was agreed that, at a minimum, it would require a change of the LGISC bylaws.

10. Determine Next Meeting Date and Location:

In his last act as 2003 Chair, Dennis Eilers (CRT) proposed the following date for the next GIS Council meeting: Thursday, February 19, 2004 at 1:30 in Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

11. Adjourn

A motion was made by to adjourn by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by Joe Holmes (DEQ). The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

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Summary of Action Items

Chair Eilers (CRT) noted that Emory Layton, the alternate from DHH, will be leaving DHH to take a new job in Arizona. Chair Eilers received an appointment letter requesting that **Daniel McDonald (Safe Drinking Water Program) be appointed as the new alternate from DHH.**

Bo Blackmon (DNR) asked if LAGIC could create an **archive containing an index of articles about Louisiana geospatial activities.** Craig Johnson (LAGIC) agreed to discuss it with LAGIC staff and report back to the Council.

Marty Beasley (DOA) moved to accept the nomination for Chair and David Gisclair seconded it. The vote for Chair was unanimous, 15 yeas and 0 neas. **Bo Blackmon was officially elected Chair of the LGISC for 2004.** The vote for Vice Chair was also unanimous with 15 yeas and 0 neas. **Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) was officially elected Vice Chair of the LGISC for 2004.**