

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of February 19, 2004

1. Call to Order

Chair Bo Blackmon (DNR) called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M. as a quorum was present. The meeting was held in Room #212 in Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

2. Roll Call

A sign in sheet confirmed attendance.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Brad Mooney, **Alternate**

Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism

Kenny Lang, **Alternate**

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 Association of Planning & Development Districts

Lynn Dupont, **Alternate**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Others Present:

Brown, Cunningham, Gannuch & Assoc.

Andre Dehaan

Department of Health & Hospitals

Emory Layton, **Alternate**
Daniel McDonald, **Alternate**
Michael Thompson
Clay Trachtman

Department of Labor

Jonathan Helis, **Alternate**

Department of Transportation and Development

Pam Dixon
Neil Hohmann
Dora Michelli
John Wells
Jimmy Wilson

GIS Certification Institute

Scott Grams

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Dina Sa
Craig Johnson
Joshua Kent

Louisiana State University

Victoria Caridas
Rob Cunningham

Orleans Parish Communications District

Kathrine Cargo

Regional Applications Center – ULL

Brent Yantis

US Army Corps of Engineers – NO District

David McDaniel

3. Approval of January 2004 Minutes

The January 2004 Minutes were accepted with a minor edit, on a motion by Joe Holmes (DEQ) and seconded by David Gisclair (LOSCO).

4. Chair's Report

Chair Blackmon (DNR) noted that Emory Layton, the alternate from DHH, would be leaving DHH to take a new job in Arizona. Chair Blackmon introduced the new alternate, Daniel McDonald with DHH's Safe Drinking Water Program.

Chair Blackmon (DNR) asked if LAURISA would post resumes and job opportunities to its website. Craig Johnson (LAGIC) reported that he had discussed this item with LAURISA webmaster Bill Wiesepape (GEC). Lynn

Dupont (LAPDD), current LAURISA President, agreed that when the website is redesigned that a “Job Opportunity” section” should be added. Chair Blackmon requested that the site be linked to LAGIC and the Council’s websites.

Chair Blackmon requested that the Council consider adding a short monthly presentation (5 – 10 minutes) by one agency member each month on GIS activities within their department and new data sets that are being created.

5. Presentation: “An Overview of the Challenges and Opportunities in moving to ISO-19115 Metadata”, by Bruce Westcott, SMMS Metadata Consultant

Mr. Westcott described some of the benefits of moving to the new ISO-19115 Metadata Standard, when it is fully adopted. He noted that there are some advantages to using ISO-19115 compliant metadata:

- Addresses many known deficiencies in FGDC standard (i.e. Raster/Imagery, granularity, free-text)
- Differences in Terminology, Element Name and Definitions, and Obligation
- More elements overall; Many more “Optional” elements
- Supports multi-lingual, multi-cultural metadata creation and searches across multiple languages
- Support interoperability of metadata through structured relationships, code lists, etc.

In addition, the ISO -19115 metadata standard has the following key elements:

- Takes advantage of UML Structure (formal modeling)
- XML expression
- Multi-lingual (numeric code lists)
- Profiles (different user communities)
- Definition of “Core” elements
- Multi-level metadata
- Integration with other ISO standards

These improvements provide for better interoperability especially when dealing with metadata created in another country. ISO –19115 forces the metadata creator to more clearly define elements making it easier to share metadata across languages and cultures. Furthermore, your legacy FGDC metadata records will be 100% upgradeable to ISO. Both the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) are defining a cross walk process to easily move your existing metadata from one standard to the other.

6. LAGIC Report

On January 23rd DEQ hosted, and LAGIC provided support for, a full day Metadata Workshop entitled “Metadata Creation Using Arc Catalog”. ESRI volunteered a trainer, Gayatri Kesavamurthy from the San Antonio office, to teach this hands-on workshop. Thirty two people attended the workshop.

LAGIC also provided support for a metadata workshop for Intergraph users on February 16th at the CADGIS Lab at LSU. Bruce Westcott, with SMMS, was the trainer. Over half the twenty two registrants in the workshop were employees of Baton Rouge City/Parish Government.

LAGIC provided logistical support to the Louisiana Chapter of URISA for two seminars on the GIS Certification process. These seminars occurred in New Orleans and Baton Rouge, on Wednesday, February 18th from 3-5 and at LSU in Baton Rouge from 10 – 12 on the morning of February 19th. Mr Johnson introduced Scott Grams, Certification Manager with the GIS Certification Institute, to the GIS Council and asked him to give a brief description of the Certification process. Mr Grams taught the two seminars on the GIS Certification Process. Lynn Dupont (LAPDD), current president of LAURISA, noted that a LAURISA general membership meeting and a carnival parade followed the GIS Certification Seminar in New Orleans.

There was discussion of having a GIS Council sponsored session at the RS/GIS Workshop in Lafayette on “Web Enabled GIS”. Chair Blackmon (DNR) mentioned that the RS/GIS Organizing committee had not yet met to decide who would be speaking at various sessions. It would be premature, at this time, to organize a GIS Council Session.

Mr Johnson (LAGIC) noted that Mihwa Jang, GIS Coordinator for the City/Parish Planning Commission, would be making a presentation at the March 18th Council meeting on Baton Rouge’s new “Maps Online” website

8. Old Business

DOQQ Update

David McDaniel (USACE) noted that contractors are currently acquiring National Aerial Photography Program (NAPP) photography over Louisiana as part of the USGS/Corps/USDA over flight to produce statewide CIRR DOQQ’s. The project is approximately 50% complete and the first group of photos is being reviewed (see <http://www.rac.louisiana.edu/mpo/napp.html>). Updates on the progress of the project will be posted to the Regional Applications Center (RAC) ULL site, with a link to LAGIC. March 20th is the last possible day for data collection, according to the contract specifications. Mr. McDaniel noted that it is possible that the contractor will finish the entire state during this flying season. As

products come along, additional information will be added to the website.

John Wells (DOTD) noted that DOTD is flying high resolution photography of the urban areas of the state for transportation planning purposes. He noted that Houma and Monroe will be completed first followed by Lake Charles and Alexandria. The photo product will be Black and White photography at a resolution of one foot. He requested financial assistance with the processing costs and assistance collecting ancillary data (GPS Points) on the ground. Lynn Dupont (LAPDD) asked if DOTD was coordinating this data collection effort with local and regional governments in the areas being flown. Mr Wells requested the Council's assistance in letting local government's know of the flights.

LIDAR Update

David Gisclair (LOSCO) reported that Task 8 (Atchafalaya/Vermillion area) is at the QA/QC contractor for review and that Task 11 (Cameron Parish) is on route to the contractor. Mr. Gisclair passed out a LIDAR status map for Council members to review. He noted that data acquisition for Phase 3 has already begun. Phase 3 consists of 550 panels of data with tasks 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 & 19 which will be acquired between January and March of 2004, weather permitting. Currently, Tasks 17 & 19 have not yet been fully funded. There are now 953 LIDAR panels on the ATLAS website from Phases 1 & 2.

Mr. Gisclair noted that the Louisiana GIS CD has been so popular that the recent production of GIS CD's by OSRAP was not enough to meet demand. He asked if anyone had any new data that could be included in a GIS CD supplement to be created later this spring.

Mr Gisclair brought up LOSCO's need for an accurate geo-coded medical facility database. Truman McDaniel (DHH) noted that James Antoon with Sanitarian Services would be the most likely contact person at DHH for that information.

I-Team Report

Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that DeWitt Braud (LSU) and Dina Sa (LAGIC) are working on a short (20 minute maximum) presentation for the new CIO, should one be hired in the near future. Mr Holmes, the new Chair of the I-Team Steering Committee, noted that 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 noted that the committee is building a demo presentation with examples of GIS use. He asked if any other state agencies were interested in participating in the demo by providing examples.

LouisianaMAP Report

Josh Kent (LAGIC) noted that Dewitt Braud (LSU) and he were working on developing a "White Paper" on LouisianaMAP. He noted that LouisianaMAP was averaging over 800 visitors a day as determined by Web Trends software. He noted that LouisianaMAP is a data clearinghouse not a data repository. The Division of Administration only houses street data for routing purposes.

9. New Business

RS/GIS Workshop – Chair Blackmon noted that the RS/GIS Workshop will take place on April 20 – 22 2004 in Lafayette, Louisiana. He also mentioned that there will be an ERDAS Training class before the workshop

Equifax Data – Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that he had received a request for demographic data from USDA. The information requested was from a proprietary data set created by Equifax, and he was not sure whether the data could be distributed.

Strategic Planning Session – Chair Blackmon asked Council members if they would be interested in a "Strategic Planning Session" to discuss the I-Team effort or set direction for the GIS Council in the future. He asked LAGIC Director, Craig Johnson, to put that item on the agenda for the next Council meeting in March.

Boat Launch Data Set – David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that LOSCO is updating the Marina and Boat Launch data sets. He also mentioned that there are no more Louisiana GIS CD's available, so the updated data sets will be found on a new CD Supplement that should be available in May of 2004. He noted that he will be meeting with the Governor's Office to discuss LOSCO data and how it relates to Homeland Security, Coastal Erosion and Emergency Preparedness. He stated that he would emphasize the important role the GIS Council plays in statewide GIS coordination.

DHH Data Sets – Emory Layton (DHH) noted that he has been working on two geospatial data sets that may be of interest to Council members, including the location of hospitals throughout the state and data on fluoridated water.

Pipeline Data – Chair Blackmon noted that the Office of Homeland Security is the repository for current pipeline data in the twenty coastal parishes. He noted that anyone needing the data can write a letter to Colonel Brown to be approved to receive a copy of the data.

10. Determine Next Meeting Date and Location:

Chair, Blackmon (DNR) proposed the following date for the next GIS Council meeting: Thursday, March 18, 2004 at 1:30 in Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

11. Adjourn

A motion was made by to adjourn by David Gisclair (LOSCO) and seconded by Ramona Robichaux (Labor). The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.

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Summary of Action Items

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

Chair Blackmon (DNR) asked if **LAURISA would post resumes and job opportunities to its website.** Craig Johnson (LAGIC) reported that he had discussed this item with LAURISA webmaster Bill Wiesepape (GEC). Lynn Dupont (LAPDD), current LAURISA President, agreed that when the website is redesigned that a "Job Opportunity" section" should be added. Chair Blackmon requested that the site be linked to LAGIC and the Council's websites.

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