

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of September 23, 2004

1. Call to Order

Chair Bo Blackmon (DNR) called the meeting to order at 1:39 P.M. a quorum was present. The meeting was held in the Rotunda Conference Room in the Energy Coast and Environment Building on the LSU Campus.

2. Roll Call

A sign in sheet confirmed attendance.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Culture Recreation and Tourism

Dennis Eilers, **Member**

Department of Economic Development

Gene Stephens, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department of Health & Hospitals

Daniel McDonald, **Alternate**

Department of Labor

Jonathan Helis, **Alternate**

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 and Fisheries

Jorge Icabalceta, **Member**

Division of Administration, SLO

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts

Lynn Dupont, **Alternate**

Louisiana House

Bill Blair, **Member**

Louisiana Municipal Association

Mattie Coxe, **Member**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Others Present:

Department of Agriculture and Forestry

Brad Mooney, **Alternate**

Department of Health & Hospitals

Ann-Marie Cain

Clay Trachtman, **Alternate**

Michael Thompson, **Alternate**

Brandon Taylor

Department of Natural Resources

Sydney Dobson

Department of Transportation and Development

Neil Hohman, **Alternate**

Division of Administration, OES

Jeff Laughlin

Ed Leachman, **Alternate**

Karen Paterson

Neil Underwood

Grambling State University

Vladimir A. Appeaning

Gulf Engineers and Consultants Inc.

Bill Wiesepape

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

LSU, Center for Geoinformatics

Dina Sa

Morris P. Hebert Inc.

John Speice

Terrebonne Parish Government

Jack Gardner

US Army Corps of Engineers

David McDaniel

US Geological Survey, NWRC

Larry Handley

3. Approval of August 2004 Minutes

The August 2004 Minutes were accepted on a motion by Marty Beasley (DOA) seconded by Brad Mooney (DA&F).

4. Chair's Report

Chair Bo Blackmon noted that Ed Leachman (OES) was leaving the Division of Administration to accept a position at Arkansas Tech in Russellville, Arkansas. Mr Leachman has been an advocate for the I-Team Initiative and the architect of

the LouisianaMAP Project. Mr Leachman introduced to the GIS Council his replacement at OES, Neil Underwood. Mr. Underwood has been in the Office of Information Services for nine years and will fill the position until a permanent replacement is found. Chair Blackmon noted that a Certificate of Appreciation is being framed and will be sent to Mr. Leachman at his new address.

5. Presentation: Louisiana State Lands Document Management System, by Marty Beasley and Ms. Geneva Welch with the State Lands Office, Division of Administration.

Ms. Geneva, with the Historical Documents Section, described the variety of historical information that is archived in the State Lands Office. She showed examples of different historical source data including Spanish land grants, survey notes, deeds, plats and miscellaneous property documentation.

Marty Beasley noted that State Lands decided to scan all of their existing historical documents to preserve these documents for future generations. State Lands scanned all of the documents themselves over a three year period. State Lands acquired magneto-optical jukebox storage devices to house all of the data using FileNet software. There are over 3 million pages in over 88,000 documents that have been scanned. In addition, there are over 7,400 property tax related documents on their system.

If you go to the State Lands homepage, www.state.la.us/slo you can access these documents online. Mr. Beasley gave a live demonstration on how to use the system. Some of the documents are classified as “official”, they are the only documents that can be used in a court of law. Mr. Beasley was asked how much the document conversion project cost. He noted that the project cost approximately \$2.35 million dollars, with the majority of that expense was in scanning costs.

6. LAGIC Report

Craig Johnson, LAGIC Director, gave an end of the year report on LAGIC activities. Mr. Johnson described the seven tasks in the LAGIC contract, including:

- 1) Metadata Catalog
- 2) Development of Louisiana framework data
- 3) LouisianaMAP Portal
- 4) State GIS Inventory
- 5) Administrative Support
- 6) Technical Support
- 7) Solicit research and grants

Mr. Johnson described to the Council the LAGIC Oversight Committee and its responsibilities. He noted the current members of the Oversight Committee and invited other members to participate.

7. NSGIC Conference Report

Joe Holmes, Louisiana's representative to the National States Geographic Information Council, noted that he had attended the annual conference in Austin, Texas. Some of the issues that were discussed at the Conference were:

State Coordination Model – what governance factors in some states allow them to be more successful in completing projects, acquiring outside funding and maintaining high level administrative support? He noted that although Louisiana scores relatively high in these models, it still lacks a permanent funding source and a fulltime paid GIS Coordinator.

FEMA meetings by Region – FEMA's Region 6, which includes Louisiana, held a meeting in which they invited other federal agencies in the same geographic area to attend to enhance federal coordination with the states in FEMA's Map Modernization efforts.

USGS gave a presentation on their proposed re-organization plan to NSGIC members. Larry Handy (USGS) described the challenges USGS

Craig Johnson (LAGIC) gave a presentation at the NSGIC Conference on the use of geospatial data for Homeland Security Initiatives in Louisiana.

8. Old Business

DOQQ Update

David McDaniel (NO District, Corps of Engineers) gave the DOQQ report. Mr. McDaniel noted that Block #1 is available on the web. Blocks #2 & #3 were recently delivered to Joe Holmes at the Department of Environmental Quality for posting. Mr Holmes needs to copy the data to DVD's before uploading to the website.

LIDAR Report

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that there are now 1407 LIDAR DEM's available on the ATLAS website. All panels below 30,30' have been completed. Mr Gisclair noted that Gray Zimmer, with FEMA Region 6, has assured Louisiana of the availability of funding in the coming fiscal year to continue the LIDAR project. Mr Gisclair noted that Sean Fontenot, Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, has assured FEMA that Louisiana funds will be available for the state match. FEMA's priorities are to use LIDAR data to create new 500 and 100 year flood zones. Mr. Gisclair noted that he is working on a

supplemental GIS CD to be released in October.

I-Team Report

Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that The I-Team met to draft an end of the year report for the Governor. The report was sent to the Governor in mid September. The I-Team group also drafted an Executive Order for the Governor's signature. The Executive Order was framed as a living document outlining the states geospatial data needs. The next step would be a letter from the Governor to each agency recommending cooperation and coordination with the Louisiana GIS Council in the creation of their geospatial data sets.

LouisianaMAP Report

Ed Leachman (DOA)

8. New Business

LAURISA Workshop

9. Determine Next Meeting Date and Location:

Chair, Blackmon (DNR) proposed the following date for the next GIS Council meeting: Wednesday, October 20, 2004 at 1:30 in Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

10. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

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Summary of Action Items