

## **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of January 20, 2005

### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Bo Blackmon (DNR) called the meeting to order at 1:44 P.M. a quorum was present. The meeting was held in Room #212 at Efferson Hall on the Louisiana State University Campus in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **2. Roll Call**

A sign in sheet confirmed attendance.

### **Member Agencies/Organizations Present:**

**Department of Agriculture and Fisheries**

Brad Mooney, **Alternate**

**Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism**

Dennis Eilers, **Member**

**Department of Education**

Steve A. Gunning, **Alternate**

**Department of Economic Development**

Gene Stephens, **Member**

**Department of Environmental Quality**

Joe Holmes, **Member**

**Department of Health & Hospitals**

Daniel MacDonald, **Member**

**Department of Labor**

Ramona Robichaux, **Member**

**Department of Natural Resources**

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

**Department of Social Services**

Pam Smith, **Member**

**Department of Transportation**

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

**Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**

Jorge Icabalceta, **Member**

**Division of Administration, SLO**

Marty Beasley, **Member**

**Louisiana Assessors Association**

Sherel Martin, **Member**

**Louisiana Municipal Association**

Mattie Coxe, **Member**

**Louisiana Senate**

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

**Others Present:**

- Department of Economic Development**  
Steve Windham, **Alternate**
- Department of Environmental Quality**  
Paul Zundel, **Alternate**
- Department of Health & Hospitals**  
Clay Trachtman, **Alternate**
- Department of Labor**  
Jonathan Helis
- Department of Public Safety**  
Daphne Bencaz  
Christina Dayries
- Department of Transportation and Development**  
Neil Hohman, **Alternate**  
Dora Michelli  
John Wells
- Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**  
Doug Albert, **Alternate**
- Division of Administration, OES**  
Karen Paterson  
Neal Underwood, **Alternate**
- Environmental Research Systems Inc.**  
Traci Tracy
- Louisiana Assessors Association**  
Rich Bailey, **Alternate**
- Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)**  
Craig Johnson  
Joshua Kent
- Louisiana State University**  
Rob Cunningham
- Louisiana Municipal Association**  
Mat Cowart, **Alternate**
- South Central Planning and Development**  
Richard Poche
- St James Parish Government**  
Praytush Kumar  
Bobby Lear
- US Geological Survey**  
Tom Beard  
Calvin "Pat" O'Neil
- Watch Systems**  
Sharpe Stanfield

### **3. Approval of December 2004 Minutes**

The December 2004 Minutes were accepted on a motion by David Gisclair (Senate) and seconded by Mattie Coxe (LMA).

### **4. Chair's Report**

Chair Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that Kay Henderson, with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, has decided to retire. A retirement party will be held at DOTD on Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Chair Blackmon noted the enormous amount of assistance she has provided other Louisiana GIS professionals over the years.

Chair Blackmon remarked that he has been assisting Neil Underwood (DOA) and LAGIC in evaluating the proposals of various geocoding service providers.

Chair Blackmon noted that Charles Tate with the Governors Office of Community Development is looking for data that can be used to identify four-year old children at risk of low achievement in school. Chair Blackmon also noted that sometimes the Governors staff requests data from a Council member without realizing that geospatial data is often spread throughout an organization making it nearly impossible for a Council member to identify all of the various geospatial data sets being produced within their agency.

LAGIC received a letter from the Department of Administration appointing Neal Underwood as the new Council Alternate from the Division of Administration

### **5. Agency Presentation: Louisiana Department of Economic Development, Gene Stephens (DED) and Dr Ramesh Kolluru (ULL).**

Gene Stephens (DED) described many of the data sets that the Department of Economic Development (DED) uses to meet its mission of growing Louisiana businesses and attracting investment to the state. DED use "Map Point" by Microsoft for its mapping and "Demographics Now" for its combination of public and proprietary data sources.

DED has contracted with the Center for Business and Information Technologies (CBIT) at the University of Louisiana Lafayette to create "Access Louisiana" a web portal that provides access to three resources; business information, expertise and sites. Dr Kolluru (ULL) demonstrated the capabilities of the portal and requested assistance from the Council in identifying relevant state data sets.

## **6. LAGIC Report**

LAGIC staff attended two meetings at the Division of Administration to hear presentations by vendors on their geo-coding services.

LAGIC was asked by the Governors Office of Community Development to conduct a workshop on the use of GIS to answer social service questions. Craig Johnson, LAGIC Director, said he would work with Karen Paterson our state demographer to develop the workshop curriculum.

Our next FGDC GIS/Metadata Workshop will take place in Abbeville, LA. On February 23<sup>rd</sup>. LAGIC is working with some of the members of the Council from the Department of Health and Hospitals to schedule a Metadata workshop.

LAGIC is assisting the RS/GIS Workshop Organizing committee with the 2005 RS/GIS Workshop at UNO. The Conference will be held on April 19-21<sup>st</sup>. A "Call for Papers" Postcard has been mailed to over two thousand individuals. You are welcome to take some with you to distribute. The vendor packets will be mailed out in the next two weeks.

Joshua Kent, LAGIC Data Manager, has completed a preliminary review of two commercially available geo-coding services. We are awaiting the result of a third data set before making the results available to the Council.

## **8. Old Business**

### **LGISC Election of Officers**

Craig Johnson (LAGIC) read the Election Report, which is a compilation of the nominations received and the responses of those nominated as to their willingness to serve. There were five eligible nominations for Chair and four for Vice Chair. Of those nominated for Chair one member was willing to serve; Bill Blair with the Louisiana House of Representatives. Of those nominated for Vice Chair, one member was willing to serve; Pam Smith with the Department of Social Services. Pam Smith was invited to describe her experience in using geospatial data, which she did. Craig Johnson described for Bill Blair (he was not able to attend) his experience with GIS. The Council then asked if there were any other nominations. As there were none, an election by voice vote was taken. Bill Blair was elected Chair and Pam Smith was elected Vice Chair.

### **DOQQ Update**

Pat O'Neil (USGS) passed out an updated data status map for the 2004 DOQQ Project. He noted the schedule for completing the remainder of the processing of the imagery from the 2004 DOQQ flight.

**LIDAR Report**

David Gisclair (LOSCO) gave a report on the status of the LIDAR project. Task 17 should be ready in February, Task 21 in March and Task 20 in April. Tasks 19 and 22 will follow.

**LouisianaMAP Project**

Neil Underwood (DOA) noted that the LouisianaMAP project is reviewing the critical issues for state geospatial data needs. Among the current priorities are: the issues of the most cost effective method of geo-coding large data sets, issues of data confidentiality, software and licensing agreements and statewide licensing issues relating to GIS software. In addition, state master purchasing agreements will need to be modified to include services and training.

**8. New Business****Louisiana Spatial Domain**

James Mitchell (DOTD) and Joshua Kent (LAGIC) presented a proposal to create an official Louisiana Spatial Domain for those working with data in an ESRI Geodatabase format. The domain was defined as a region bounded on the corners, by specific sets of x, y coordinate points. In addition a M domain and Z domain were also defined. The Council agreed to have the LGISC Data Committee review the information presented and make a recommendation to the Council at the next Council meeting. Joe Holmes (DEQ) is the current chair of the committee, Jim Mitchell and Joshua Kent were asked to meet with Joe, and any interested Council members, to discuss the issue.

**GeoExpo**

Joe Homes noted that the GeoExpo will take place on May 11<sup>th</sup> in the Galvez Conference Facility at DEQ. The Expo will feature state agencies showcasing the value of their data sets. Vendors are invited.

**9. Determine Next Meeting Date and Location:**

Chair, Blackmon (DNR) proposed the following date for the next GIS Council meeting: Thursday, February 17, 2005 at 1:30 in Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

**10. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 4:16 pm.

## **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of January 20, 2005

### ***Summary of Action Items***

#### **Appointments to the Council**

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