

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of December 15, 2005

1. Call to Order

Chair Bill Blair (House) called the meeting to order at 1:56 P.M. a quorum was present. The meeting was held in the Vieux Carre Room of the LSU Student Union in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

2. Roll Call

A sign in sheet confirmed attendance.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Education

Steve A. Gunning, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department of Health & Hospitals

Dan MacDonald, **Member**

Department of Labor

Jonathan Helis, **Alternate**

Department of Natural Resources

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

Department of Social Services

David Jacobson, **Member**

Department of Transportation

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Doug Albert, **Alternate**

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Louisiana Municipal Association

Mattie Coxe, **Member**

Louisiana House

Bill Blair, **Member**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Others Present:

Army Corps of Engineers

David McDaniel

Center for Geoinformatics (LSU)

J A (Tony) Cavell

Department of Transportation and Development

Sharon Balfour
Neil Hohmann, **Alternate**
Daryl Mack
John Wells
Jim Wilson

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Charles Flanagan
Jo Jordan

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Craig Johnson
Joshua Kent

Louisiana Recovery Authority

David Bowman

Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors

Paul Kocke
David Patterson

Louisiana State University

Rob Cunningham
Jackie Mills

National Geodetic Survey

Dennis Riordan

Shaw Group

Perry Lopez

St. James Parish Government

Bobby Lear

3. Approval of November 2005 Minutes

The November 2005 Minutes were accepted, with corrections, on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by David Gisclair.

4. Chair's Report

The Chair Bill Blair (House) noted that House Bill #68 passed the House and Senate and was awaiting Governor Blanco's signature. The Bill will better define the responsibilities of both the GIS Council and LAGIC. The Bill will also allow LAGIC to enter into contracts and charge for some services. Most importantly, the Bill will allow LAGIC to receive commercially sensitive, privacy protected and other data sets that will require special database security procedures.

The GIS Council had received a request from the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors to become members of the GIS Council. Chair Blair invited the Surveyors to come to this meeting and make a presentation to the Council.

5. Presentation: Louisiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors by David Patterson, President of the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors and Tony Cavell, LSPS Board Member.

David Patterson, President of LSPS and Tony Cavell, LSPS Board Member, described the mission of LSPS and its primary activities. The LSPS was founded in 1961, to enhance the practice of surveying and protect the public. The LSPS provides continuing education to its members and represents their interests in the Louisiana Legislature

Tony Cavell (C4G) noted that there is a perception that there is a conflict between the two professions; GIS practitioners and Licensed Surveyors, based on a past misunderstanding of the role that each play in the creation of geospatial products and services. He noted that if the GIS Council accepts LSPS's request for membership it would further that dialog and potentially prevent future misunderstandings.

A scheduled presentation by Victor Leotta (CK and Associates) on Mapping Services Available at the FEMA-JFO was canceled due to illness.

6. LAGIC Report

LAGIC is providing logistical support for three LGISC committees:

- 1 The GIS Strategic Planning Committee, which is in the final editing stages of the Strategic Plan.
- 1 The LGISC Executive Committee (recommending changes to the Bylaws to reflect the new authorizing legislation. Drafts of those bylaw changes will be distributed to the membership for their comment.
- 1 Emergency Data Coordination Meeting – An ad-hoc committee to deal with the issue of state geospatial preparedness for any emergency event. Jim Mitchell has been spearheading this effort. The group has met at least once since the last Council meeting

Outreach Efforts

LAGIC hosted the Map Gallery in the Rotunda of the Capitol in November. We have had numerous requests since for the maps that were displayed there as well as for the Hurricane Atlas that Josh created. The legislature has requested 100 copies of the Atlas for distribution at the next special session.

LAGIC taught a ½ day workshop for DSS Staff that were assisting FEMA in locating sites for the placement of multiple trailers. The class simply looked at the most economical geospatial options for sitting decisions. Joshua Kent and Craig Johnson provided the basic GIS training.

7) Louisiana Recovery Authority Efforts

David Bowman, with the Louisiana Recovery Authority, noted that the LRA will be calling on various Council members for assistance and data as the LRA begins to track the recovery. The LRA will form a number of single issue teams that will work with various state agencies. One of the first tasks will be to estimate the population in the affected parishes and track the numbers by month. Mr Bowman gave his phone number (225) 978-7184 and his e-mail address david.bowman@la.gov if anyone needs to contact him.

8) Old Business

DOQQ Update

Joe Holmes (DEQ) gave the DOQQ report for Pat O’Neil (USGS). The October DOQQ flight was flown. The product will be one meter pan sharpened CIR imagery. Jim Mitchell noted that there are some gaps in the mosaiced images.

LIDAR Report –

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that there are no changes in the status of the LIDAR Imagery from the last Council meeting. Many blocks are awaiting Quality Assurance review by a third party contractor.

Louisiana GIS Council Election Committee

Bill Blair (House) noted that the Election Committee is taking nominations for Chair and Vice Chair of the Council. Craig Johnson (LAGIC) has placed nomination forms on the table outside the room. Please take one with you, fill it out and bring it to the next meeting. Craig Johnson noted that the new legislation passed by the House and Senate (Act #68) allows alternates to be nominated for either Chair or Vice Chair of the Council. The election will occur at the February meeting.

9) New Business

Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that there will be a National Hydrology Data (NHD) workshop on February 15th at the Regional Applications Center in Lafayette. USGS is hosting the event.

10) Next Meeting – January 19th at Efferson Hall, on the LSU Campus

11) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4.05. The meeting was followed by a holiday gathering.

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council
Meeting of December 15, 2005

Summary of Action Items

Act #68

Act #68 of the Louisiana Legislature is awaiting the Governor's signature. The Act will better define the responsibilities of both the GIS Council and LAGIC. The Act will also allow LAGIC to enter into contracts and charge for services. Most importantly, the Bill will allow LAGIC to receive commercially sensitive, privacy protected and other data sets that will require special database security procedures.

DOQQ Update – N/A

The October DOQQ flight was flown. The product will be one meter pan sharpened CIR imagery. Pat O'Neil (USGS) is the contact point for the imagery. Jim Mitchell noted that there are some gaps in the mosaiced images.

LIDAR Report – no change

NHD Workshop – February 15, 2006

Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that there will be a National Hydrology Data (NHD) workshop on February 15th at the Regional Applications Center in Lafayette. USGS is hosting the event.

LSPS Application for membership

The Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors has requested membership in the Louisiana GIS Council. The Council heard presentations from David Patterson (President of LSPS), and Tony Cavell (LSPS Board Member). The Council can not admit a new member that is not a state entity, until Act #68 is signed into law on January 22nd. The Council decided to debate the issue at their January meeting and vote at a later meeting.