

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council
Meeting of March 16, 2006

1. Call to Order

Chair Bill Blair (House) called the meeting to order at 1:41 P.M. a quorum was present. The meeting was held in Room #212 at Efferson Hall 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 Education

Steve A. Gunning, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department of Labor

Ramona Robichaux, **Member**

Department of Natural Resources

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

Department of Social Services

David Jacobson, **Alternate**

Department of Transportation

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Doug Albert, **Alternate**

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Louisiana Assessors Association

Sheryl Martin, **Member**

Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts

Perry Felarise, **Alternate**

Louisiana House

Bill Blair, **Member**

Louisiana Municipal Association

Mattie Coxe, **Member**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Office of the Governor, Military Dept.

Brant Mitchell, **Member**

Others Present:

Capitol Region Planning Commission

Marta Naquin

Department of Culture Recreation and Tourism

Mitchell Aleshire

Department of Environmental Quality

Sue Smith

Department of Public Safety

Daphne Bencaz

Department of Transportation and Development

Neil Hohmann, Alternate

Darryl Mack

Harry Wilson

Division of Administration,

Bobby Collins

Karen Patterson

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Jo Jordan

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

LSU, Center for GeoInformatics

Tony Cavell

Cliff Mugnier

Office of the Governor, Military Dept.

Tiffany Coffman

St James Parish Government

Bobby Lear

3. Approval of February 2006 Minutes

The February 2006 Minutes were accepted on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by David Gisclair (LOSCO).

4. Chair's Report

Chair Bill Blair noted that he will be preparing for the upcoming legislative session, which may cause him to miss one or two Council meetings this spring.

Chair Blair has been assisting the LRA Population Survey Working group. They will be looking at population losses and gains throughout Louisiana. The Center for Disease Control will be assisting in the design of the neighborhood survey instrument

Chair Blair noted that the Census Bureau has been in touch with him to facilitate the participation of local municipalities and parishes in the upcoming Boundary and Annexation Survey. .

The GIS Council has reviewed the request from the .Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors to become members of the GIS Council. Chair Blair had requested some additional information which was provided by their organization. A resolution proposing that the LSPS be admitted for membership will be voted on later in this Council meeting.

Note: A scheduled presentation by NRCS was postponed until the April Council meeting.

5. Bylaw Changes

Chair Bill Blair asked if there were any suggested changes or improvements to the proposed new Bylaws that were distributed at the January and February Council meetings for review by all Council members

Jim Mitchell (DOTD) suggested the following changes:

- 1) Local government entities do not have to be specifically named in the revised Bylaws as none of the other existing members are specifically named
- 2) Mr Mitchell was concerned that the Executive Committee could appoint a replacement (interim) chair without a vote of the Council.

The Council decided to vote on the proposed Bylaws as presented, but modify future Bylaws to take into consideration some of the proposed suggestions. A call for a vote was accepted on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by Mattie Coxe (LMA).

The vote was 15 yeas and one nay (Jim Mitchell). The motion passed

6. LAGIC Report

LAGIC is providing logistical support for two LGISC committees:

- 1 The GIS Strategic Planning Committee, which David and I will discuss later in the meeting.
- 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 will be hosting a full day workshop entitled: "Analyzing Your Community: Demographic Analysis Workshop, which will be held at Lod Cook on Monday, April 3rd. We are expecting 20 participants including Council members from Labor, Education, Health and Hospitals etc. Karen Patterson our state demographer and Maurice Wolcott with the Ag Center have agreed to assist with the workshop.

LAGIC has been assisting with the RS/GIS Workshop. Josh Kent was a huge help with mailouts, posting info to the website and audiovisuals. Craig Johnson has been securing speaking commitments from eight presenters for two of the sessions,

Last spring LAGIC received a \$35,000 grant from the Oil Spill Research and Development Program (OSRADP) to provide GIS coordination for Emergency Planning between the state and a local government specifically DNR, DEQ and other state agencies and Terrebonne Parish. Jack Gardner, GIS Manager in Terrebonne Parish, and I are almost complete with that project. We will present the results to the Terrebonne Parish Council in Houma, and other venues

Craig Johnson (LAGIC) recently attended the National States GIS Council Mid Year meeting. Attendance was mandatory as LAGIC had recently been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Federal Geographic Data Committee to look at better coordination of geospatial data sets regarding utility information and telecommunication infrastructure. This grant will be managed in coordination with Pat O'Neil (USGS) who is the Co-PI. LAGIC will report back to the Council periodically on our progress.

8) Old Business

LSPS Membership

At the December 2005 GIS Council Meeting the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors had requested that they be admitted as members of the Louisiana GIS Council. Paul Kocke's name was submitted as the primary member and Anthony Cavell was proposed as the secondary member. The Council reviewed their application and requested some additional information. Chair Bill Blair asked if there were any additional questions for the Surveyors from the membership. Bo Blackmon (DNR) reiterated his concern that the surveyors attend meetings regularly as we need to maintain a quorum in order to conduct Council business. A motion to accept the LSPS as members of the Louisiana GIS Council was passed unanimously by the Council.

DOQQ Update

Joe Holmes (DEQ) gave the 2005 DOQQ Project report. He noted that Lot 3 will

be delivered to USGS in Lafayette this week. Lot 3 includes the Chandeleur Islands and the Mouth of the Mississippi River. Lots 5 & 7 are being requested and should be shipped from Rolla, Missouri in the next 30days.

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.

RS/GIS Workshop Report

Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that the 22nd annual Louisiana RS/GIS Workshop will take place April 3-5 at Lod Cook Conference Center on the LSU Campus. The theme will be “Lessons Learned from the last Hurricane Season” Mr Blackmon asked everyone that had not registered for the workshop or submitted a paper yet to do so immediately. He noted that Sean O’Keefe, the Chancellor of LSU, will speak at the Thursday morning session followed by a panel discussion on hurricane response and recovery by emergency responders and data providers.

9) New Business

Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that Rizwan Ahmed has been named as the new Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the state. Mr Ahmed will be located in the Claiborne Building in the Division of Administration.

Dina Knight (C4G) announced the upcoming GeoExpo 2006 on June 9th in the Galvez Conference Center at DEQ.

Jim Mitchell (DOTD) noted that the Emergency Data Committee is working on a Search and Rescue Grid. Jo Jordan (FEMA) is assisting with that effort.

He also noted that USGS has phased itself out of the quadrangle creation business. He noted that DOTD has over the years paid for the updating of Louisiana quads by USGS. We may want to look at contracting with vendors to supply those products in the future.

10) Next Meeting – April 20th at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

11) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3.55.

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Summary of Action Items

Bylaw Changes

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LIDAR Report – no change

LSPS Application for Membership

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