Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council
Meeting of June 15, 2006

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Joe Holmes (DEQ) called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M. a quorum was not present. The meeting was held at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

2. Roll Call

A sign in sheet confirmed attendance.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Economic Development
　　Gene Stephens, **Member**
Department of Education
　　Steve A. Gunning, **Member**
Department of Environmental Quality
　　Joe Holmes, **Member**
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**
Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts
　　Marta Naquin, **Alternate**
Louisiana Municipal Association
　　Mattie Coxe, **Member**
Louisiana Senate
　　David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Others Present:

Department of Transportation and Development
　　Harry Wilson
Division of Administration
　　Karen Patterson
FEMA Geospatial Intelligence Unit
　　Mary Bermudez
　　Rusti Liner
　　David Whitlock

Governors Office Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness
Tiffany Coffman
Lincoln Parish Government
Shane Breland
Louisiana Geographic Information Center
Craig Johnson
Joshua Kent
Louisiana GIS Council – former Chair
Dennis Eilers
Louisiana State University
Ezra Boyd
Rob Cunningham
Joe Thompson
Morris P Hebert Inc.
John Speice
South Central Planning and Development
Scott Leger
St James Parish Government
Bobby Lear
Terrebonne Parish Government
Jack Gardner
USGS
Pat O'Neil

3. Approval of May 18, 2006 Minutes

The May 2006 Minutes were read, however due to the lack of a quorum their acceptance was postponed until the July LGISC meeting.

4. Chair's Report

Vice Chair Joe Holmes (DEQ) presided over the meeting. He noted that we would not be able to use Efferson Hall for the August 17th meeting so we will need to find another location. Craig Johnson (LAGIC) said he would locate another place to hold the meeting.

Mr. Holmes noted that he recently heard from Jim Mitchell (DOTD), Bo Blackmon (DNR) and Bill Blair (House) that the Civil Service Commission is reviewing the job descriptions of Information Technology (IT) positions including GIS positions in state government. The good news is that they will probably raise the salaries; the bad news is that they did not ask anyone involved with GIS in state government prior to changing the job descriptions. Mr. Mitchell asked Council members to review the new job descriptions posted to the web to make sure that you agree with the proposed changes. He suggested that we check with the new CIO on the extent of our potential input.

5. Presentation: Terrebonne Parish Emergency Management GIS, by Jack Gardner, GIS Manager Terrebonne Parish Government.

Mr. Gardner noted that Hurricanes Katrina and Rita impacted Terrebonne Parish very differently. Katrina produced enormous wind damage, trees, roofs, etc. Hurricane Rita had much less wind damage but caused extensive flooding in both the southern portion of the parish and in downtown Houma.
GIS was extremely helpful in tracking the removal of brush and trash from city streets, as well as in documenting the number of structures, and their value, that flooded in various neighborhoods.

Terrebonne Parish has been working with the Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC) on an Oil Spill Response Grant. Terrebonne Parish has over 1200 oil and gas wells and the project's goal was to use GIS to aid the parish in the event of a major spill. The parish created many of the critical data layers including; places where people congregate (schools, restaurants, recreational fields, churches etc.), the location of oil and gas wells and utility information. LAGIC provided state data sets to complement the local data: including pipelines, chemical storage (Tier II) data and areas with critical habitat. The project will include training first responders on how to use the data in a mobile GIS environment. The project will be completed in September.

6. LAGIC Report

LAGIC has been providing logistical support for a number of LGISC activities:

- ❑ The Strategic Planning Subcommittee, which David Gisclair and I will discuss later in the meeting.
- ❑ LAGIC has been working with a number of Council member agencies on membership issues:
  LA. Police Jury Association has submitted a list of three names for the Governor to select
  We will continue to work with members to fill vacancies whether those be members or alternates

- ❑ The ongoing Louisiana legislative session has produced a piece of legislation that involves LAGIC, specifically Senate Concurrent Resolution #14. Craig Johnson (LAGIC) noted that the legislation asks LAGIC to assist the Secretary of State in locating flooded buildings that housed state records. We will meet with the Secretary's of State's Office next week to discuss our responsibilities under this legislation and determine if there is any funding available to help us carry out these tasks.

Outreach

- ❑ LAGIC will host a ½ day Workshop on using a "Mobile GIS for Utility Providers" at Entergy's New Orleans facility on Tuesday, July 18th
- ❑ LAGIC will host a ½ day Workshop on GPS and GIS at McNeese State University in Lake Charles on Thursday, June 29th.
- ❑ LAGIC recently met with a FEMA representative from Texas to discuss how to improve data sharing between FEMA and state agencies.
- ❑ In June, LAGIC had a booth at the GeoExpo (DEQ), made a presentation at the Data Mining Workshop in Lafayette and attended the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Association conference in Lake Charles

8) Old Business

DOQQ Update
Pat O'Neil (USGS) and Joe Holmes (DEQ) made the presentation. Mr. Holmes noted that DEQ has received copies of all the 2005 Coastal flight data and the first batch of some data that has been corrected. Five of the lots will have some corrections including color balance issues, missing data etc.

LIDAR Report
David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that there are no changes in the status of the LIDAR Imagery from the last Council meeting. LOSCO recently received a new batch of data but they have not had time to catalog it yet.

Louisiana GIS Strategic Plan
David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that at this time everything created by the original subcommittees has been converted over to the new NSGIC template; however there is much work to do in making the draft more readable. Some areas of the NSGIC template were not covered at all in the original draft so those sections had to be written. The draft should be available for review by Council members by the next Council Meeting. We will take comments from the Council and then convene a meeting of the Strategic Planning Group to review those comments.

Emergency Data Coordination Meeting
Jim Mitchell (DOTD) noted that the Emergency Data Committee has completed the "Search and Rescue Grid". If anyone would like a copy it is available, Mr. Mitchell volunteered to provide it.

9) New Business
Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that the national pipeline database is extremely comprehensive and accurate. Unfortunately DNR has only one person that is allowed to access this data set, the pipeline safety officer. The state database is nowhere near as accurate, in terms of horizontal positioning, as the federally created pipeline database.

Jim Mitchell (DOTD) noted that the LAGIC oversight committee should be convened to review LAGIC's tasks, in light of Senate Concurrent Resolution #14. There was concern that this task could consume much of LAGIC's time and resources. Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that this could be a very complicated task depending on the ability of the Secretary of State's office to provide the basic locational information. Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that concurrent resolutions should not be ignored and that we should discuss the tasks proposed with the resolutions author to determine the intent.

The Council was introduced to the FEMA Geospatial Intelligence Unit. Rusti Liner (FEMA) described some of the short courses FEMA will be offering on Friday's at the Field Office. All of the FEMA Geospatial Intelligence Unit members present introduced themselves and described their GIS interests.

10) Next Meeting – July 20t^h at Efferson Hall on the Louisiana State University Campus.

11) Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 4.05.

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council
Meeting of June 15, 2006

Summary of Action Items

4. Chair's Report
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