

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of July 20, 2006

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Bill Blair (House) called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M. a quorum was 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 Agriculture and Forestry

Gus Rowland, **Alternate**

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 Transportation

Neil Hohman, **Alternate**

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Doug Albert, **Alternate**

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts

Marta Naquin, **Alternate**

Louisiana House

Bill Blair, **Member**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors

Paul Kocke, **Member**

Others Present:

Department of Transportation and Development

Jimmy Wilson

Division of Administration

Karen Patterson

Neal Underwood

FEMA Geospatial Intelligence Unit

Gary Atkins
Mary Bermudez
Rusti Liner
Adam Margesta
Heather Milton

Governors Office Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness

Tiffany Coffman

IEM Inc.

Fran Harvey

Lincoln Parish Government

Melissa Bowman
Shane Breland

Louisiana Geographic Information Center

Craig Johnson
Joshua Kent

Louisiana State University

Rob Cunningham
Joe Thompson

US Army Corps of Engineers – NO District

David McDaniel

USGS

Steve Hartley

3. Approval of May 18, 2006 Minutes

The May 2006 Minutes were accepted on a motion by Joe Holmes (DEQ) and seconded by Mart Beasley (DOA).

4. Chair's Report

Chair Bill Blair noted that the Strategic Planning Committee has been meeting frequently and plans on having a draft strategic plan available for Council members to review at the August 17th meeting. Chair Blair noted that if the plan strays far from the original intentions of the GIS Council then he would ask the Council to decide if two documents rather than one should be the final product of the committees work. He will wait to see the final product before deciding.

5. Presentation: "A Model for Local Government GIS Coordination" by Shane Breland, Lincoln Parish Government.

The Lincoln Parish Communications District was created in 1993. After the development of the enhanced 911 Program there was a need for maps and information related to the street and address layers. The Lincoln Parish GIS Commission was created two years later and has the following seven members:

Lincoln Parish Assessor, City of Ruston, Clerk of Court, Communications District (911), Fire Protection District (mostly volunteers), Police Jury and the Sheriff's Office

The Parish GIS Department was merged with the IT Department and now consists of Shane Breland (formerly the Parish IT Director), Melisa Bowman (GIS Analyst), Abby Armstrong (GIS Analyst) and Brian Hilton (IT analyst) and Jennifer our secretary. There are ten parish agencies that participate in a cooperative agreement and receive IT technical assistance. Members of the GIS Commission contribute their share of yearly revenue (usually \$25,000) to keep the IT/GIS Department functioning. The IT/GIS Department operates on a yearly budget of approximately \$400,000. Mr. Breland noted that one of their greatest accomplishments is being able to share all the data and computer infrastructure capability among all of the Commission partners amiably with a minimum of political wrangling. Mr. Breland went on to demonstrate many of the geospatial data layers that have been constructed by the IT/GIS department.

6. LAGIC Report

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

- ❑ The Strategic Planning Subcommittee, which David Gisclair (Senate) and Craig Johnson (LAGIC) will discuss later in the meeting.
- ❑ LAGIC has been working with a number of Council member agencies on membership issues. The LA. Police Jury Association has submitted a list of three names for the Governor to review. We are also working with the Louisiana Municipal Association to find a replacement for Mattie Coxe. We will continue to work with member agencies to fill vacancies.
- ❑ The ongoing Louisiana legislative session has produced legislation that involves LAGIC
 - HB #940 creates the Louisiana Geography Education Initiative Program, to promote the value and importance of Geography in La. State schools. This will be a cooperative effort between the National Geographic Society and a new council of geographic educators.
 - LAGIC staff and Neal Underwood (DOA) met with the Secretary of States Office to discuss SCR #14 which involves LAGIC's participation in locating buildings that house state documents.

Outreach

- ❑ LAGIC hosted a ½ day Workshop on "GPS and GIS" at McNeese State University in Lake Charles on Thursday, June 29th.
- ❑ LAGIC hosted a ½ day Workshop on using a "Mobile GIS for Utility Providers" at Entergy's New Orleans facility on Tuesday, July 18th

- LAGIC will be assisting Terrebonne Parish Government conducting an Introduction to GIS workshop for public safety officials at the Sheriff's Office.

8) Old Business

DOQQ Update

Joe Holmes (DEQ) gave the report on the 2005 Coastal Flight (post Katrina and Rita). He noted that he has received the two missing DOQQ's in the first distribution of quarter quads. They lie in Atchafalaya Basin near the Wax Lake Outlet Delta. Joe noted that FGDC compliant metadata would be produced for all of the imagery. Pat O'Neil (USGS) noted that the imagery was rushed to production so that it would be available for hurricane season.

LIDAR Report

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that at this time 1,966 LIDAR panels have been received. Phase #5 will cover much of the Red River Basin and Phase #6 will complete the west side of the state. The last remaining area is Phase #7, which covers the central part of the state.

Louisiana GIS Strategic Plan

Much of the discussion of the GIS Strategic Plan was covered in the Chairs report. The draft will be available for review by Council members at the August Council meeting. We will take comments from the Council until the end of August after which time we will convene a meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee to review those comments. We hope to have the draft to an editor by mid September and a finished product by the October Council meeting

Emergency Data Coordination Meeting

Jim Mitchell (DOTD) was undergoing surgery for a knee replacement so his report will be given at the next Council meeting.

LouisianaMAP

Neal Underwood noted that the Division of Administration was looking for funding for a new LouisianaMAP. The new version would have some added features such as a spatial locator service and would model its interface in a "GoogleMap like" mode that will be easy to use. For instance, you would be able to locate all state buildings and service locations using this tool. Furthermore, You would be able to receive both a point on a map as well as driving directions to that destination.

9) New Business

Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that the RS/GIS Workshop has been rescheduled for late May. The dates for the workshop, which will be in Lafayette in 2007, conflicted with a number of geospatial events in Louisiana and elsewhere.

David Gisclair noted that the new Louisiana GIS CD would be available in the spring of 2007. Any agency that has new or updated data that they would like to see included in the new CD, must let him know immediately to be included. He has formed a group that will be meeting regularly over the next six to eight months to catalog the new data sets. Joe Holmes (DEQ) suggested that the LGISC Data Standards Committee should be convened to assist in standardizing the naming conventions for the new data sets.

10) Next Meeting – August 17th at the Louisiana State Library at 701 North 4th Street in downtown Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

11) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4.10 on a motion by Joe Holmes (DEQ) seconded by David Gisclair (Senate).

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Summary of Action Items

Chair's Report

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