

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of November 16, 2006

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair, Bill Blair (House) called the meeting to order at 1:45 P.M. a quorum was present. The meeting was held in the Louisiana State Library in downtown Baton Rouge.

2. Roll Call

A sign in sheet confirmed attendance.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Gus Rowland, **Designee**

Department of Environmental Quality

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department of Health and Hospitals

Daniel Mac Donald, **Member**

Department of Labor

Ramona Robichaux, **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, **Designee**

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Louisiana Association of Planning & Development Districts

Lynn Dupont, **Member**

Louisiana Police Jury Association

Shane Breland, **Member**

Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors

David Patterson, **Designee**

Louisiana House

Bill Blair, **Member**

Louisiana Municipal Association

Ian Beer, **Member**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

Others Present:

C-K and Associates

John Evers
Victor Leotta

Department of Health and Hospitals

Kenneth Lanier, Designee
Brandon Taylor

Department of Transportation and Development

Tiffany Coffman
Neil Hohmann, **Alternate**

Division of Administration

Karen Patterson
Neal Underwood, **Alternate**

FEMA Geospatial Intelligence Unit, BR - TRO

Michelle Jackson
Rusti Liner
Mary Meade

Governors Office of Homeland Security...

Brant Mitchell
Richard Deblieux

IEM Inc.

Fran Harvey

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Craig Johnson
Joshua Kent

Louisiana State University

Jasmine James
Dina Knight
Guiyman Wang
Ramin Zamanfaw

Morris P. Hebert Inc.

John Speice

New Orleans Regional Planning Commission

Stephanie Pedro

Shaw Corporation

Perry Lopez

South Central Planning and Development

Scott Leger

University of Louisiana Lafayette, RAC

Brett Yantis

USGS, National Wetlands Research Center

Pat O'Neil
Pierre Sargent

3. Approval of October 2006 Minutes

The October 2006 Minutes were accepted on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by David Gisclair (Senate)

4. Chair's Report

Chair Bill Blair (House) introduced the new representative from the Louisiana Municipal Association, Ian Beer with the City of Slidell.

Chair Bill Blair noted that the GIS Strategic Plan has been completed and is available for review by Council members. Copies can be found on the table at the back of the room. Chair Bill Blair thanked the Strategic Planning Committee and David Gisclair for his work on the document.

Chair Blair noted that the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions requested that the GIS Council follow the model used by other state Boards in appointing alternates. They suggested that we have the member appoint a designee or designees to vote in their absence. Chair Blair noted that this would require a change in the LGISC Bylaws. He proposed the following three changes to the Bylaws:

1. Alternates would be renamed designees and would be appointed by their member.
2. The appointing authority within their agency would provide a letter of support for all new members and designees.
3. Only statutory members can be nominated as officers of the Louisiana GIS Council.

Chair Blair asked if there were any objections to moving the December GIS Council meeting back a week to December 14th rather than December 21st. The membership expressed an interest in keeping the Council meeting and Holiday social on the 21st.

Chair Blair noted that today we will hear presentations by two organizations that have applied for membership in the GIS Council (USGS & GOHSEP) Chair Blair noted that the FEMA TRO, which gave a presentation to the Council in August, also applied for membership. We will vote on their membership requests later in the meeting.

5. Presentations: USGS and GOHSEP

US Geological Survey by Pat O'Neil, USGS Geospatial Liaison for Louisiana

Pat O'Neil noted that he is the Geospatial Liaison for the Louisiana National Spatial Data Infrastructure Partnership Office in Lafayette, La. The Partnership Office is responsible for coordinating with the National Geospatial Technical Operations Center (formerly Mapping Centers) for all USGS geospatial data collection efforts in Louisiana.

The USGS Partnership Office priorities for 2007 include:

1. Coordinate NGTOC Digital Basic Map Revision of Coastal Parishes for 2007 Hurricane Season.
2. Coordinate Aerial Imagery Acquisition Programs (USGS Contract Services)
3. Coordinate Imagery and Data workshops

Mr O'Neil noted that their office would like to continue to collaborate on the acquisition of geospatial and imagery data for Louisiana, further partnership opportunities for funding geospatial/imagery projects, and jointly leverage NSGIC efforts for congressional geospatial/imagery data programs.

The Governors Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) by Brant Mitchell

Brant Mitchell, Regional Support Section Chief for GOHSEP, described Act 35 the legislation that created GOHSEP and explained how GOHSEP is now organized. There are three sections within GOHSEP that require GIS support; Disaster Recovery, Preparedness and Regional Support.

Among GOHSEP's current missions are the collection of high resolution imagery for many urban and industrial areas throughout the state and the collection of data to support the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP). Mr Mitchell described how, in an emergency, GOHSEP operates within a Unified Command Structure with other state and federal agencies.

Immediately following the presentations by USGS and GOHSEP, Chair Bill Blair called for a vote of the Council on the applications for membership by USGS, GOHSEP and the FEMA TRO.

6. Vote on LGISC Membership Applications: 15 members present (14 votes required for a 2/3rds majority of the 20 sitting members).

USGS – 14 yeas and one nay. USGS was accepted as a member.

GOHSEP – 14 yeas and one abstention. GOHSEP was accepted as a member

FEMA TRO 14 yeas and one nay. FEMA TRO was accepted as a member

Chair Blair congratulated the new members and welcomed them to the Louisiana GIS Council.

7. LAGIC Report - GIS Day 2007

Craig Johnson, LAGIC Director, described recent activities by GIS Council members and friends to celebrate GIS Day 2007. The Governor signed a GIS Day Proclamation in September and numerous GIS Day activities took place throughout the state, including Thibodaux, Alexandria, Lake Charles and Ruston. LAGIC worked with the New Orleans Charter Math and Science High School on a project that involved using GPS and GIS

technology to map the locations of planting areas in New Orleans City Park. The students used GPS to create polygons of areas that had missing trees, calculated the acreage and produced a map with the locations of these sites. In addition the school invited LAGIC to do a day long series of GIS related presentations to over 70 students in five of Dr Ivan Gill's science classes.

8) Old Business

DOQQ Update – Joe Holmes (DEQ) gave an update on the most recent DOQQ flight. He noted that there was no change in the number of DOQQ's posted to ATLAS.

LIDAR Report – David Gisclair (Senate) noted there is no change in the status of the LIDAR Project.

Strategic Plan Report – David Gisclair explained some the decision making process involved in deciding what should be included in the Strategic Planning report. The committee decided that the document should be condensed to make it more readable. The NSGIC GIS Coordination template was included in the Appendix of the report. Copies of the report were distributed to Council members.

9) New Business

2007 LGISC Election - Craig Johnson (LAGIC) asked Council members to consider nominating a colleague or themselves for Chair or Vice Chair of the GIS Council. Nomination forms will be available at the December meeting and the election will take place at the January meeting.

2007 GIS DVD - David Gisclair (Senate) reminded Council members that time is running short for having their agency data included on the 2007 GIS DVD. Late November is the last date at which new layers can be added. The DVD will include 495 unique data themes. LOSCO is working on a file naming convention that will be descriptive enough to uniquely identify each theme.

2007 RS/GIS Workshop - Bo Blackmon (DNR) reminded Council members that the 2007 RS/GIS Workshop will take place in Lafayette on May 22 – May 24th at the River Oaks Conference Center. A group of rooms have been reserved at the Marriott for the event.

10) Next Meeting –on December 21st at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus. The Council meeting will be followed by a holiday social event in the Rotunda of the LSU School of the Coast and Environment.

11) Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 4:22 pm.

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Summary of Action Items

Chair's Report - Chair Bill Blair (House) introduced the new representative from the Louisiana Municipal Association, Ian Beer with the City of Slidell.

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4. Alternates would be renamed designees and would be appointed by their member.
5. The appointing authority within their agency would provide a letter of support for all new members and designees.
6. Only statutory members can be nominated as officers of the Louisiana GIS Council.

The Bylaws will be voted on at the December Council meeting.

6. Vote on LGISC Membership Applications: 15 members present (14 votes required for a 2/3rds majority of the 20 sitting members).

USGS – 14 yeas and one nay. USGS was accepted as a member.

GOHSEP – 14 yeas and one abstained. GOHSEP was accepted as a member

FEMA TRO 14 yeas and one nay. FEMA TRO was accepted as a member

Chair Blair congratulated the new members and welcomed them to the Louisiana GIS Council.