Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council
Meeting of March 15, 2007

1. Call to Order
Chair David Gisclair (Senate) called the meeting to order at 1:42P.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 Economic Development**
> Gene Stephens**, Member**
> **Department of Education**
> Steve A. Gunning, **Member**
> **Department of Environmental Quality**
> Joe Holmes, **Member**
> **Department of Health and Hospitals**
> Daniel MacDonald, **Member**
> **Department of Labor**
> Ramona Robichaux, **Member**
> **Department of Natural Resources**
> Bo Blackmon, **Member**
> **Department of Social Services**
> David Jacobson, **Designee**
> **Department of Transportation**
> Jim Mitchell, **Member**
> **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**
> Doug Albert, **Designee**
> **Division of Administration**
> Marty Beasley, **Member**
> **FEMA, GIU**
> Michelle Jackson, **Designee**
> **Governors Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness**
> Allen McDonald, **Designee**
> **Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts**
> Lynn Dupont, **Designee**
> **Louisiana Municipal Association**
> Ian Beer, **Member**
> **Louisiana Police Jury Association**
> Shane Breland, **Member**
> **Louisiana Senate**
> David Gisclair, **Designee**

Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors
    Gregg Palmer, **Designee**
USGS
    Calvin "Pat" O'Neil, **Member**

Others Present:

3001 Inc.
    Carter Christopher
C.K. And Associates
    John Evers
Department of Health and Hospitals
    Johan Forsman
    Clay Trachtman
Department of Transportation
    Tina Morgan
    D.J. Webre
Division of Administration
    Karen Patterson
    Neal Underwood, **Designee**
Gulf Engineers Inc.
    Bill Wiesepape
Louisiana Geographic Information Center
    Craig Johnson
    Joshua Kent
St. James Parish Government
    Bobby Lear
USGS
    Pierre Sargent

3. Approval of February 15, 2007 Minutes
The February 2007 Minutes were accepted on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by Mart Beasley (DOA).

4. Chair's Report
Chair David Gisclair noted that he recently attended the "LIDAR for the Nation Initiative" sponsored by the National Research Council. The Committee is reviewing potential national strategies to collect elevation information. The Committee is looking at the broad spectrum of issues including; data collection and acquisition, post processing, deliverables, metadata etc.

I have three immediate priorities that I would like to pursue:

1) The Council's Strategic Planning Committee completed their draft three

months ago and the Council has had a couple months to review the document. I would like to ask for a motion to accept the draft and submit a copy to the CIO for his review.

2) The Federal Geographic Data Committee is working on a method of standardizing addresses. I would like to have a committee formed to look at the issue of address standardization in Louisiana.

3) We need a method of cataloging public and private data sets. We can use the Louisiana GIS DVD as a starting point.

Chair Gisclair made a presentation to the Council of Information Service Directors (CISD) and the uses of GIS technology. The President of CISD has appointed a coordinator to work with the GIS Council.

Thirty two agencies have contributed to the GIS DVD. Disk #1 is an operational disk with various GIS Readers (Arc Reader, Geomedia, etc.). Disk #2 contains some large zipped files with imagery, land–water interface, soil maps etc.

5. Presentation: "Geospatial Data is the Key to an Enterprise Data Management System", by Ian Beer, City of Slidell, Louisiana.

One of the problems of being dependent on an IT software vendor is that they occasionally switch versions without providing support for the legacy data sets that were supported in earlier software releases. For this reason, the City of Slidell needed a tool that would allow access to its legacy data while taking advantage of the capabilities of the latest software.

Using the "identifier" feature in Arc Reader his Karora software add on, allows him to connect to any windows based connection using the URL. Using this tool he is able to grab shape files, documents etc. and move them from one application to another.

6. LAGIC Report

LAGIC presented at the Louisiana Police Jury Association Conference in Lafayette in late February. Shane Breland (Lincoln Parish) and I have presented as a team at two local government conferences

LAGIC met with representatives of three South Central Louisiana parishes in Thibodaux last month to discuss data sharing. These three parishes and two or three others have been meeting on a monthly basis at Nichols State University to share data and information.

LAGIC is developing a one day workshop on digital imagery to share information on current and planed imagery collections, image data specifications and

imagery standards with parishes and municipal governments statewide. The first workshop will take place in Lafayette at the RS/GIS workshop and the second in Ruston, LA. this June.

LAGIC is putting together a session at the RS/GIS workshop on GIS in Acadia. If the Council is interested in hosting a session, let me know and we will find the speakers.

LAGIC has been amassing a small GIS Library. With every grant we have received there is always some funds left at the end of the grant in the supply budget. We have used those funds to purchase GIS books from ESRI, URISA and other sources. We currently have between 25 and 30 books. We would like to make these available to Council members on a short term (1-2 months) loan. A list of those books can be found on the sign in table.

Joe Holmes and I received a request from FEMA to complete a survey on geospatial coordination in Louisiana. We would like to thank GIS Council members who assisted us with the survey; Marty, Jim, Doug and Pat.

At the request of the CIO, LAGIC has invited representatives from Google Earth and Microsoft Virtual Earth to make presentations at the upcoming April & May GIS Council meetings.

8) Old Business

DOQQ Update
Pat O'Neil (USGS) noted that their will be a 2007/2008 statewide flight with the possibility of 2' resolution digital imagery statewide. USGS will be working with federal, state and local governments on the flight specifications. Mr. O'Neil noted that he is working with new USDA and COE managers to organize the flights.

LIDAR Report
David Gisclair (LOSCO) that the contractors are working on Phases 6 & 7. Future data will be distributed on external hard drives versus media to make it easier to manage. Mr. Gisclair noted that the data statewide would be subdivided into quarter quads. Jim Mitchell (DOTD) felt that bigger chunks would be more useful. Their were several comments on the need to have more overlap to eliminate "dead spots" in the data, and that null values should be represented the same way across all of the data.

Brooks Act Litigation
Joshua Kent (LAGIC) noted that the judge in the case had approved "standing" for the plaintiffs (MAPPS) argument. It is now up to the judge to either accept the plaintiff's brief or interpret congress's intent. Mr. Kent has posted a synopsis of the case on the GIS Council website: http://doa.louisiana.gov/lgisc/

9) New Business

Craig Johnson (LAGIC) noted that there are a number of GIS training opportunities and conferences taking place in Louisiana over the next three months, including:

- GRID Workshop, April 17 at DOTD in Baton Rouge
- South Central Arc Users Group Meeting, April 19 – 13 in New Orleans
- NHD Workshop, April 24 –26 in Denver, CO.
- RS/GIS Workshop, May 21 – 24 in Lafayette

Mr. O'Neil (USGS) noted that flyers for the GRID workshop are available on the sign-in table.

Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that the RS/GIS Workshop is scheduled for May 21 – 24, in Lafayette. The traditional late April dates conflicted with a number of geospatial events in Louisiana and elsewhere. As in the past, the RS/GIS Workshop will feature at least one additional workshop on the Monday prior to registration on Tuesday.

Jim Mitchell (DOTD) noted some of the existing problems with TIGER data including incorrect parish boundaries for the southern part of the state and the Lake Pontchatrain area.

Bo Blackmon (DNR) agreed with Mr. Mitchell's description of the problem and noted that GIS Council should help define the problem of parish boundaries.

10) Next Meeting – April 19th at Efferson Hall on the Louisiana State University Campus.

11) Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 3.40 on a motion by Joe Holmes (DEQ) seconded by Bo Blackmon (DNR).

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Summary of Action Items

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