

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of July 19, 2007

1. Call to Order

Chair David Gisclair (Senate) called the meeting to order at 1:37P.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 & Forestry

Gus Rowland, **Designee**

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

Ken Lanier, **Designee**

Department of Justice

Ryan Seidermann, **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

Fred Hagaman, **Designee**

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, **Designee**

Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts

Lynn Dupont, **Designee**

Louisiana Police Jury Association

Shane Breland, **Member**

Louisiana Senate

David Gisclair, **Designee**

Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors

Gregg Palmer, **Designee**

Military Department, Governors Office
Bryan Haviland, **Designee**
USGS
Pat O'Neil, **Member**

Others Present:

Division of Administration

Bobby Collins
Charles Flanagan

Department of Transportation

Doug Albert
Tina Morgan

IEM Inc.

Matt Diez

Louisiana Geographic Information Center

Craig Johnson
Joshua Kent

Michael Baker Corporation Inc.

Keith Flowers
Joe Maniscalco
Harold Smith

Governor's Office of Community Development

Charles Tate

South Central Planning and Development

Scott Leger

St. James Parish Government

Bobby Lear
Scott Loque

State Library

Judy Smith

3. Approval of June 13, 2007 Minutes

The June 2007 Minutes were accepted on a motion by Shane Breland (LPJA) and seconded by Bo Blackmon (DNR).

4. Chair's Report

I want to thank everyone for attending the meeting today. And we appreciate having Dwight Hughes of the USGS here to present their GNIS Webinar.

Bylaw Changes for Members and Designees

Chair Gisclair noted that the Council recently implemented bylaw changes recommended by the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions.

Chair Gisclair announced the following new appointments to the LGISC:

1. Fred Hagaman – LDWF designee

The LGISC still needs designees for following agencies:

1. Justice
2. LAPDD (Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts)
3. CRT

IFTN – Imagery for the Nation

The digital data committee met to discuss the following issues:

1. IFTN
2. Addressing

After lengthy discussion and many emails, a formal response has been crafted concerning the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) Imagery for the Nation (IFTN) proposal. Many key council members with a professional interest in imagery have provided input in the response document. As NSGIC requested a timely response, Chair Gisclair asked the council to review the response under new business and make a recommendation on adoption of this response.

Geo-enabling State Data bases

Chair Gisclair noted that the digital data committee also met on the address conversion for geo-enabling existing databases. We are still investigating a best practices approach.

LA GIS DVD – 2007 Compilation

The new LA GIS DVD – May 2007 Compilation is available at this meeting. Again, the 2-DVD set includes the following:

LA GIS DVD Volume 1

Volume 1: Projects & Geospatial Data
Includes: 266 Data Sources

LA GIS DVD Volume 2

Volume 2: Compressed Geospatial Data
Includes: 194 Compressed Data Sources

5. Presentation: Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) Webinar, by Dwight Hughes and Lou Yost of the US Geological Survey in Reston, Virginia

Dwight Hughes and Lou Yost are two of the most knowledgeable individuals at USGS in the area of Geographic Names. Their Webinar was a demonstration of

how state and local governments can add and modify entries in the national geographic names database. Mr. Hughes began with a description of the uses of geographic names and some of the rules for what can be added and how. He led the Council members through a hands-on demonstration of the names editing process. Council members asked a number of questions of the speakers.

6. LAGIC Report

LAGIC has received notification that it has been selected for a USGS grant proposal for updating the Geographic Names Index (GNIS) for structures in the coastal parishes of Louisiana. We are in the process of scheduling five workshops that will take place in September and October.

Pat O'Neil (USGS) has requested our assistance in hosting a GNIS Webinar in Lafayette at the Hurricane Data Workshop in August. In addition, LAGIC has been asked to make a presentation at this same workshop on the role of LAGIC and the GIS Council.

LAGIC is continuing to work with TGS to identify critical infrastructure.

LAGIC has coordinated three LAGIC Oversight meetings since the last Council meeting. The Oversight Committee is looking at how we can modify LAGIC's task list as part of an effort to rewrite the LAGIC contract for FY2008.

LAGIC coordinated a meeting of the LAGIC Data Committee to look at two issues: 1) A response to NSGIC's Imagery for the Nation proposal, and 2) Review of national addressing standards and how they might be adopted in Louisiana.

LAGIC is conducting a web based survey of "GIS Use among Louisiana Assessors". The survey was distributed by e-mail in July and we have been receiving an influx of responses. We will send out a reminder to those that have not yet responded. I have been asked by the LAA to present the results at the next LAA conference.

LAGIC is offering two ESRI ARC GIS Server classes (an Intro and Advanced class). These classes will be offered in August and October.

8) Old Business

LIDAR Report

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that the status of the LIDAR Project is unchanged since the last report. He noted that Phase VII is in procurement. The project should be completed in mid 2009.

DOQQ Update

Pat O'Neil (USGS) noted that USGS is working with federal partners to identify the funding sources for the 2008 flight. USGS would like to provide a buy-up option for local governments to allow them to purchase 6" photography of urban areas.

Council Appointments

Chair Gisclair noted that Fred Hagaman with DW&F has been named as the designee from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Doug Albert is no longer with DW&F and has moved to DOTD.

Brooks Act Litigation

The case brought by MAPPS to define who can provide GIS services under the Brooks Act was declined by the reviewing court.

9) New Business

2007 Hurricane Data Mining Workshop

Pat O'Neil noted that USGS would be hosting another Data Mining Workshop at the Regional Applications Center in Lafayette on July 31st and August 1st. Over a dozen different speakers have been asked to describe their publicly available data sets and how they might be useful in an emergency event such as a hurricane.

Imagery for the Nation (IFTN)

Chair David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that the Digital Data Committee had met to discuss the "Imagery for the Nation" Proposal and drafted a letter to NSGIC listing our concerns

State Water Bottoms Website

Marty Beasley (DOA, State Lands Office) demonstrated the State Lands Water Bottoms ARCIMS website. Mr. Beasley thanked Bo Blackmon (DNR) for his assistance. The site was created in response to a legislative mandate to post this information on a public website.

Section 8 Housing Workshop

Charles Tate (Governors Office of Community Development) thanked Jim Mitchell (DOTD) and Lynn Dupont (NORPC) for their assistance in producing maps for the Section 8 Housing Workshop at UNO.

Pat O'Neil (USGS) Retiring

Bo Blackmon (DNR) gave a tribute to Pat O'Neil (USGS) who is retiring from thirty or more years of federal service. Mr. Blackmon noted many of the workshops and seminars that Mr. O'Neil has hosted as well as his efforts to provide the Louisiana GIS Community with regular imagery updates.

10) Next Meeting – 1:30 on Thursday, August 16th at the Louisiana State Library downtown.

11) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3.50 on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) seconded by Marty Beasley (DOA).

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

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Summary of Action Items

Chair's Report

Chair Gisclair noted that the Council Data Committee has drafted a response to the "Imagery for the Nation" proposal promoted by the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC). Copies are available on the sign-in table.

Chair Gisclair noted that the Council Data Committee also looked at the issue of addressing standards. The Council is trying to determine the "best practices" for geo-enabling existing agency databases. Mr. Gisclair noted that he, and other Council members, have discussed with Brett LeBlanc of the Public Service Commission the need for standardized addressing databases.

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