

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of November 15, 2007

Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Brant Mitchell (GOHSEP) called the meeting to order at 1:35P.M., a quorum was present. The meeting was held at the State Library in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

2. Roll Call

A sign in sheet confirmed attendance.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Education

Steve A. Gunning, **Member**

Department of Environmental Quality

Joe Holmes, **Member**

Department of Labor

Ryan Seidemann, **Member**

Department of Natural Resources

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

Department of Social Services

David Jacobson, **Member**

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Fred Hagaman, **Designee**

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Michelle Jackson, **Designee**

Governor's Office of Homeland Security & E.P.

Brant Mitchell, **Member**

Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts

Lynn Dupont, **Designee**

Louisiana Municipal Association

Ian Beer, **Member**

Louisiana Police Jury Association

Shane Breland, **Member**

Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors

Greg Palmer, **Designee**

Others Present:

Capitol Region Planning Commission

Perry Felarise

Marta Naquin

CK & Associates

Victor Leotta

Department of Transportation and Development

Doug Albert

Tina Morgan

Division of Administration

Karen Paterson

Neal Underwood, **Designee**

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Sharon Williams

InfoUSA

Brian Littler

Louisiana Geographic Information Center

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

Michael Baker Corp.

Joe Maniscalco

Harold Smith

South Central Planning and Development Commission

Scott Leger

St James Parish Government

Bobby Lear

Scott Louque

3. Approval of October 2007 Minutes

The October 2007 Minutes were accepted on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by Steve Gunning (DOE).

4. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair Brant Mitchell (GOHSEP) noted that GOHSEP has been meeting with parishes throughout the state demonstrating the uses of Virtual Louisiana. There are currently about 300 users and 85 agencies registered to access the software. Over 40 parishes have registered and GOHSEP receives approximately 20 - 30 requests a week from people interested in using the program. A number of parishes have expressed interest in using Homeland Security funds to do high resolution flights of their parishes. He noted that he will be working with these parishes to identify which urban areas they would like to cover at what scale resolution (6" versus 1').

Vice Chair Mitchell noted that Alabama has an agreement with Pictometry to build a Beta interface to display their images within Google Earth Enterprise software. He asked Council members to direct parishes currently working with

Pictometry to his office so that Louisiana can benefit from similar agreements. Homeland Security will also provide a couple Introductory GIS Classes for local EOC's through ESRI. GOHSEP will make these classes available to others, if they don't fill up the available seats.

5. Presentation: “Addressing the Inevitable; Spatial Conformity of Address Databases” Victor Leotta, C-K Associates

Victor Leotta described an ongoing street addressing project in Sulpher, La. that C-K Associates has been contracted to complete. The project will involve standardizing street address ranges for the city of Sulpher based on a North/South and East/West grid. Mr. Leotta introduced two individuals that are working with C-K Associates on the Sulpher Project. Harold Smith and Joe Maniscalco, both of whom work for Michael Baker Corporation, have experience with large municipal addressing projects. Mr. Leotta described some of the problems that his project team has indentified in trying to correct municipal addresses and suggested some potential solutions.

6. LAGIC Report

Craig Johnson (LAGIC) noted that LAGIC has conducted two Geographic Name (GNIS) Workshops since the October Council meeting; one in Houma and one in Lafayette. The workshops are funded by a grant from USGS and provide training in how to use the Geographic Names Index System (GNIS) to update the names of structures (schools, hospitals, post offices etc.) in your community. LAGIC has scheduled the two remaining GNIS workshops; one in Hammond before Thanksgiving and the other in Lake Charles in mid December.

LAGIC participated in the Geo Info 2007 Conference at the Claiborne Building.

GIS Day was celebrated a week early in St James Parish. Bobby Lear, St. James Parish GIS manager, invited LAGIC to create a GPS learning experience for approximately 80 middle school students at Lutchter High School. A contest was devised using a GPS and a set of latitude and longitude points to guide the students to a hidden prize. Mr. Johnson captured the event in a PowerPoint. Presentation. LAGIC presented to the Council a Proclamation signed by Governor Blanco proclaiming “GIS Day in Louisiana”.

LAGIC is nearing completion of the recent survey of Louisiana Assessor's. The survey was conducted online and will be presented to the annual Louisiana Assessor Conference this March.

LAGIC is advertising four new positions in newspapers throughout South Louisiana and on various websites.

8) Old Business

LIDAR Report

David Gisclair (LOSCO) was at the Clean Gulf Conference

DOQQ Update

Chris Cretini (USGS) was in Reston, Virginia

9) New Business

Request from Rizwan

Neal Underwood (DOA) noted that Rizwan Ahmed (CIO) has requested that every Council member provide a short list of why updated topographic map data is important to their agencies mission. He would like a bulleted list of the benefits of current, complete and comprehensive topographic map data.

RS/GIS Workshop

Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that the RS/GIS Workshop will be at the Lindy Boggs Conference Center in New Orleans next year from April 7th – 10th.

10) Next Meeting – December 20th at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus in Baton Rouge.

11) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4.10 on a motion by Joe Holmes (DEQ) seconded by Ian Beer (LMA).

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Summary of Action Items

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