

**Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**  
Meeting of December 20, 2007  
**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair David Gisclair (LOSCO) called the meeting to order at 1:35P.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, **Designee**

**Department of Environmental Quality**

Joe Holmes, **Member**

**Department of Health and Hospitals**

Clay Trachtman, **Designee**

**Department of Labor**

Ramona Robichaux, **Member**

**Department of Justice**

Ryan Seidemann, **Member**

**Department of Natural Resources**

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

**Department of Transportation**

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

**Division of Administration**

Marty Beasley, **Member**

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

Rusti Liner, **Member**

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

Brant Mitchell, **Member**

**Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts**

Lynn Dupont, **Designee**

**Louisiana Police Jury Association**

Shane Breland, **Member**

**Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors**

Greg Palmer, **Member**

**Senate**

David Gisclair, **Designee**

**USGS**

Chris Cretini, **Member**

**Others Present:**

**New Orleans Region Planning Commission**

Stephanie Pedro

**Department of Labor**

Jonathan Helis

**Department of Transportation and Development**

Doug Albert

Tina Morgan

**Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**

Douglas Peter

**Division of Administration**

Lynn Gray

Karen Paterson

**Louisiana Geographic Information Center**

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

**Louisiana State University**

Rob Cunningham

**Photo Science Inc.**

Kurt Allen

Chris Friel

**South Central Planning and Development Commission**

Scott Leger

**Teach-Me-GIS**

Leslie Morgan

**USGS – Water Resources**

Pierre Sargent

**3001 Inc.**

Carter Christopher

**3. Approval of November 2007 Minutes**

The November 2007 Minutes were accepted, on a motion by Marty Beasley (DOA) and seconded by Bo Blackmon (DNR).

**4. Chair's Report**

Chair David Gisclair (LOSCO) thanked everyone for attending. He noted that Clay Trachtman (DHH) has been re-appointed as the designee from Health and Hospitals. Mr. Gisclair noted that he would like to reconvene the LGISC Data Committee to discuss how to add address information to state legacy databases. Mr. Gisclair

thanked Council members for responding to the CIO's request for a short description of how geospatial data layers are critical to your agency's mission. Chair Gisclair noted that the DVD Framework for data sets has been provided to Dan Cotter of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for possible incorporation into their "All Hazards" response efforts. Chair Gisclair noted that he recently spoke at the URISA Leadership Forum in New Orleans specifically on the Louisiana Oil Spill Program and in general on Louisiana's geospatial efforts. Chair Gisclair noted that he attended the Clean Gulf Conference in Tampa, Florida and distributed over 800 Louisiana DVD's. Mr. Gisclair invited Council members to stay after the meeting for the annual holiday social.

#### **5. Presentation: "2008 RS/GIS Workshop", Bo Blackmon, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources**

Bo Blackmon gave a PowerPoint presentation on the history of the Louisiana Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems Workshop from its humble origins out of the back of Jimmy Johnston's pickup truck in Slidell, Louisiana to last years conference in Lafayette. He noted the long standing traditions of the workshop including the crawfish boil, the poster session, the Distinguished Service Award, etc. He described the proposed program for the April 8-10 workshop. He encouraged Council members to get involved in this years' RS/GIS Workshop in New Orleans.

#### **6. LAGIC Report**

LAGIC completed the sixth and final Geographic Names Workshop for the Coastal Parishes of Louisiana. Craig Johnson, LAGIC Director, thanked Pat O'Neil, Chris Cretini and USGS in Reston for their support. Mr. Johnson noted that the workshops resulted in the "deputizing" over 40 name changers and the input of over 500 name changes to the GNIS for Louisiana. Steve Gunning (Education) was very helpful in updating the names of every school in the state. As soon as we complete our efforts we would like to apply for one additional grant to allow us to complete the remainder of the state.

LAGIC has received a couple dozen resumes in response to our job advertisements. We are in the process of reviewing these and setting up interviews.

LAGIC is continuing to work with TGS on identifying critical infrastructure. TGS will be presenting the results of their work at our January 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. January 17<sup>th</sup> is also the date for the 2008 LGISC elections. Nomination forms are available on the sign-in table. Mr. Johnson encouraged Council members to submit a nomination form

LAGIC will present the results of the Louisiana Assessor Survey at the February Council meeting. We have currently received 50 responses from the 70 assessors statewide. We have been following up this week with phone calls to each of the 20 assessors who have not replied. LAGIC will present the results of the survey at the Louisiana Assessors Conference in March.

## **8) Old Business**

### **LIDAR Report**

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that he had received tracks #42 and #43 of Phase #6. This should complete Phase #6 and leave Phase #7, the last remaining portion of the state to process.

### **DOQQ Update**

Chris Cretini (USGS) noted that he recently spoke with the Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District about participation in a statewide flight a year from now. He noted that the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has agreed to participate as well. This flight is currently planned as a leaf-off Color Infrared flight with 2' resolution statewide.

He mentioned that there are other governmental agencies that would like to collect aerial photography, including the Coast wide Reference Monitoring System which would prefer a leaf-on flight allowing for coastal vegetation analysis. In addition USGS has recently flown the state as part of the 133 Cities and Ports Initiative for Homeland Security applications. That flight was digital, 1' resolution and covered the three largest metropolitan areas (Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Shreveport) as well as the states major ports. USGS will coordinate a meeting of the major agencies interested in photography to reduce duplication of effort and cost.

Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that some of the images that he has received do not edge match well. He noted a need for better quality control on any upcoming statewide aerial photo acquisition.

David Gisclair (LOSCO) asked Chris if USGS would continue to update the topographic map data, and would USGS provide the QA/QC necessary to maintain a high level of product? Mr. Cretini replied affirmatively to both questions.

## **9) New Business**

Lynn Dupont (LAPDD) noted that there would be a Task Force meeting of the Office of State Planning to coordinate planning efforts throughout the state.

Bo Blackmon introduced two individuals from the state of Florida that came to the

meeting to see how Louisiana operates its state GIS Council. They are proposing the establishment of a state GIS Council in Florida.

Jim Mitchell (DOTD) noted that there are two GIS positions open in DOTD. One is a Senior Support Analyst and the other is a GIS Support Analyst.

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that he is working with the Coast Guard IT Director to identify Louisiana oil spill locations. They would like to geo-code all the spill locations and attribute those locations with the amount of oil released.

**10) Next Meeting** – January 17, 2008 at the State Library in Baton Rouge.

**11) Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 on a motion by Joe Holmes (DEQ) seconded by Marty Beasley.

The annual Holiday social followed the GIS Council meeting

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