

**Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**  
Meeting of May 15, 2008  
**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair David Gisclair (LOSCO) called the meeting to order at 1:37 P.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 Culture Recreation and Tourism**

Rachael Watson, **Member**

**Department of Education**

Steve A. Gunning, **Member**

**Department of Environmental Quality**

Joe Holmes, **Member**

**Department of Health and Hospitals**

Clay Trachtman, **Designee**

**Department of Natural Resources**

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

**Department of Social Services**

David Jacobson, **Member**

**Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**

Fred Hagaman, **Designee**

**Department of Transportation and Development**

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

**Federal Emergency Management Agency, GIU**

Brad Mooney, **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**

Greg Palmer, **Member**

**Others Present:**

**Calcasieu Parish Government**

O'Neil Hebert

**Center for Planning Excellence**

Krista Goodin

**CH 2M Hill Inc.**

Allen McDonald

**City of Baton Rouge, Mayors Office**

Wendi French

**Department of Health and Hospitals**

Kate Streva

**Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**

Nicole Lorenz

**Division of Administration**

Karen Paterson

**ESRI Inc.**

Keith Kite

**Leo, LLC**

Victor Leotta

Josh Ong

**Lincoln Parish Government**

Melissa Bowman

**Louisiana Geographic Information Center**

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

**Louisiana State University, Ag Center**

Henry Capello

**Natural Resource Professionals**

Fran Harvey

**Office of Community Development**

Charles Flanagan

**Photo Science Inc.**

Chris Friel

**South Central Planning and Development Commission**

Scott Leger

**Teach-Me-GIS Inc.**

Leslie Morgan

**University of Louisiana Lafayette, RAC**

Brent Yantis

**US Army, COE New Orleans District**

Michael Sherman

**USGS**

Pierre Sargent

### 3. Approval of April 2008 Minutes

The April 2008 Minutes were accepted on a motion by Shane Breland (LPJA) and seconded by Bo Blackmon (DNR).

### 4. Chair's Report

The responsibility of conducting the LGISC monthly meeting was temporarily handed over to Joe Holmes (DEQ), a former chair of the LGISC, as Mr. Gisclair had to attend to an emergency in the family, and Vice Chair Brant Mitchell (GOHSEP) was out of the country. Mr. Joe Holmes conducted the meeting in the Chair's absence and read Mr. Gisclair's chair report notes on the LIDAR for the Nation Presentation and his ASPRS presentation.

### 5. LAGIC Report

#### GIS Inventory

LAGIC hosted a short workshop introducing the Ramona GIS Inventory system. Ramona has been used by North Carolina and a number of other states to inventory their framework and other data layers. As we discussed at the last Council meeting, LAGIC would like the Council's assistance in evaluating Ramona as a data inventory tool. I have listed a few of the advantages and disadvantages of the system

#### Advantages:

The program is free, Open Source and up and running. Listing your data set with Ramona automatically creates a basic set of starter metadata that is FGDC compliant. It is an effective tool for documenting data sets and GIS contacts in state and local government

#### Disadvantages:

It has some inherent limitations in the data you can ingest; you can not batch load data and it doesn't accept shape files. It is also limited in the types of geography you can display. For example; you cannot overlay a Quad, Grid. You can evaluate the Ramona GIS Inventory by clicking on: <http://la.gisinventory.net/> Let us know what you think.

#### Outreach

LAGIC has been asked to participate in the Louisiana Data Mining Workshop and the Lower Mississippi Valley Conference both are in June

LAGIC has been assisting two LGISC committees. The Emergency Data Committee met twice in May to review the International Charter Requirements for distributing remotely sensed data in an emergency and other emergency data issues. The Oversight Committee met to discuss revising the LAGIC contract

with new tasks and responsibilities.

**6. Presentation: Microsoft Virtual Earth by Kevin Adler, Geospatial Solution Specialist with Microsoft Inc.**

Kevin Adler gave a slide presentation on the capabilities of Microsoft Virtual Earth. He noted that Virtual Earth can be viewed by anyone in 2D but requires a 10 meg plug-in to view in 3D. Pictometry is a Microsoft partner and their oblique imagery is used to paint the sides of buildings for the 3D modeling. Mr. Adler noted that there is also a mobile version of Virtual Earth for handhelds. Council members were most interested in knowing the pricing structure. Mr. Adler noted that the pricing is based on consumption of services and that there are working on determining a fixed price for government, education and non-profits. Mr. Adler showed a number of interesting projects using Virtual Earth including: Orange County, Buckeye Traffic.org, the Boston Redevelopment Authority and schoolfinder.com. Mr. Adler challenged GIS Council members to do a mashup with their data on Virtual Earth to see the capabilities of Virtual Earth.

**7. Old Business**

**LIDAR Report**

No change in status.

**DOQQ Update**

New Panels taken in the New Orleans area were recently delivered.

**Emergency Data Committee**

Jim Mitchell noted that the Emergency Data Committee met before the Council meeting. There are still several outstanding issues involving the International Charter Agreement with USGS. The Emergency Data Committee would like to know the process for receiving imagery in an emergency. Louisiana also needs to determine who can process the data to make the imagery more user friendly for non-GIS savvy users. USGS is hosting a workshop in Denver this June. The Council recommended sending two individuals to the workshop. Lynn Dupont (LAPDD) and Brent Yantis (NASA/RAC) volunteered to attend.

**Public Records and Usage Agreements**

Ryan Seidemann (Justice) was unable to attend. His presentation will be rescheduled for the July Council meeting.

**8. New Business**

**Data Mining Workshop**

Chris Cretini noted that USGS will host a Louisiana Hurricane Season Geospatial

Data Mining Workshop on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at the ULL/NASA Regional Applications Center in Lafayette.

**Lower Mississippi Valley Geospatial Information Conference**

The USGS and the Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture are hosting the Lower Mississippi Valley Geospatial Information Conference in Memphis, TN on June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the conference will be on data discovery, data producers and data gaps.

**Corps of Engineers – N.O. District**

Michael Sherman noted that the Corps has imagery of the sediment plumes in Lake Pontchartrain due to the opening of the Spillway. They also have imagery available of the Mississippi River from the Old River Structure to the Mouth of the River.

**RS/GIS Workshop 2009**

Bo Blackmon noted that the Baton Rouge host committee is having difficulty finding a location for the 2009 RS/GIS Conference. The Committee would like to confirm the site before the next Council meeting.

**Open Positions – DNR and DOTD**

Bo Blackmon noted that DNR is looking for a programmer with data management and website support. Jim Mitchell noted that DOTD is looking for a programmer as well.

**9. Next Meeting** –June 19th at the State Library in downtown Baton Rouge.

**10. Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 3.45 on a motion by Jim Mitchell (DOTD) and seconded by Shane Breland (LPJA).

## **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of May 15, 2008

### ***Summary of Action Items***

#### **LAGIC Report - GIS Inventory**

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