

# **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of July 17, 2008

## **Minutes**

### **1. Call to Order**

Chair David Gisclair (LOSCO) called the meeting to order at 1:40 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 Economic Development**

Christopher Fallin, **Member**

**Department of Education**

Steve A. Gunning, **Member**

**Department of Health and Hospitals**

Clay Trachtman, **Designee**

**Department of Justice**

Ryan Seidemann, **Member**

**Department of Public Services**

Sgt. Chris Eskew, **Member**

**Department of Social Services**

David Jacobson, **Member**

**Department of Transportation and Development**

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

**Division of Administration, State Lands Office**

Marty Beasley, **Member**

**Federal Emergency Management Agency, GIU**

Rusti Liner, **Member**

**Louisiana Assessors Association**

Rich Bailey, **Designee**

**Louisiana Municipal Association**

Ian Beer, **Member**

**Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts**

Lynn Dupont, **Designee**

**Louisiana Police Jury Association**

Shane Breland, **Member**

**Louisiana Senate**

David Gisclair, **Designee**

**Military Department**

Bryan Haviland, **Designee**

**Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness**

Lee John, **Designee**

**US Geological Survey**

Chris Cretini, **Member**

**Others Present:**

**Baton Rouge Water Co.**

Lida Hebert

**Department of Economic Development**

Andrew Tull

**Department of Health and Hospitals**

Kate Streva

**Department of Transportation & Development**

Doug Albert

**Division of Administration**

Lynn Gray

Karen Paterson

**Louisiana Geographic Information Center**

Craig Johnson

Joshua Kent

Chris Pennington

**Louisiana State University**

Mark Verret

Maurice Wolcott

**MWH Global Inc.**

Clare Brown

**Photo Science Inc.**

Chris Friel

**Pictometry**

Gary Mirabeau

**Ouachita Parish Assessors' Office**

Morgan Herring

**South Central Planning and Development Commission**

Scott Leger

**Task Force, LLC.**

Jack Iverstone

**US Geological Survey**

Steve Hartley

**Watch Systems Inc.**

Fran Perrin

### **3. Approval of June 2008 Minutes**

The June 2008 Minutes were accepted, on a motion by Shane Breland (LPJA) and seconded by Ian Beer (LMA).

### **4. Chair's Report**

Before the Chair began his report, Jim Mitchell (DOTD) asked if those Council members who resigned should recuse themselves from voting. The Chair, David Gisclair (LOSCO), felt that we should wait for a ruling by the Ethics Commission, but otherwise felt we should continue our normal Council activities. Ryan Seidemann (Justice) noted that it is possible that Council members will not be subject to any ethics disclosures, as the Council does not handle funds, award contracts and is not required to file a yearly financial report with the state auditor. Mr. Mitchell asked if these laws were retroactive. Would members who resigned but are still serving be required to file ethics? Mr. Seidemann noted that the AG's Office says that this would be unlikely, and that we are basing our actions on Act 472. The AG's Office has an opinion pending on the affects of the Act. David Gisclair (LOSCO) thanked Ryan Seidemann (Justice) for assisting the Council in determining how the new financial disclosure requirements will affect Council members. Mr. Seidemann will report later in this meeting on his findings regarding Louisiana public records laws.

Mr. Gisclair noted that he attended a technical meeting in New Orleans on LIDAR and other elevation related projects. The federal agencies that participated in the meeting suggested that the state should create a Task Force that includes all interested stakeholders and, establish methods for incorporating geodetic control improvements into the state's height modernization efforts. Mr. Gisclair suggested that DOTD would be the best agency to manage this effort.

Mr. Gisclair noted that there were questions at the last Council meeting concerning the Executive Committee and whether its' meeting are open to the public. Mr. Gisclair distributed five documents related to the meeting, including;

- List of the members of the Executive Committee
- Summary of the e-mail correspondence that led to the meeting
- Copy of the official Executive Committee meeting notice
- Copy of the Executive Committee agenda
- Copy of the Executive Committee Minutes

Mr. Gisclair distributed a copy of West Law document R.S. 42.2 which explains why members who have resigned can continue to serve on the Council unless their appointing authority appoints someone else to fill that vacancy. He recommended that all who have resigned continue to serve on the Council until a successor is appointed.

## 5. LAGIC Report

LAGIC welcomes the first of four new full time staff members. Chris Pennington started work about a week ago. Chris was a GIS analyst with DNR before coming to LAGIC.

LAGIC has notified the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions regarding resignations from the Council. We are waiting to hear from the States Ethics Board on what the new financial disclosure requirements will be required for Council members.

LAGIC has revised the LAGIC contract to reflect the new priorities of the Council and the Division. The revised contract is undergoing final review by members of the LAGIC Oversight Committee.

LAGIC hosted a two day GPS workshop at LSU last week, one Council member participated. LAGIC will begin the first of a series of five GNIS Workshops in North and Central Louisiana this fall.

LAGIC Staff will be participating in three conferences this summer and fall; the ESRI User Conference, NSGIC Conference and the URISA Conference.

LAGIC participated in a LIDAR Meeting in New Orleans on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The federal agencies (Corps, NGS, and FEMA) would like to see the creation of a Louisiana Height Modernization Task Force that allows all stakeholders to be heard and encourages the creation of a consensus view on statewide elevation issues.

## 6. Presentation: The Louisiana Public Records Act and Proprietary Data, by Ryan Seidemann, Louisiana Office of the Attorney General

Ryan Seidemann (Justice) gave a detailed description of the Louisiana Public Records Act and how that law affects data providers. In general, all data produced by public employees using public equipment or public facilities, with a few very specific exceptions, should be available to the public at little or no charge. The exceptions fall into a couple broad categories; homeland security, commercially licensed data and privacy concerns.

This presentation PowerPoint is available for download from the LGISC website under Council Documents/Presentations/2008/ [LGISC-PRES-20080717-00.pdf](#).

## **7. Old Business**

### **LIDAR Report**

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that Phase 6 of the project is now completed. Phase 7 has been flown but the imagery has not been processed yet. Joshua Kent (LAGIC) will post the most recent update of the status of the LIDAR project on the LGISC website.

### **DOQQ Update**

Chris Cretini (USGS) noted that the specifications for a winter 2008/2009 flight are being reviewed by the Corps of Engineers along with the pricing estimates. When it has been determined, the coverage area of the flight will be provided to Council members as a shape file.

### **Emergency Data Committee**

Jim Mitchell noted that he met with Mark Riley at the JFO Office to discuss the International Charter. Mr. Mitchell noted that DeWitt Breaux (LSU) is producing a matrix of satellite imagery products to make it easier for the requestors to select the appropriate imagery product. He noted that GOHSEP would like to formalize Louisiana's participation in the charter.

### **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.

## **8. New Business**

### **CISD Request for Updated Job Descriptions**

The Council of Information Service Directors has requested the assistance of the GIS Council in developing job descriptions for geospatial and other IT professionals. Neal Underwood (DOA/OES) will be chairing the geospatial committee.

### **International Charter**

USGS sponsored two day training workshops for International Charter Project Managers. Four members of the Louisiana Geospatial community attended including; Lynn Dupont (LAPDD), Brad Mooney and Rusti Liner (FEMA) and Brent Yantis (ULL, RAC). USGS is looking to each state to develop their own

coordination mechanisms between Universities and Government agencies to process, analyze, and distribute finished remotely sensed data products to first responders.

**New DHH Website**

Clay Trachtman (DHH) demonstrated the capabilities of a new website developed by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for downloading geospatial data.

**ESRI User Group Meeting**

Jim Mitchell (DOTD) will be displaying some of DOTD's newest Louisiana quad maps at the ESRI User Group Meeting in San Diego. Among the 10 panels of maps that will be on display at the conference will be a shaded relief map.

**9. Next Meeting** –August 21st at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus in Baton Rouge.

**10. Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 4.50 on a motion by Jim Mitchell (DOTD) and seconded by Shane Breland (LPJA).

## **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of July 17, 2008

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

#### **Chairs Report**

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