

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of April 16, 2009

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 in the 1st Floor Conference Room of the Louisiana State Library 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 Education

Steve 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 Public Safety

Chris Eskew, **Member**

Department of Transportation & Development

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Brad Mooney, **Member**

Division of Administration

Marty Beasley, **Member**

Louisiana Economic Development

Chris Fallin, **Member**

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**

US Geological Survey

Chris Cretini, **Member**

Others Present:

Calcasieu Parish Government

O'Neil Hebert
Becky Poole

Department of Environmental Quality

Andy Venuto

Department of Health and Hospitals

Kate Streva

Department of Transportation & Development

Doug Albert
Sharon Balfour
Leo Boles

Division of Administration,

Martha O'Hara

Governors Office of Homeland Security

Tamera Hewitt

Lincoln Parish Government

Melissa Bowman

Louisiana Economic Development

Andrew Tull

Louisiana Geographic Information Center (LAGIC)

Craig Johnson
Joshua Kent
Chris Pennington
Alaa Shams

Louisiana Recovery Authority

Eric Shaw

Louisiana Tech. University

David Lamb

Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration

Tina Waugespack

Pictometry Inc.

Gary Mirabeau

St James Parish Government

Bobby Lear

Tangipahoa Parish Government

Bill Moorman

U.S. Geological Survey

Pierre Sargent

University of Louisiana Lafayette, RAC

Brent Yantis

3. Approval of March 2009 Minutes

The March 2009 Minutes was accepted, on a motion by Ian Beer (LMA) and seconded by Clay Trachtman (DHH).

4. Chair’s Report

Chair David Gisclair (LOSCO) thanked Shane Breland for his upcoming presentation on North Louisiana GIS Legislation and Funding and thanked all who participated in the Louisiana RS/GIS workshop at the Cook Conference Center at LSU.

Chair Gisclair noted that LOSCO will be moving to the Galvez Building in late April. Mr. Gisclair noted that his office will be on the fourth floor in the DEQ GIS Lab.

Chair Gisclair noted that LOSCO will continue to work with the Sea Grant Program to develop an online system for accessing the Marina and Boat Launch data. That database will be modified for the users as feedback is received.

Chair Gisclair read a resolution of the Council thanking Joe Holmes (DEQ) for his work on the Louisiana GIS activities over 25 years. Jim Mitchell (DOTD) asked that the rules be suspended and that the resolution be accepted by acclamation, Marty Beasley seconded that resolution. The ayes were unanimous, the resolution passed by acclamation.

5. Presentation : “GIS Legislation and Funding for North Louisiana, by Shane Breland, Lincoln Parish GIS Department

Shane Breland noted that Lincoln Parish has created a GIS District (political subdivision) which encompasses the entire Parish for the purpose of being able to fund GIS development through a millage increase if approved by a majority of voters. The proposed legislation defines the powers and duties of the Board and other elements of the governance structure.

Mr. Breland also noted that the Fifth Congressional District represented by Rodney Alexander, received an appropriation of 1.5 million dollars for the acquisition and distribution of Pictometry imagery covering the entire district which includes all, or part, of 22 parishes in the Central and Northeast portions of the state. The imagery will have a ground resolution of 1 foot and obliques will be collected from four different directions. There is the possibility of collecting some higher resolution images (6” GSD) of urbanized areas. The imagery will be flown in the fall and winter of 2009 and 2010.

6. LAGIC Report

LAGIC completed a GNIS Workshop in Monroe, LA. on April 1st. This workshop was the fourth of five GNIS Workshops in North Louisiana. The last of this series will be held in Lafayette on June 12th at the NASA ULL Regional Applications Center facility. These workshops are funded by a grant from USGS.

LAGIC has scheduled three ArcGIS Workshops at the University of New Orleans in May. The ArcGIS (Version 9.3) workshops, which are hosted by the UNO Geography Department, will be conducted over three consecutive weeks.

LAGIC assisted with the preparations for the 2009 Louisiana RS/GIS Workshop which was held at the Cook Conference Center on the LSU Campus in April. LAGIC taught an Image Rectification workshop on the morning of Monday, April 13th which was followed by an Image Server Workshop taught by Karen Locanzo and ESRI Instructor. Both workshops took place in the Rotunda of the Energy Coast and Environment Building on the LSU Campus.

In March LAGIC participated in the Louisiana Emergency Numbering Association Meeting, the Louisiana Assessors Conference and presented at the Alexandria Arc Users Group Meeting.

8. Old Business

2009 Louisiana RS/GIS Workshop

Bo Blackmon (DNR) noted that the RS/GIS Workshop was held at the Cook Conference Center from April 14th to the 16th. There were training workshops on Monday and social events on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. The Workshop was well attended with over 190 people in attendance. Next years workshop will be at the Cajundome Conference Center in Lafayette in April.

DOQQ Update

Chris Cretini (USGS) gave an update on the status of the current DOQQ flight over coastal Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. The flight is currently underway. The imagery vendor, Photo Science, has already provided DOQQ images from the SW Louisiana area. He noted that some problems have been identified in Blocks 4 and Block 7 (New Orleans) that are being corrected. DEQ has received hard drives with imagery and a copy was sent to Farrell Jones at CADGIS. State agencies can get a copy of the data from Andy Venuto at DEQ. Andy is also the contact for the Louisiana NHD layer that DEQ partnered with USGS to produce

Committee Reports

LouisianaMAP Subcommittee

Chair David Gisclair (LOSCO) appointed Brad Mooney (DW&F) to Chair the LGISC Digital Data Committee that Joe Holmes had chaired before his retirement. Mr. Gisclair noted that the LouisianaMAP Subcommittee had met and reviewed the data sets within the Louisiana Framework layer and other sources. The Subcommittee will provide a report that details the issues for the Digital Data Committee.

8. New Business

Master Purchasing Agreement

Council members sought information on the status of the Master Purchasing Agreement between GIS Software vendors and the state of Louisiana. Many Council members have existing maintenance agreements with one or more GIS Software vendors and do not want to have to switch to a different vendor. Chair Gisclair noted that he would ask the Division of Administration what Council members could do to assist in reinstating the agreements. Individual Council members expressed concern that their existing investments in software, maintenance and training might be jeopardized.

Economic Development Initiative

Bobby Lear, St James Parish GIS manager, noted that St. James Parish and four other parishes in their area were interested in using GIS to promote Tourism and Economic Development in the South Central Planning Region. A meeting will be held at Nichols State University in Thibodeaux on Thursday, May 28th.

9. Next Meeting – May 21st at the State Library on 4th Street in Baton Rouge.

10. Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 4.08 on a motion by Jim Mitchell (DOTD) and seconded by Ryan Seidemann (DOJ).

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council Summary of Action Items

Chair's Report

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