

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of January 17, 2019

1. Call to Order

Chair Warren Kron (LMA) called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. A quorum was present. The meeting was held in the Montana Room of the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

2. Roll Call

A sign-in sheet confirmed attendance.

Member Agencies/Organizations Present:

Department of Agriculture & Forestry (DAF)

Gus Rowland, Member

Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism (CRT)

Rachel Watson, Member

Department of Education (LDE)

Steve Gunning, Member

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

John Sheehan, Member

Department of Health (LDH)

Clay Trachtman, Member

Department of Justice (DOJ)

Ryan M. Seidemann, Member

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Alvin McDonald, Member

Department of Transportation & Development (DOTD)

Darryl Mack, Member

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (DWF)

Brad Mooney, Member

Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)

Kevin Breaux, Member

Louisiana Assessors Association (LAA)

Louis Hebert, Member

Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts (LPDD)

Josh Manning, Designee

Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA)

Warren Kron, Member

Louisiana National Emergency Number Association (LANENA)

Kathrine Cargo, Member

Louisiana Police Jury Association (PJA)

Collin DeGueurce, Member

Louisiana Senate (Senate)

David Gisclair, Designee

Others Present:

City of New Orleans (CNO)

Chris Ard

Department of Education

Reynaldo Valldajuli
Department of Health
Allen McDonald
Department of Natural Resources
Michael Hankel
Global Geospatial Institute
Fran Harvey
GOHSEP and DEQ
Andy Venuto
Iberia Parish
Amy Brassieur
Planning Acadiana
Phillip Breaux
Secretary of State
Heather Meyers
Erin St. Pierre
Lani Durio
South Central Arc User Group
John McEwen

3. Approval of Minutes

The December 20, 2018, meeting minutes were approved without edits. The motion was made by David Gisclair (Senate) and seconded by Collin DeGueurce (PJA) with unanimous approval. The Digital Data Committee minutes for December 20, 2018, were approved without edits. The motion was made by Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) and seconded by David Gisclair (Senate) with unanimous approval.

4. Chair's Report:

Chair Warren Kron (LMA) announced that he had to re-update the data sent to Boards & Commissions with the Governor's Office since the last meeting, but that all of that data is up to date. Mr. Kron (LMA) and Steve Gunning (DOE) announced the appointment of a new designee for the Department of Education, Reynaldo Valldajuli. Mr. Kron (LMA) also reported on his continuing efforts to work on the LGISC Web site by informing the Council that the WordPress version is now up to date and that the committee reports have been separated out by committee to make the site more user friendly. The Chairman noted that Craig Johnson (St. Tammany Parish) is stepping down from the Digital Data Committee ("DDC") and that a replacement is needed. There was a brief general discussion that this position is typically held for representatives of local governments and Mr. Kron (LMA) noted that Christopher Ard from the City of New Orleans had been proposed as a replacement for Dr. Johnson. David Gisclair (Senate) moved for the appointment of Mr. Ard (CNO) to the DDC to serve as a replacement for Dr. Johnson and Collin DeGueurce (PJA) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Finally, Chair Kron (LMA) made a few parting comments from his time as chair of the LGISC.

5. Election of Officers:

Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) moved to open the nominations for the new chair of the LGISC and this motion was seconded by Ryan Seidemann (DOJ). The motion passed unanimously. The only nomination for chair of the LGISC was one for Collin DeGueurce

(PJA) and there were no other nominations from the floor. Kevin Breaux (GOHSEP) moved to close the nominations for chair and this motion was seconded by David Gisclair (Senate). The motion passed unanimously. As there was only one nomination for LGISC chair, Mr. DeGueurce (PJA) was elected by default as the incoming chair of the Council. David Gisclair (Senate) then moved to open the nominations for vice chair of the LGISC, this motion was seconded by John Sheehan (DEQ), and was unanimously passed. The only nomination for vice chair of the LGISC was one for Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) and there were no other nominations from the floor. John Sheehan (DEQ) moved to close the nominations, David Gisclair (Senate) seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimously in favor. As there was only one nomination for LGISC vice chair, Ms. Cargo (LANENA) was elected by default as the incoming chair of the Council. General congratulations to the new officers were expressed by the attendees.

6. Presentation:

“Membership Request by the Secretary of State” presented by Fran Harvey, GISP, Managing Director, Global Geospatial Institute, and Erin St. Pierre, Election Program Manager, Secretary of State.

David Gisclair (Senate) moved to open a discussion of the Louisiana Secretary of State’s request for LGISC membership. John Sheehan (DEQ) seconded the motion and there was a unanimous vote in favor of opening the discussion. Collin DeGueurce (PJA) noted that Terrebonne Parish has worked with the Secretary of State and that it would be a benefit to the Council to have a liaison from that agency with membership. Mr. Gisclair (Senate) agreed with Mr. DeGueurce’s (PJA) comments and noted that the presence of a member from the Secretary of State’s office would also assist in dealing with the street addressing issues facing the Council’s Digital Data Committee. Mr. Gisclair (Senate) did, however, express concerns that a private individual was selected by the Secretary of State to represent a governmental entity. Mr. Gisclair’s (Senate) concerns were largely of an ethical nature. Mr. Sheehan (DEQ) expressed concerns that the addition of a new member could compromise participation by making it more difficult for the Council to meet the quorum requirements. Mr. DeGueurce (PJA) asked whether conditions could be placed on incoming non-statutory members requiring their attendance or the appointment and attendance of a designee. Ryan Seidemann (DOJ) responded to the general series of concerns with a response that indicated that the appointing authority (here the Secretary of State) has complete discretion to appoint its representative on the Council. Whether that member may face ethical conflicts of interest problems through their service on the Council is for the member to determine and any responsibilities identified in that regard (i.e., disclosure or recusal) are for the member to undertake. Mr. Seidemann (DOJ) reported that no such obligations lie with the Council or its members. Mr. Seidemann (DOJ) also advised that, as to designee appointments, such actions are within the sole discretion of the appointed member pursuant to the Council bylaws. There followed a general discussion among Messrs. Sheehan (DEQ), DeGueurce (PJA), and Seidemann (DOJ) relating to the ethical obligations of Council members. Following this discussion, Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) moved to accept the Secretary of State’s request for membership on the Council and Brad Mooney (DWF) seconded the motion. With more than two-thirds of the sitting members present for this meeting, pursuant to the bylaws, the necessary numbers of individuals to undertake such a vote was present and the motion passed unanimously with a general admonition to the Secretary of State’s

representatives to appoint a designee and to ensure attendance for Council quorum purposes.

7. Old Business:

None.

8. New Business:

Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) reported that the URISA 2019 conference is to be held in New Orleans at the end of September and early October. John Sheehan (DEQ) made a call for papers for the RS/GIS Workshop. Ms. Cargo (LANENA) and Amy Brassieur (Iberia Parish) also participated in this discussion.

Chair Warren Kron (LMA) officially transferred chairmanship to Collin DeGueurce (PJA) for the closing of the meeting.

9. Next Meeting – 1:30 PM on Thursday, February 21, 2019, in the Iowa Room of the Claiborne State Office Building in downtown Baton Rouge.

10. Adjourn – Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) moved to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Alvin McDonald (DNR) and was unanimously approved. The meeting ended at 2:36 PM.