

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council

Meeting of May 16, 2019

1. Call to Order

Chair Collin Degueurce (PJA) called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM. A quorum was present. The meeting was held in the Iowa 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 Seidemann, Member

Department of Transportation & Development (DOTD)

Darryl Mack, Member

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (DWF)

Brad Mooney, Member

Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts (LPDD)

Lynn Dupont, Member

Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA)

Warren Kron, Member

Louisiana NENA (LANENA)

Kathrine Cargo, Member

Louisiana Police Jury Association (PJA)

Collin DeGueurce, Member

Louisiana Secretary of State (SOS)

Fran Harvey, Member

Louisiana Senate (Senate)

David Gisclair, Designee

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Chris Cretini, Member

Others Present:

Acadiana Planning Commission

Phillip Breaux

Michael Bernard

City of New Orleans

Chris Ard

Coastal Environments, Inc.

Kaitlin O'Shee

Department of Justice

Warren Bates

Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts (LPDD)

Josh Manning

Ouachita Parish 911

James R. Green, Jr.

Richland Parish 911

Garth Sullivan

River Parishes Community College

Rusti Liner

St. Tammany Parish

Craig Johnson

University of Louisiana, Lafayette

R. Brent Yantis

3. Approval of Minutes

The March 16, 2019, meeting minutes were approved without edits. The motion was made by John Sheehan (DEQ) and seconded by Brad Mooney (DWF) with unanimous approval. The Digital Data Committee minutes for February 21, 2019, and March 16, 2019, were approved without edits. The motion was made by Ryan Seidemann (DOJ) and seconded by Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) with unanimous approval. There were no April meeting minutes to approve, as the April meetings were cancelled due to inclement weather and state office closures.

4. Chair's Report:

Chair Collin DeGueurce (PJA) reported that there would be no presentation this month in order to provide time to discuss extensive matters in the New Business portion of the meeting. Mr. DeGueurce (PJA) announced that speakers have been secured for the June and July meetings but, at this time, no further speakers have been identified and he thus sought suggestions from the Council and audience for possible speakers.

5. Presentation:

None.

6. Old Business:

Chair Collin DeGueurce (PJA) reported that the planned attendance of the LAPELs meeting did not occur because the time limitations for public comment at the meeting was determined to be too limiting. Mr. DeGueurce (PJA) reported that he will work on a different avenue than the regular LAPELs meeting for discussing the Council's issues with the LAPELs executive director.

Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) reported on the separation of RS/GIS from LSU. In particular, she reported that there may be a break from workshops for a year while the RS/GIS leadership attempts to restructure logistics in the wake of the separation from LSU. Ms. Cargo (LANENA) also reported on the success of the last RS/GIS meeting.

Chris Cretini (USGS) reminded those present of the upcoming hurricane season data mining workshop in Lafayette set for June 6, 2019.

7. New Business:

Chair Collin DeGueurce (PJA) began the discussion of the recent letter received by members of the Council from Mr. Charles Beasley. Briefly, this letter contained a proposal by Mr. Beasley to construct certain islands in the Gulf of Mexico to assist in stemming Louisiana's coastal erosion problems. Mr. DeGueurce (PJA) sought input from the Council regarding an appropriate response to Mr. Beasley and whether the Council should extend him an invitation to present at a meeting. Ryan Seidemann (DOJ) suggested that a response by way of a letter to Mr. Beasley indicating that the Council is not the proper agency for his request, as the Council has no budget and because this matter is properly within the jurisdiction of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority was probably appropriate. Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) made a motion to implement Mr. Seidemann's (DOJ) proposal. The motion was seconded by Warren Kron (LMA) and was unanimously passed. Ms. Cargo (LANENA), Mr. Seidemann (DOJ), Mr. DeGueurce (PJA), John Sheehan (DEQ), Brad Mooney (DWF), and Rachel Watson (CRT) all participated in this discussion. Mr. DeGueurce (PJA) also indicated that he would likely reach out to Mr. Beasley by telephone to give him the same information.

Also discussed was the potential impacts and status of House Bill 146 currently pending in the Louisiana Legislature. Briefly, this bill was directed at the sharing of certain geospatial data by state agencies with the public. John Sheehan (DEQ) posed the question of whether the Council should recommend that the data that any such bill covers should be open source data. Ryan Seidemann (DOJ) raised concerns regarding the impacts of this bill on the intellectual property rights of private data vendors. Mr. Sheehan (DEQ) also raised the question of whether it matters for the purposes of the bill who is the custodian of the actual dataset. Gus Rowland (DAF) raised the question of whether the bill was intended to apply only to data that are available online. Following further discussion, it was determined that no action was necessary on this item once it was determined that the bill was limited in its application (by amendment) to DOTD and that the .kml requirement in the bill is not actually a requirement, but rather a suggestion. Based on these revelations regarding the recent bill amendments, it was determined that the Council was no longer troubled enough by the bill to participate in the legislative process related to it. Participating in this discussion were Rachel Watson (CRT), Mr. Seidemann (DOJ), Clay Trachtman (LDH), Collin DeGueurce (PJA), Darryl Mack (DOTD), David Gisclair (Senate), Kathrine Cargo (LANENA), Warren Kron (LMA), Lynn Dupont (LPDD), Mr. Sheehan (DEQ), Mr. Rowland (DAF), and Brad Mooney (DWF).

REPORTER'S NOTE: HB 146 did not pass during the 2019 Regular Legislative Session. The bill made it through the House, but died before making it to a committee in the Senate.

Chair Collin DeGueurce (PJA) began a discussion regarding whether the Council should issue an authoritative data statement that covers the interaction of GIS and surveying. Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) discussed the context of this issue from a national perspective. Mr. DeGueurce (PJA) discussed common disclaimers that exist that caveat GIS data by informing potential users that it is not a survey. Ms. Cargo (LANENA), Mr. DeGueurce (PJA), David Gisclair (Senate), and Lynn Dupont (LPDD) participated in discussion

regarding whether to engage with the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board (“LAPELS”) to coordinate the boundaries of GIS mapping and surveying. There was also a discussion of the current Oregon statement on this matter, with general agreement that that document is too surveyor-centric for Louisiana’s purposes. Ryan Seidemann (DOJ) moved to create a committee called the Authoritative Data Statement Committee. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gisclair (Senate) and was unanimously passed. Ms. Dupont (LPDD), Mr. Gisclair (Senate), Mr. DeGueurce (PJA), Mr. Seidemann (DOJ), and Warren Kron (LMA) volunteered to be members of this committee. This committee will meet at 11:30 A.M. before the next regular meeting and shall continue to so meet until such time as is no longer necessary.

Darryl Mack (DOTD) announced that all Council members should have received notice that DOTD road data has been updated to NENA standards.

Kathrine Cargo (LANENA) announced that LA URISA would be hosting a lunch and learn on May 20, 2019, in New Orleans. The topic of this session is going to be story maps. Mr. Cargo (LANENA) discussed other URISA events such as the URISA GIS Pro Conference set for September 28-October 4, 2019, in New Orleans. Lynn Dupont (LPDD) also participated in this discussion.

8. Next Meeting – 1:30 PM on Thursday, June 20, 2019, in the Iowa Room of the Claiborne State Office Building in downtown Baton Rouge.

9. Adjourn – David Gisclair (Senate) moved to adjourn. This motion was seconded by Ryan Seidemann (DOJ) and was unanimously approved. The meeting ended at 2:38 PM.