

# **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of January 16, 2003

## MINUTES

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

Chair Marty Beasley (DOA) called the meeting to order at 1:38 P.M., at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A quorum was present.

### **2. Roll Call**

#### **Member Agencies/Organizations Present:**

**Division of Administration**

Marty Beasley, **Member**

**Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism,**

Dennis Eilers, **Member**

**Department of Economic Development,**

Gene Stephens, **Member**

**Department of Education**

Susan Gauthier, **Member**

**Department of Environmental Quality**

Joe Holmes, **Member**

**Department of Health and Hospitals**

Truman McDaniel, **Member**

**Department of Natural Resources**

Bo Blackmon, **Member**

**Department of Public Safety,**

Rhonda Barber, **Member**

**Department of Transportation and Development**

Jim Mitchell, **Member**

**Department of Wildlife & Fisheries**

Jorge Icabalceta, **Alternate**

**Louisiana Assessors Association**

Sherel Martin, **Member**

**Louisiana House**

Kathleen Randall, **Member**

**Louisiana Municipal Association**

Susan Gordon, **Alternate**

**Louisiana Police Jury Association**

Aaron Norby, **Member**

**Louisiana Senate**

David Gisclair, **Alternate**

**Military Department, OEP**

Brant Mitchell, **Alternate**

**Others Present:**

**Applied Technical Services (ATS)**

John Speice

**City of Baton Rouge**

Bob Laughlin

**Department of Agriculture & Forestry**

Brad Mooney, **Alternate**

**Department of Education**

Janelle Koenig, **Alternate**

**Department of Public Safety and Corrections**

Daphne Bencaz

**Department of Transportation & Development**

Pam Dixon

Kay Henderson, **Alternate**

Wanda Hill

Dora Michelli

John Wells

**Gulf Engineers and Consultants Inc.**

Bill Wiesepape

**Louisiana Assessors Association**

Rich Bailey, **Alternate**

**Louisiana Geographic Information Center**

Craig Johnson

Dina Sa

**Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness**

Dan Falanga

**Louisiana State University**

Rob Cunningham

**Louisiana State University, Ag. Center**

Pat Skinner

**New Orleans Communication District**

Kathrine Cargo

**St. James Parish**

Bobby Lear

**University of New Orleans**

John Wildgen

**US Army Corps of Engineers**

David McDaniel

**US Geological Survey**

Calvin "Pat" O'Neil

### 3. December 2002 Minutes

The December 2002 minutes were approved by voice vote on a motion by Bo Blackmon (DNR) and seconded by Dennis Eilers (CRT).

### 4. Chairman’s Report

Chair Beasley welcomed the following new members and alternates to the Louisiana GIS Council:

Department of Ag. & Forestry:	Brad Mooney, Alternate
Department of Education:	Susan Gauthier, Member
	Janell Koenig, Alternate
Louisiana Police Jury Association:	Aaron Norby, Member
Office of Emergency Preparedness:	Brant Mitchell, Alternate

### 5. Election Report

Chair Beasley (DOA) introduced Kathleen Randal (House) who chaired the LGISC Election Subcommittee, and asked her to present her report. Ms. Randall noted that many eligible members had been nominated. The committee then polls the nominees to determine if they are willing to serve. Of the six members who were nominated, one (Marty Beasley) agreed to serve as Vice Chair and one (Truman McDaniels) agree to serve in either capacity. Mr. McDaniels later withdrew his nomination citing personal reasons. As no other nominations were offered a motion was made by Dennis Eilers (CRT) to postpone the election for a month, which was seconded by Bo Blackmon (DNR). A recommendation was made by Kay Henderson (DOTD) to organize a subcommittee to review LGISC election procedures and recommend changes to the full membership. Chair Beasley asked for volunteers for the election subcommittee. The following individuals agreed to meet and discuss the issues: Marty Beasley (DOA), Bo Blackmon (DNR), Kay Henderson (DOTD), Joe Holmes (DEQ), Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) and Dennis Eilers. Kathleen Randall (House) agreed to Chair the meeting and Craig Johnson (LAGIC) agreed to assist. At this point, many members of the Council offered their suggestions for improvements to LGISC election procedures. Among the suggestions were:

1. Should the officer positions rotate among the member agencies
2. Should alternate members be allowed to serve as officers
3. Should the Vice Chair be designated Chair–Elect and assume the Chair after serving one year as Vice Chair.

It was noted that any changes to the bylaws would require that members have 30 days in which to review the changes before voting on them. Chair Beasley agreed to serve as Chair for one more month. Kathleen Randall noted that she

would e-mail a memo to all members and alternates with a summary of the issues and an invitation to attend the Election Subcommittee meeting, which is scheduled for the last week in January. It was agreed that nominations would be re-opened, and that anyone who previously declined the nomination could change their mind. Both positions, Chair and Vice Chair, are now open for nomination.

## **6. Presentation: “State Hazard Mitigation Planning” by Dan Falanga, Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness**

Mr. Falanga explained that he is the State Hazard Mitigation Officer with the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness (LOEP). In the past the emphasis of the State Mitigation Office has been on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Buyout Program for removing or retrofitting houses in the flood zone. Congress, in an effort to be more proactive, passed the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) of 2000 which required that parishes who wished to be eligible for mitigation funds had to compile a DMA 2000 compliant plan. Many parishes complained that they did not have the staff or the resources to hire consultants to write their plan. LOEP decided to prioritize their assistance to these parishes. Those parishes that had the largest number of Presidential Disaster Declarations, and had no plans in place, would receive the first grants for assistance in creating their DMA 2000 compliant plans. To create their plans parishes will have to identify their hazards and inventory their critical facilities. Any future funding will go to those parishes that did not already receive assistance in creating their plans. Mr. Falanga noted that he is trying to identify any data resources that parishes can use in creating their plans. If any Council members have data that would be helpful please contact him at LOEP. In addition, LOEP will help the Office of Risk Management (DOA) identify its critical facilities. Mr. Falanga was asked if the General Accounting Office directive to local governments to inventory their facilities (GASB 35) would tie in with his Hazard Mitigation Inventories? He replied that any facility inventory could be helpful.

## **7. LAGIC Report**

Craig Johnson (LAGIC) noted that LAGIC has been working with the Louisiana Center for Educational Technology (LCET) organizing an awards ceremony at the Capitol Rotunda for the winners of the “Quest with GIS” contest. The winners, which will be selected from each of eight regions, will be awarded prizes and cash awards. In addition, Department of Education Technology Coordinators will have booths setup in the Rotunda to demonstrate educational technology projects. LCET and LAGIC have invited the Governor and the Superintendent of Education to present the awards. Mr. Johnson invited Council members to attend the ceremony, which will occur on January 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.

Mr. Johnson noted that he recently attended a conference “GeoTools” in Charleston, S.C. He attended two sessions on Metadata and Data Clearinghouses. Unfortunately, a discussion on the proposed ISO Metadata Standard did not occur. That standard has not yet been released it is still in review. Mr. Johnson noted that at the Conference he spoke with Lynda Wayne, his predecessor at LAGIC, about presenting a short workshop on Recent Metadata Developments at the RS/GIS Workshop in Lafayette this spring.

Mr. Johnson spoke with Sherel Martin (LAA) about speaking at the LAA Conference on Cadastral Data Issues. The LAA would like to have LAGIC explain to Louisiana Assessors the similarities between the IAAO Data Standards and the FGDC Cadastral Standards.

Mr. Johnson noted that he has posters for the RS/GIS Workshop if anyone would like to post one at their office or shop. LAGIC will be assisting the RS/GIS organizing committee in reaching potential vendors for the Workshop. Mr. Blackmon (DNR) noted that the RS/GIS Workshop website is available for anyone who is interested in viewing the program. The address is [www.rac.louisiana.edu/rsgis](http://www.rac.louisiana.edu/rsgis).

## **8. I-Team Report**

Sharon Balfour, I-Team Chair, could not make the meeting, so Dina Sa (LAGIC) brought the members up to date on I-Team activities. She noted that the I-Team is working on a draft plan with plans to finalize it by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Chair Beasley (DOA) reminded members of the I-Team that they should review the plan and take this opportunity to add their comments.

## **9. Old Business**

### **DOQQ/LIDAR Update**

David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that he met with National Resource Conservation Services (NRCS), and Forest Service (FSA) last week in Alexandria regarding their participation in the next DOQQ flight. They were very interested in acquiring an updated DOQQ data set through an innovative partnership. Mr. Gisclair would like to entice some other federal and state agencies to participate. LOSCO will be able to accept funding from local governments that wanted increased resolution data for their metropolitan areas. In answer to a question from Bill Wiesepape (GEC), LOSCO has not calculated the cost differential between the 3' resolution data and 6" resolution data. Mr. Gisclair would like participating agencies to begin their budget authorization process so that funds

are in place for the 2004/05 flight. A new flight in 2004/2005 will be the primary emphasis of LOSCO in the coming year. There are still many unanswered questions regarding data format (compressed vs. uncompressed) how to provide access, storage etc. Mr. Gisclair noted that he would like to collect the data digitally, but that USGS has not settled on a characterization for large format digital mapping cameras. David McDaniel (COE) noted that for a flight to be budgeted for 2004, a decision on the type of camera would have to be made in the next month or two. Pat O'Neil (USGS) noted that USGS does not currently have the funding in place to calibrate these cameras before budget decisions would have to be made.

Concerning the LIDAR project, Mr. Gisclair provided an update on the current status of the Atlas web site and of the procurement progress. He reported that the Atlas web site (<http://atlas.lsu.edu>) has 344 Quarter Quadrangles (QQs) of Digital Elevation Model (DEM) and 2-foot contour data available. Mr. Gisclair indicated that Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office (LOSCO) received a total 446 LIDAR QQs, which includes all of procurement task orders #1 through #4 (421 QQs). The additional 102 QQs of LIDAR data were being transmitted to Mr. Farrell Jones (Atlas web administrator) for placement on the Atlas site. Mr. Gisclair also reported that LOSCO's matching funding for Phase 2 of the LIDAR project has been transmitted to the Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) for Phase 2 procurements, since OEP is now the official procurer of LIDAR data with LOSCO providing project management. With Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and state matching funding, LOSCO estimates approximately 470 QQs of LIDAR based elevation will be procured in Phase 2. These are again divided into procurement tasks which include in priority order Task #12, 13, 6, 7, and 11 as indicated in the map handouts provided by Mr. Gisclair. He also indicated that changes in procurement priority are likely over the course of this project.

## **10. New Business**

## **11. Determine Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 20th at 1:30 at Efferson Hall on the LSU Campus.

## **12. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.

## **Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council**

Meeting of January 16, 2003

### **Summary of Action Items**

**LGISC 2003 Election of Officers:** As no one nominated was willing to serve, nominations will continue to be accepted for Chair and Vice Chair of the GIS Council. The election will take place at the February 20<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

**LGISC 2003 Election Subcommittee:** An election subcommittee was formed to review existing election procedures and recommend various options for the Council. The members of the Committee include: Kathleen Randall (House), Bo Blackmon (DNR), Joe Holmes (DEQ), Dennis Eilers (CRT), Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) and Kay Henderson (DOTD). Craig Johnson (LAGIC) is to provide assistance to the subcommittee.

**I-Team Report:** I-Team Asst. Coordinator, Dina Sa (LAGIC), noted that the draft I-Team report would be completed by January 31<sup>st</sup>. I-Team data subcommittees should review their data reports.