Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council
Meeting of February 20, 2003

MINUTES

1. Call to Order
Chair Marty Beasley (DOA) called the meeting to order at 1:43 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 Ag. And Forestry
   Brad Mooney, **Alternate**
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 and Corrections
   Rhonda Barber, **Member**
Department of Transportation and Development
   Jim Mitchell, **Member**
Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
   James Patton, **Member**
Louisiana House
   Kathleen Randall, **Member**
Louisiana Municipal Association
   Mattie Coxe, **Member**
Louisiana Police Jury Association
   Aaron Norby, **Member**
Louisiana Senate
   David Gisclair**, Alternate**
Military Department, OEP
   Brant Mitchell, **Alternate**

Others Present:

City of Baton Rouge
>Bob Laughlin

City of New Orleans
>Victoria Caridas

City of Slidell
>Ian Beer

Department of Environmental Quality
>Kurt Johnson

Department of Health and Hospitals, OPH
>Gary Balsamo

Department of Public Safety and Corrections
>Daphne Bencaz

Department of Transportation & Development
>Kay Henderson, **Alternate**
>Wanda Hill
>Neil Hohmann
>Dora Michelli

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
>Doug Albert, **Alternate**
>Jorge Icabalceta, **Alternate**

Digital Globe
>Brett Thomassie

Division Of Administration
>Ed Leachman, **Alternate**

Intergraph Corporation
>Orlando McDowelle

Louisiana Geographic Information Center
>Craig Johnson

Louisiana Municipal Association
>Susan Gordon, **Alternate**

Louisiana State Police
>Mark Morrison

Orleans Parish Communication District
>Kathrine Cargo

Southern University – Baton Rouge
>Fulbert Namwamba

St. James Parish
>Bobby Lear

US Army Corps of Engineers
>Jude D. McCoy

US Geological Survey
>Calvin "Pat" O'Neil

3. January 2003 Minutes

The January 2003 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 (DOA) noted that he attended the LGISC Election Subcommittee meeting to discuss changes to LGISC election procedures. A Subcommittee Report will be presented later in this meeting, by Kathleen Randall (House) the Chair of that Subcommittee.

Chair Beasley mentioned that he received a request by the Louisiana Cooperative Extension to become a member of the GIS Council. There was some discussion among the members as to what constitutes a "state entity" for the purposes of membership. Chair Beasley welcomed Doug Albert the new alternate to the Louisiana GIS Council from the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries.

5. Election of Officers

Chair Beasley (DOA) introduced Kathleen Randall (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 eight members who were nominated, three (Eilers, McDaniel and Patton) agreed to serve as Chair and three (Beasley, McDaniel and Coxe) agreed to serve as Vice Chair. As no other nominations were offered a motion was made to accept the nominations and vote on the Chair. Each of the three candidates for Chair was asked to describe their GIS experience and their history on the GIS Council. The first vote resulted in the first nominee (Dennis Eilers) having a clear majority (ten votes). Mr. Eilers (CRT) was therefore elected as Chair of the Council.

As no other nominations were offered a motion was made to accept the nominations for Vice Chair. Two of the three candidates for Vice Chair were asked to describe their experience with GIS and with the GIS Council (Mr. McDaniel having already described his experience). A vote was then taken for Vice Chair. The first vote resulted in no one nominee having a clear majority of the votes. At this point, Mattie Coxe (LMA) withdrew her nomination citing future administrative changes in her agency. The second vote resulted in a tie, at which time Marty Beasley (DOA) withdrew his nomination. Truman McDaniel (DHH) became the newly elected Vice Chair.

A motion was made that newly elected officers begin their terms at the completion of the Council meeting at which they were elected. This motion,

which was adopted on a voice vote, was offered by Dennis Eilers (CRT) and seconded by David Gisclair (Senate).

6. Election Subcommittee Report

The following individuals met to discuss issues brought to the floor at the January Council meeting: Marty Beasley (DOA), Bo Blackmon (DNR), Joe Holmes (DEQ), Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) and Dennis Eilers (CRT). Kathleen Randall (House) chaired the meeting and Craig Johnson (LAGIC) assisted. Among the issues that were raised by members of the Council were:

- *Should the officer positions rotate among the member agencies?*

- *Should alternate members be allowed to serve as officers?*

- *Should the Vice Chair be designated Chair–Elect and assume the Chair after serving one year as Vice Chair?*

- *How do we get agencies that do not now actively participate in Council activities, to take a more active role?*

- *Must a Chair be technically skilled in GIS or does a grasp of GIS policy issues and the ability to manage an organization serve equally well?*

- *How do we educate members as to the responsibilities of the Chair and Vice Chair, so that we have a larger pool of interested members from which to choose?*

- *When should the incoming Chair take over the Council meeting?*

Ms Randall (House) described a change to the bylaws recommended by the Election Subcommittee that would affect the way alternate members to the Council are appointed. Currently alternates can be appointed by members without the consent, or knowledge, of the appointing authority. The Committee recommended that alternates be appointed directly by the appointing authority. This change would not affect existing alternates. Future alternates would have to be appointed directly by the Department secretary or by the Governor from a list of three names. It was decided by the Council to postpone a vote on the issue of appointing alternates, as there was no immediate pressing need to decide the issue. It was decided to let the election subcommittee edit the language of the proposed change to the bylaws.

The subcommittee agreed to recommend continuation of the subcommittee following the February meeting, to address ongoing issues that pertain to or affect the election of officers.

7. Presentation: "**GIS Quest at the Rotunda" by Susan Gauthier, Louisiana Center for Educational Technology**

Ms Gauthier (Education) described the "Quest with GIS" Awards Ceremony, which took place in the Rotunda at the Capitol on January 30th. Certificates and prizes were distributed to the winners of the "GIS Quest" contest as well as those schools demonstrating innovative use of technology in the classroom. Ms. Gauthier described the number of schools (over 200) participating in the "Quest" as well as some of the innovative technology projects. She asked Council members to contact her if they have suggestions for future "Quest" activities.

8. LAGIC Report

Mr. Johnson (LAGIC) noted that he would be giving a presentation at the LAA Conference on Cadastral Data Issues on March 13th. The LAA would like to have LAGIC explain to Louisiana Assessors the similarities and differences between the IAAO Data Standards and the FGDC Cadastral Standards.

On March 17th LAGIC is helping organize a presentation at the Louisiana Cooperative Extension. The Extension GIS Visioning Group has asked for a demonstration of GIS applications for state agencies. A number of GIS Council members have agreed to demonstrate their GIS applications and their web sites including Joe Holmes (DEQ), Bo Blackmon (DNR) and Brad Mooney (DA&F).

Mr. Johnson noted that LAGIC is assisting the RS/GIS Workshop put together two sessions on local government GIS applications. One session will be a panel discussion on issues facing Louisiana Assessors the other will be on GIS applications among at the municipal level. LAGIC will be assisting the RS/GIS organizing committee in reaching potential vendors as well.

LAGIC Director will be submitting a proposal to Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) under the 2003 Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP) to fund metadata training and outreach. Mr. Johnson will apply for these grant funds to assist in the development of the Louisiana MAP Academy.

9. I-Team Report

Neither Sharon Balfour (I-Team Coordinator) nor Dina Sa (Asst. I-Team Coordinator) were able to attend the GIS Council meeting, so Ed Leachman (DOA) brought the members up to date on I-Team activities. He noted that there has been input from every data subcommittee and he asked for review and comment from these subcommittees on the draft document. He mentioned the importance of capturing all of the high level requirements. In the future, the CIO will receive requests for creating new data sets from various state entities. The

CIO should be able to go to the I-Team Requirements Section for a complete justification of the business need for creating a particular data set. In addition, the Requirements will provide information on the current data custodians and the general, functional and technical requirements that apply.

9. Old Business

DOQQ/LIDAR Update

David Gisclair, (LOSCO) noted that the state is currently being flown to collect LIDAR data for task #5 (Barataria Basin). Tasks #7, 8 and 11 were flown this winter and tasks #12 and 13 have been flown and are now undergoing quality assurance review by FEMA contractors. Additional data will be available through the Atlas Website within the next two months. FEMA will receive $150 million in map modernization funds from which LOSCO hopes to secure $2 million for data collection this federal fiscal year. That would allow for additional LIDAR data collection including tasks #9, 10, 14, 15 and 16. Completion of these tasks would mean near complete coverage of the southern portion of the state.

The collection of future LIDAR data will be tied to the collection of the next round of Digital Ortho Quarter Quads (DOQQ's). A "DOQQ Summit" will be scheduled for the Monday prior to the Remote Sensing GIS Workshop in Lafayette to discuss partnerships for future data collection. Two of the primary issues that will be discussed are; varying image resolutions (urban versus rural) and the use of a digital camera for data collection. Mr. Gisclair mentioned his concern that local governments collect aerial photography with sufficient horizontal accuracy to ensure its usefulness to a wide variety of applications (cadastral, transportation networks etc.). Brad Mooney (DA&F) asked when this data will be available and could potential users get a sample of the imagery to see if it is applicable to their needs. Mr. Gisclair thought it would be available soon but noted the problem of data distribution because of the huge file size associated with the high resolution imagery. Mr. Namwamba (Southern University) asked what DEM's would be used to ensure positional accuracy. Mr. Gisclair replied that 5 meter postings will be produced in the upcoming flights versus 30 meter postings that are normally associated with the USGS DEM's. Truman McDaniel (DHH) asked about the status of the parish DOQQ mosaics. DeWitt Braud (LSU) noted that the Louisiana Coastal Zone was being complied first. File sizes are very large, so it is necessary to compress the files to a CDROM using MR Sid software.

LouisianaMAP Update

DeWitt Braud (LSU) noted that members of the I-Team Technical Committee are working on functional descriptions. The draft will be reviewed by the full Technical Committee and then released to the Steering Committee.

Louisiana Spatial Reference Center Update

Dr Roy Dokka (LSRC) described the current and future needs for positioning control for geospatial activities in Louisiana. He stressed the importance of

establishing an accurate and sustainable vertical and horizontal reference system in Louisiana. Dr Dokka noted the efforts of the LSRC, in conjunction with state and federal partners, to provide this service through a network (GULFNET) of Continuously Operating GPS Reference Stations (CORS) located throughout the state. This network will constitute the state benchmarks of the future and aid local governments in their height modernization efforts. He gave a number of examples of the problems with the current benchmark system and the problems they pose to general surveying, emergency planning and coastal restoration efforts. He noted that their would be a Town Hall meeting in Shreveport, Louisiana in mid April as part of a larger effort to discuss these issues throughout Louisiana.

10. New Business

Louisiana Cooperative Extension
Craig Johnson (LAGIC) noted that the Louisiana Cooperative Extension contacted him to request that the Council consider extending membership to the Extension. Two members of the Extension will be present at the March meeting to describe the activities of the Extension and make their request directly to the Council.

Federal State Meeting
Pat O'Neil (USGS) reminded Council members of the Federal State GIS Meeting at the Corps of Engineers District Office in New Orleans on Wednesday morning 3/12/03. The meeting will begin at 9:00 am and feature a number of speakers on geospatial issues.

LAURISA Events
Kathrine Cargo (NOCD) mentioned the upcoming Louisiana Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (LAURISA) Carnival Social to be held at Cannon's Restaurant on Wednesday, February 26th. In addition, she noted that LAURISA would be sponsoring an Imagery Workshop on Friday, March 21st from 10:00 – 2:00 at the CADGIS Lab at LSU.

DEQ Imagery
Joe Holmes (DEQ) noted that DEQ will release a new Pan sharpened TM image of the state taken in January of 2002. It will be ready in a couple of weeks and will be available upon request

Boat Launch Data Set
David Gisclair (LOSCO) noted that the Boat Launch dataset will be available soon on LAGIC. This dataset, funded by LOSCO, will provide the locations, photos and information on virtually all of the public and commercial boat launches in the State of Louisiana.

11. Determine Next Meeting Date

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

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.

Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council
Meeting of February 20, 2003

Summary of Action Items

LGISC 2003 Election of Officers:

Dennis Eilers (Culture, Recreation and Tourism) was elected Chair of the GIS Council.
Truman McDaniel (Department of Health and Hospitals) was elected Vice Chair of the Council

A recommendation was made that newly elected officers begin their terms at the completion of the Council meeting at which they were elected. This motion, which was adopted on a voice vote, was offered by Dennis Eilers (CRT) and seconded by David Gisclair (Senate).

 LGISC 2003 Election Subcommittee: The election subcommittee which includes: Kathleen Randall (House), Bo Blackmon (DNR), Joe Holmes (DEQ), Dennis Eilers (CRT), Jorge Icabalceta (DW&F) and Kay Henderson (DOTD). Ms Randall chairs the Subcommittee and Craig Johnson (LAGIC) provides administrative assistance. The Subcommittee proposed a change to the bylaws that would have made the appointment of alternates a responsibility of the appointing authority for that agency not the member.   This change would become effective upon adoption and would not affect existing alternates. A number of changes to the wording were proposed. It was decided to have the election subcommittee rework the language of the proposal and resubmit it to the Council for review.

Doug Albert was appointed as an alternate from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Louisiana Cooperative Extension: Requested that the Council consider its application for membership.   Representatives from the Cooperative Extension will make a formal request at the March Council Meeting.