

**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
OF THE  
MISSISSIPPI COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR  
REMOTE SENSING AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

**January 11, 2011**

**PRESENT**

Craig Orgeron (for David Litchlitter, Vice Chair), Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services  
Keith Harkins (for Trudy Fisher, Chair), Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality  
John Michael Simpson (for Larry L. "Butch" Brown), Mississippi Department of Transportation  
Mark Sanders (for Mike Womack), Mississippi Emergency Management Agency  
Gerald McWhorter (for Delbert Hosemann), Mississippi Secretary of State  
James Buchanan (for Charlie W. Morgan), Mississippi Forestry Commission  
Jim Steil, Institutions of Higher Learning/MARIS  
Matthew Dodd (for George Lewis), Mississippi Municipal League  
Tony Fleming, Clarke County Board of Supervisors  
Michael Caples, Mississippi Association of Supervisors  
Jeff Mullins, Mississippi Tax Assessors/Collectors Association  
Chuck Carr, Central Mississippi Planning and Development District  
Richard Tolbert, Mississippi Association of Professional Surveyors

**ABSENT**

Jack Moody (for Gray Swoope), Mississippi Development Authority  
Rick Ericksen, Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists  
Gene McGee, Mayor, City of Ridgeland  
Tommy Moffatt, Senator, Mississippi State Senate  
Dannie Reed, Representative, Mississippi House of Representatives

Craig Orgeron, Acting Chairman in place of Trudy Fisher, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and welcomed those present. The motion was made and seconded to approve the Council meeting minutes for October 5, 2010. The motion was approved.

Joel Yelverton, Chairman of the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC), gave a report on the Geospatial Strategic Business Plan. The report has been sent to all of the Council members. It is now in the hands of the Council. The next step is vetting of recommendations. Mr. Harkins expressed appreciation to Mr. Yelverton and all of the PAC members for their time, work, and effort. Mr. Steil suggested a work group look at it and suggest specific action items.

Cragin Knox of MGI gave a PowerPoint presentation on the MDEM layer development activities. For the Geodetic Control layer, work is continuing on ortho-identifiable points in southwest Mississippi. For the Topographic layer, work is being done on 5-foot contours in southwest Mississippi at 1:4,800 scale. For the Hydrographic layer, work is continuing in the upper Big

Black, the upper Pearl, and the Coldwater basins at 1:4,800. There will be a comparison in the north Delta with contours from LiDar data flown by the Corps of Engineers. For the Transportation layer, road centerline data at 1:4,800 has been received for thirteen counties in the Delta.

Steve Champlin, Project Manager for the Mississippi Flood Map Modernization Initiative (MFMMI), gave an update on the Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) project. The number of county preliminary DFIRMs delivered is 79. DFIRM maps are effective in 47 counties.

The Leflore County levee issue has been resolved. Pearl River levees in Hinds and Rankin Counties have been certified. Neither the levees on the Tenn-Tom in Monroe and Itawamba Counties nor the levee on the Coldwater River in Tunica County have been certified. Provisionally Accredited Levee (PAL) agreements were previously sent to the Mississippi Delta counties. The Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS) statewide database work for determining current and possible future unmet mapping needs was begun. Planning has begun on the Tenn-Tom lidar project funded by FEMA. Up-coming activities include completing mapping and delivering one final countywide DIRM in January for Leflore County, continue remapping areas involved in levee non-certification situations in Tunica County, continue work on FY09 county projects which includes the Rankin County countywide DFIRM update project and collect approximately 950 square miles of Tenn-Tom LiDar data funded by FEMA.

Mr. Champlin handed out copies of the 2010 Annual Status Report for this Council and stated that it is ready for review and acceptance by the Council. Richard Tolbert made the motion to approve this report, and it was seconded by Tony Fleming. The report was approved.

Scott Samson, Geosystems Research Institute (GRI) at Mississippi State University, talked about education and outreach efforts. Since June, 2006, they have held 199 workshops covering nine courses in 68 counties with 2,061 participants with a cost savings to Mississippi of \$4,999,549. ESRI workshop materials for ArcGIS 10 have been changed and are no longer as helpful. Dr. Samson is considering developing his own workshop. However, students would not get an ESRI certificate.

Debra Brown of the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) gave an update on the Portal/Clearinghouse development. She discussed how the Clearinghouse was being used. New technologies have been incorporated while trying to spend as little as possible. Gary Hennington of The Geospatial Group demonstrated the Mississippi Geospatial Clearinghouse. Areas covered were the Twitter account, viewer, tools, downloading, resources, services, and information. New improvements are expected to be ready by February 1. Council members will be notified by email when it is ready.

Representative Scott Delano asked that we let him know about any GIS legislative issues. He is offering a bill regarding digital plat submittal.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on April 5, 2011.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.