

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

February 13, 2013

PRESENT

Keith Harkins (for Trudy Fisher, Chair), Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Ray Barksdale (for Melinda McGrath), Mississippi Department of Transportation
Bill Brown (for Robert Latham, Jr.), Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
Jack Moody (for Brent Christensen), Mississippi Development Authority
Gerald McWhorter (for Delbert Hosemann), Mississippi Secretary of State
Buck Buchanan (for Charlie W. Morgan), Mississippi Forestry Commission
Rick Ericksen, Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists
Jim Steil, Institutions of Higher Learning/MARIS
Quincy Mukoro (for Shari T. Veazey), Mississippi Municipal League
Steve Gray (for Derrick Surette), Mississippi Association of Supervisors
Chuck Carr, Central Mississippi Planning and Development District
Richard Tolbert, Mississippi Association of Professional Surveyors
Scott DeLano, Representative, Mississippi House of Representatives

ABSENT

Craig Orgeron, Vice Chair, Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services
Gene McGee, Mayor, City of Ridgeland
Tony Fleming, Clarke County Board of Supervisors
Jeff Mullins, Mississippi Tax Assessors/Collectors Association
Tommy Moffatt, Senator, Mississippi State Senate

Keith Harkins called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. Since a quorum was present, Keith Harkins asked for a motion to approve the Council meeting minutes for December 7, 2011. The motion was made by Richard Tolbert and seconded by Steve Gray. The minutes were approved.

Representative Scott DeLano discussed House bills he has introduced in this Legislative session. House Bill No. 1106 involves the digital plat submittal process, and he wants guidance from this Council regarding this. In Section 2, he brought forward the Council code section. The Council would make the standards for the digital plats. Changes to the Council makeup are proposed. The Council would act as a policy board, and there would be an advisory board of GIS users. There would be some changes made to Council membership. House Bill No. 1104 designates MEMA to appoint a person to coordinate emergency 911 efforts throughout the state and prepare a plan for funding, development, operation and maintenance of the MS Spatial Data Infrastructure.

Joe Yelverton presented the Council Coordinator's Report. A group of southern Mississippi counties participated in a coordinated mapping fly-over. It is finished and was successful. The data is on the Clearinghouse website and meets MDEM standards. The counties involved saved a total of \$152,000. NOAA provided \$100,000, and MDOT partnered with \$10,000 a county. Fourteen counties in central Mississippi have now contracted for a fly-over which is taking place now. They have also reduced their cost significantly. Blake Wallace of the Economic Council coordinated the agreements through the Attorney General's Office. The Tax Assessor's Office is the driving force behind these flights, but it is being used for other purposes, too.

Keith Harkins called for the election of officers. Jim Steil nominated Robert Latham for Chairman. Quincy Mukoro seconded the motion. Robert Latham was elected by acclamation. Steve Gray nominated Craig Orgeron for Vice Chairman, and Quincy Mukoro seconded the motion. Craig Orgeron was elected by acclamation.

Cragin Knox gave an update on MDEM and showed a status map of the seven layers. The transportation layer is an active project. The road centerlines are being finished.

Steve Champlin reported on the DFIRM mapping project. A summary of recent lidar collection was presented. Lidar now covers 65% of the state.

The GIS Portal/Clearinghouse development update was presented by Debra Brown. GIS activities and partnerships include: the Clearinghouse with MDEQ, Historical Site Management Tool with MDAH, BioMass with MDA, Community Asset Map with MDA, and Enhanced Inventory with DFA Bureau of Buildings.

Scott Samson gave an update on education and outreach efforts. ESRI is putting courses on line and is discontinuing certified instructors. Due to a lack of funding, they will have to charge for courses. Courses are being booked into summer.

The Mississippi Coordinating Council for Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems 2012 Annual Report was presented to the Council by Steve Champlin. Rick Ericksen made the motion that the report be approved, and Buck Buchanan seconded the motion. The annual report was approved and will be posted on our website.

Real Time Kinematic GPS Services was discussed by Richard Tolbert. This was built by the University of Southern Mississippi with MDOT support. Registered users now have free access to post-processing and now get real time kinematic. Network solutions are available.

Jim Steil gave a brief summary of the GIS Strategic Plan review conducted in the fall of 2011. Participants of the plan review were asked which elements were they most willing to actively participate or support. The four main elements were 1) a re-activation of the Technical Users Group (TUG), 2) standard orthoimagery specifications, 3) a comprehensive boundary effort, and 4) an improved gazetteer layer. These elements of the strategic plan were accepted at the December 2011 meeting.

Bill Brown of MEMA led a discussion on the Council's needs and funding.

Future meeting dates will be decided by our new Chairman, Robert Latham, Jr.

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