

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

March 1, 2016

PRESENT

Lee Smithson, Chairman, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
Dr. Craig Orgeron, Vice-Chairman, Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services
Michael Bograd, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Michael Cresap (for Melinda McGrath), Mississippi Department of Transportation
Jim Steil, Institutions of Higher Learning/MARIS
Lisa Chism, Department of Revenue
Kelly McMullan (for Delbert Hosemann), Mississippi Secretary of State
Jeff Mullins, Mississippi Tax Assessors/Collectors Association
Dr. Brian Mitchell (for Charlie W. Morgan), Mississippi Forestry Commission
Chuck Carr, Central Mississippi Planning and Development District

ABSENT

Tony Fleming, Clarke County Board of Supervisors
Un-named Senator, Mississippi State Senate
Shari T. Veazey, Mississippi Municipal League
Scott Delano, Representative, Mississippi House of Representatives
Derrick Surette, Mississippi Association of Supervisors
John Helms (for Brent Christensen), Mississippi Development Authority
Richard Tolbert, Mississippi Association of Professional Surveyors
Rick Ericksen, Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists
Matthew Dodd (for Gene McGee), Mayor, City of Ridgeland

Chairman Lee Smithson formally introduced himself as the new Executive Director of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). He called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. Chairman Smithson introduced the meeting minutes from the December 1st council meeting. He entertained motions that the minutes be accepted. Motions were made, and the minutes from the December 1st meeting were accepted. He introduced Joel Yelverton to give the Council Coordinator's Report.

Council Coordinator's Report - Joel Yelverton reminded everyone that last year during this time bad weather was a major factor in the capture of orthoimagery. This caused a lot of last year's project to be moved to this year. Additional counties were also added to make up for the lost year. Within the first four weeks of this year's imagery capture, 90% of the project areas have been collected. By the last weekend of February 2016, 100% of the imagery has been collected. Processing has begun by the vendor. Mr. Yelverton advised that Mississippi is receiving first priority with regards to the processing based on last year's issues concerning bad weather. Mr.

Yelverton advised that there are approximately 22 counties that haven't participated in any of the coordinated County Orthoimagery projects. Mr. Yelverton advised that the new RFP will be going out in late Spring 2016 for the 2017 County Orthoimagery Project. The 2017 project area encompasses counties in Eastern and Southern MS. Mr. Yelverton advised that discussions are already underway regarding how we move forward with obtaining statewide orthoimagery in the future once the County Orthoimagery Project is completed in 2017. Mr. Yelverton advised that there is a new committee in the MS House of Representatives called the House Technology Committee, and Representative Scott Delano is the Chairman. He advised that at a recent meeting Mr. Delano complimented the MCCRSGIS and the work that had been done coordinating the County Orthoimagery Project based on the savings passed on to taxpayers.

Map Mississippi – Jim Steil updated the council on the Map MS Project. He spoke of the importance of getting the support of the council in pursuing funding solutions for Map MS. He also spoke about national address databases that are being pursued by Census and US Department of Transportation as well as private sector National Emergency Address Database (NEAD) being developed by the telecom industry. The NEAD will locate and register Wi-Fi and Bluetooth to addresses as a way of sub-addressing and locating people. Next Generation 911 (NG-911 NOW) coalition will go to an Internet Protocol (IP) based 911 scheme by the end of 2020. This would be an Information Technology (IT) driven approach to addressing. Mr. Steil stressed support for funding Map MS should not come at the expense of risking member agencies budgets. Chairman Smithson opened the floor for discussion. Dr. Orgeron asked if IHL would ask the legislature for the funding. Mr. Steil replied that Dr. Boyce would, once the project was formalized and adopted by the council. Chairman Smithson in an attempt to better understand what his role would be as Chair of the Council, sought clarification as to what he would need to do to push this forward. Mr. Steil responded that it was his opinion that the MCCRSGIS Chairman would need to introduce Map MS to the Legislature. Chairman Smithson said that he didn't have a problem with that. The Chair recognized Mr. Mike Cresap with MS Department of Transportation (MDOT). Mr. Cresap advised that he couldn't vote to support anything that would attach MDOT's name to any kind of funding request per his Executive Director. Chairman Smithson recommended that this initiative be tabled for now and that he be given the opportunity to talk to Congressman Palazzo and Senator Cochran about federal funding. He advised that he will be meeting with them in DC in April. Chairman Smithson made a formal motion to table this initiative until the next quarterly meeting. The motion was seconded, voted and passed.

NSGIC Update – Jim Steil updated the Council on the recent National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) Conference. Jack Dangermond, President of Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) presented on the newest technology being offered in ArcDesktop 10.4. Some of the improvements involve Big Data analysis and Air to Drone. Air to Drone allows pictures that are taken via an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) to be digitally stitched together to create a large mosaic image. The NG-911 Now Coalition, was formally recognized at the NSGIC Conference. Coalition members are National Emergency Numbering Association (NENA), National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASNA) and Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies (iCERT). Its goal is to migrate all of the 911 data in the country to an IP, GIS driven platform by the year 2020.

GIS Portal/Clearinghouse Update - Billy Rials with MS ITS provided an update on the activities of the Clearinghouse 2.0. Most of the data is currently not residing at the Clearinghouse. Data is at partner agency locations, or the partner agencies are storing their data at the State Data Center at

ITS. The effort continues to focus on making the operation of the Clearinghouse as inexpensive as possible. Mr. Rials thanked Jim Steil and MARIS for the collaboration they've provided with regards to duplicate data hosting. The Clearinghouse has discontinued the hosting of data that MARIS hosts. This will result in a savings to the taxpayer.

DFIRM and MDEM - Stephen Champlin with MDEQ updated the Council on Flood Mapping and MDEM activities. Mr. Champlin advised that last year's LiDAR flights focused on Coastal MS. This was approximately 10,000 square miles of LiDAR flown. The first hard-drive has arrived with LiDAR data from USGS. This data is approximately 3 to 4 Terabytes of data in .7-meter pole spacing QL2 level. This year's flights total 8,800 miles of data along the MS River. The total cost will be approximately 2.2 million dollars of which the NRCS will provide 1 million dollars. MDEQ, through a NOAA/MSU grant, will provide \$360,000.00 dollars. The 3DEP grant will provide approximately \$800,000.00 dollars. This will result in almost the entire state being covered by LiDAR, only lacking approximately 1000 square miles of LiDAR. Concerning hydrography, the southeastern part of the state has been the focus. A shift to the coastal area will occur over the next couple of weeks once coastal LiDAR has been received.

The last original FEMA flood map program was for the 2008 Map Mod program; which was put on hold due to levee certification issues. Monroe and Itawamba were Tenn-Tom projects, and maps for these counties should be available in the Fall of 2016. Panola, Quitman, Carroll and Tallahatchie County projects are starting back up. Three meetings will be held in the next couple of days to update the local communities concerning flood mapping activities resuming. Bolivar County will be waiting on final repairs of the Main Line Mississippi River levee. Once this is completed the flood maps for Bolivar County should be completed.

The main difference between the Risk Maps and the Original Map Mod products is that the Map Mod products were based on a countywide mapping process and the Risk Maps are based on Huck 8 Basins. Preliminary flood maps were provided to the coastal and lower Pearl River basins on April 29th. The lower Pearl were divided into two areas with Marion and Walthall being delayed for approximately 30 days. The Tenn-Tom Flood Risk Review meeting will be held sometime in the Summer of 2016. The Discovery Report for the lower Leaf River Basin will be submitted to FEMA over the next couple of weeks. The Coldwater and Tallahatchie River Basin Discovery Reports were just recently approved by FEMA and have been submitted back to the locals for final approval.

Mr. Champlin spoke about some of the projects that are currently ongoing in the Coastal MS area. In Jackson County two studies are being conducted that involve LiDAR and its use to re-draw boundaries. These areas comprise approximately 5 miles in length each. In Northern Harrison County some areas on local streams that weren't completed due to Katrina are now being worked. Three areas in Harrison County are also being looked at. An area in the Northeastern part of Harrison County is an upgrade from an "A Zone" to an "AE Zone". An area to the West will be a review to see if anything needs to be changed. A smaller area will also be reviewed and studied for the first time. An area 28 miles long on the Pearl River in lower Pearl River County had previously been identified as an "A Zone" area with no flood Basic Flood Elevation (BFE). The locals have requested that this area be reviewed and a BFE created.

Additional Business – Chairman Smithson asked for any additional business. He further advised that he and Mark Sanders would be attending the Central US Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC) GIS meeting in Nashville on April 12-14. While there, he will be speaking to other states in an attempt to realize other GIS funding sources. Chairman Smithson again voiced his support for the Map MS initiative and the importance of GIS in the state. Chairman Smithson advised that the tentative date for the next Council meeting would be Tuesday, June 7, 2016. A motion was made and seconded.

Meeting Adjourned

DRAFT