

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

**November 9, 2011**

**PRESENT**

Keith Harkins (for Trudy Fisher, Chair), Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality  
Ray Barksdale (for Melinda McGrath), Mississippi Department of Transportation  
Mark Sanders (for Mike Womack), Mississippi Emergency Management Agency  
Buck Buchanan (for Charlie W. Morgan), Mississippi Forestry Commission  
Jim Steil, Institutions of Higher Learning/MARIS  
Michael Caples, Mississippi Association of Supervisors  
Chuck Carr, Central Mississippi Planning and Development District  
Richard Tolbert, Mississippi Association of Professional Surveyors

**ABSENT**

Craig Orgeron, Vice Chair, Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services  
Jack Moody (for Leland Speed), Mississippi Development Authority  
Gerald McWhorter (for Delbert Hosemann), Mississippi Secretary of State  
Rick Ericksen, Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists  
Gene McGee, Mayor, City of Ridgeland  
Matthew Dodd (for George Lewis), Mississippi Municipal League  
Tony Fleming, Clarke County Board of Supervisors  
Jeff Mullins, Mississippi Tax Assessors/Collectors Association  
Tommy Moffatt, Senator, Mississippi State Senate  
Dannie Reed, Representative, Mississippi House of Representatives

Keith Harkins called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and welcomed those present. He introduced Mr. Jimmy Palmer who initiated the concept of the Mississippi Digital Earth Model (MDEM) in the 1990's. Mr. Palmer gave a history of the steps that were taken to get us to where we are now. He is a past Executive Director of MDEQ.

Since a quorum was not present, the approval of the minutes for the last meeting, held on September 13, 2011, was tabled until the next meeting.

The Data Layer Committee Report was presented by Jim Steil. Since our last meeting on September 13, there have been five discussion meetings with over 50 participants. Elements reviewed were coordination, hydrography, orthoimagery, transportation, geodetic control, boundaries, Public Land Survey System, and Gazetteer. The majority of participants showed interest in coordination. Options for all elements were discussed and recommendations were given. No action was taken on the recommendations. This will be discussed at a Council work session on December 7.

Keith Harkins discussed the legislative side of the Strategic Plan. The steering committee has looked at the Strategic Plan and has a concept for legislation and has met with Representative Scott Delano who is working on legislative bills. Focus will be on the law and any changes that are needed. This will also be discussed at the December 7 Council work session.

Joel Yelverton presented the Council Coordinator's Report. He has been working on coordination of an orthoimagery flight for the coastal counties. They did get an interlocal agreement for the six counties. MDOT has offered to participate, and NOAA Coastal Services Center may provide funding. The Request for Proposals (RFP) has been sent out and will be advertised on November 10. Debra Brown said ITS will put it on the Council's Clearinghouse. Proposals have to be submitted by December 1.

Cragin Knox of MGI gave an update on the MDEM digital data acquisition and development. Work is continuing on the road centerline data for 22 counties in the central and eastern part of the state and should be finished in December.

Steve Champlin, Project Manager for the Mississippi Flood Map Modernization Initiative (MFMMI), gave an update on the Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) project. DFIRM maps are effective in 64 counties with 8 counties in the review stage and 10 counties in the compliance stage for a total of 82 counties. Seven counties are involved in the FY 2009 transition to RiskMAP. George County preliminary DFIRMs were delivered on July 8. Maps were delivered to Lauderdale County on September 7 and to Warren County on September 30. The Tunica County maps are on hold. Other preliminary map deliveries are expected in fall/winter of 2011. The FY 2010 RiskMAP program involves the Pearl River in Hinds and Madison counties, the Pearl River in Pearl River and Marion counties, levee mapping in Forrest County, lidar for the future Tenn-Tom Waterway Restudy Project, and scoping/discovery community meetings in early 2012. For the Tenn-Tom Waterway lidar project, collection and survey have been completed and processing will begin shortly. Phases 1 and 2 of the USACE MS Delta-Yazoo River Basin Lidar Project have been completed and are housed at the MS Geospatial Clearinghouse. Also included in the FY 2010 RiskMAP project are the HUC 8 basins which include RiskMAP study and partial DFIRM for the middle Pearl – Strong, the lower Pearl, and Mississippi Coastal (riverine only), and lidar for the upper Tombigbee.

The MCCRSGIS annual report update was also presented by Mr. Champlin. He will be sending emails to the contributors to the annual report for 2011 updates. The updates are needed by November 30.

Debra Brown of MDITS informed the members that Brian Mason has been very busy working on the Clearinghouse. Gary Hennington of the Geospatial Group said we now have new imagery cache layers.

Ray Barksdale of MDOT presented a PowerPoint presentation of MDOT's GIS activities. He discussed data acquisition, both internal and external. They have a multilevel location referencing system (MLRS) because they are currently maintaining four networks. Also, they have a Geotrans Data Model.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on December 7, 2011, in the Commission Hearing Room of the MDEQ building located at 515 E. Amite St. in Jackson. This will be a work session focusing on the Strategic Plan and legislative bills.

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