

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

DECEMBER 16, 2003

PRESENT

Charles Chisolm, Chair, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
David Litchliter, Vice Chair, Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services
Robert Latham, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
David Shaw, Mississippi State University
Samantha Atkinson, Mississippi Municipal League
Joel Yelverton, Mississippi Association of Supervisors
Chuck Carr, Central Mississippi Planning and Development District
Clay Lewis (for Steven Hale), Mississippi Development Authority
Bill Lauderdale, Supervisor, Warren County
Alice Gorman, Mississippi Tax Commission
John Simpson (for Harry Lee James), Mississippi Department of Transportation
James Ellington, Representative, Mississippi House of Representatives
Shirley Hall, Mayor, City of Richland
Rick Ericksen, Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists
Joe Young, Tax Assessors/Collectors Association

ABSENT

Alan Nunnelee, Senator, Mississippi State Senate
Gerald McWhorter (for Eric Clark), Secretary of State
James Sledge, Mississippi Forestry Commission

The meeting of the Mississippi Coordinating Council for Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman Charles Chisolm. A quorum being present, the minutes for the October 28, 2003, and November 14, 2003, meetings were approved.

Keith Harkins presented a report on the Draft Strategic Plan for Remote Sensing and GIS Coordination in Mississippi. Several questions were discussed and suggested changes were agreed upon.

Sam Mabry then opened a discussion on the recommendations of the Legislation Task Force. It contained a request for funding of staff, data acquisition, warehouse development, and a high-speed secure network between state and county governments. The representatives of city governments suggested that cities should be included in the high-speed network. It was agreed that the language dealing with this issue be amended to reflect the city government concerns. Mr. Chisolm appointed a committee composed of Samantha Atkinson, Mayor Shirley Hall, David Litchliter, and the staff to prepare revised language on this issue. The Chairman called for a vote

on the interim report to the legislature, as amended. Rick Ericksen moved, and Samantha Atkinson seconded the motion to approve the amended report. The Council voted to so approve.

Sam Mabry then discussed the status of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) that is presently moving toward the choosing of a contractor. The RFQ addresses the development of statewide high-resolution orthophotography and digital flood insurance rate maps (DFIRM). A meeting with potential contractors was held to answer questions regarding the RFQ. These questions with the answers are now available on the MDEQ website. The RFQ proposals will be reviewed by the Council's selection committee. The selection committee will present its recommendations to the Council at the January 12 scheduled meeting.

Sam Mabry gave a brief report on the subcommittee working on data procurement standards. A draft of recommended standards will then go to the Data Procurement Standards Task Force for further development.

Cragin Knox informed the Council on the second meeting of the Policy Advisory Committee which was held on December 15, 2003. This committee will be headed by Council staff for the near future.

Jim Steil reported on the results of the first meeting of the Technical Users Group, which was held on December 3, 2003. It will have work groups on clearinghouse and standards.

Charles Chisolm led a brief discussion on the protection of the Council members under the Tort Claims Act. Bill Lauderdale made a motion, seconded by Samantha Atkinson, to request an opinion from the Attorney General on whether the Council is covered under the Tort Claims Act. After discussion by Robert Latham on the need for coverage, the Council voted to approve the motion.

The next Council meeting was set for January 12, 2004, to receive a recommendation from the contractor selection team.

The meeting was adjourned.