David Litchliter called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. He explained that the purpose of this meeting was for the Council to consider the acceptance of the negotiated contract between the State and Mississippi Geographic Information, LLC (MGI).

The negotiated contract was projected on a screen and David Litchliter began brief explanations of the proposed contract. The contract is for all work required to produce the digital flood insurance rate maps (DFIRM). Initially the contract begins with two counties, DeSoto and Harrison Counties. The contract contains the option to expand the DFIRM development for additional counties. The life of the contract is five years and this can be extended. Other items such as retainment, liquidated damages, performance bonds at the work order level, and other particulars were explained. A discussion about product ownership developed, and it was decided that the issue would be best addressed by the Council at a future meeting.

Keith Harkins then explained how the original thinking about our approach to independent quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) had developed. He presented the logic behind
considering approaching QA/QC solely through MGI. One member of the MGI team has been brought in for QA/QC. That member is Dewberry and Davis, who was the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) national QA/QC contractor. This firm has an enormous amount of experience in QA/QC as it relates to FEMA flood maps. After MGI, using Dewberry and Davis QA/QC, is satisfied with the product, they will then hand it over to FEMA who will have its national QA/QC contractor review the product. All of this high level of QA/QC processing appears to be adequate for this product development. The Contract Negotiation Committee recommends that the Council accept certification of QA/QC by Dewberry and Davis as sufficient QA/QC for this contract.

Having determined that a quorum was present, David Litchliter asked for a motion that the Council accept the negotiated contract. Mayor Shirley Hall made the motion and Joel Yelverton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the contract. David Litchliter then asked for a motion to accept the minutes for the January 12, 2004, Council meeting. The motion was made by Harry Lee James and the second came from Jeanie Smith. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

There was some brief discussion on how the work orders will be administered and how the Council will be informed on the progress of the project.

Jim Steil informed the Council about a MARIS/Technical Users Group meeting that will be held at Stennis Space Center on January 28. He also stated he would have a progress report on the work being done by the Standards Committee in the near future.

David Litchliter adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.