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

September 13, 2011

PRESENT

Keith Harkins (for Trudy Fisher, Chair), Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Craig Orgeron, Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services
Ray Barksdale (for Melinda McGrath), Mississippi Department of Transportation
Jack Moody (for Leland Speed), Mississippi Development Authority
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
Matthew Dodd (for George Lewis), Mississippi Municipal League
Derrick Surrette, Executive Director, Mississippi Association of Supervisors (for Tony Fleming,
Clarke County Board of Supervisors)
Michael Caples, Mississippi Association of Supervisors
Chuck Carr, Central Mississippi Planning and Development District
Richard Tolbert, Mississippi Association of Professional Surveyors

ABSENT

Mike Womack, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
Gerald McWhorter (for Delbert Hosemann), Mississippi Secretary of State
Gene McGee, Mayor, City of Ridgeland
Jeff Mullins, Mississippi Tax Assessors/Collectors Association
Tommy Moffatt, Senator, Mississippi State Senate
Dannie Reed, Representative, Mississippi House of Representatives

Craig Orgeron, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and welcomed those
present. He thanked Michael Caples for inviting the Council to meet in the Butler Snow facilities.
Mr. Orgeron asked for a motion to approve the Council meeting minutes for July 12, 2011. The
motion was made by Michael Caples and seconded by Jim Steil. The motion was approved.

The Strategic Plan Report was presented by Keith Harkins who handed out a list of MCCCRSGIS
Coordinator duties. Jim Steil commented on the changes in the list. He stated that “Twitter” had
been added and some others had been combined. Mr. Harkins said this list of duties would be
incorporated into Joel Yelverton’s contract. A discussion of the seven data themes followed.
Separate data theme meetings will be held. A group of local governments has been formed to
coordinate cadastral and to coordinate with the Council.

Joel Yelverton presented the Council Coordinator’s Report. He has been working to coordinate
and organize a digital ortho imagery flight for three Gulf Coast counties. There have been issues
to resolve with the interlocal agreement. The Boards of Supervisors have to approve it, and then it
goes to the Attorney General’s Office for final approval. The specifications for the flight are being
finalized. MDOT and the Mississippi Department of Revenue will review it, but it will be a short
turn-around for reviewing it. He attended the Tax Assessors/Collectors meeting.

Cragin Knox of MGI gave a PowerPoint presentation on the MDEM layer development activities.
Gazetteer has just been added as the eighth layer of the MDEM framework. Road centerline data
at 1:4,800 have been received 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 10 counties in the review stage and 8 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. 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 Jordan River in Harrison and Hancock counties,
the Pearl River in Marion County, levee mapping and unmet needs in Jones and Forrest counties,
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. Phase 1 of the USACE MS Delta-Yazoo River
Basin Lidar Project has been completed. The data have been acquired and are housed at the MS
Geospatial Clearinghouse. Phase 2 data are currently being copied to MDEQ hard drives at
Vicksburg.

Debra Brown of MDITS said the new Clearinghouse has been running for five months now. Gary
Hennington of The Geospatial Group gave an update on the GIS Portal/Clearinghouse
development. Support for ArcGIS version 9.2 has been added for data downloads. The size for the
detail imagery download has been increased to include larger coverage areas. They are on
“Twitter” now. They have had 9,116 site visits. Most site traffic is direct with search engines
following a close second. The most downloaded dataset is MDEM imagery. A big improvement
has been faster access to lower imagery levels.

George Heleine, USGS Geospatial Liaison to Mississippi and Alabama, spoke about a proposed
FY 2012 Mississippi lidar project with partnerships between federal, state, county, and local
governments. A lot of work has been done in Alabama with most of it paid for with NRCS
funding. When USGS is in a partnership, the data will be publicly available. A Mississippi map
was shown with existing lidar coverage which is available to the public. The biggest issue is cost.
He is working with Joel Yelverton on the Coast.

Warren McKinnon is retiring at the end of this month, and Renae Smith will be taking his place.

Jim Steil announced that the next NSGIC meeting will be held September 25-29, in Boise, Idaho.
Next year the meeting will be held in Florida.

Under other business, Representative Scott DeLano stated his plans to file a similar bill this year to
the one he filed last year pertaining to plats. He requested that the Council members let him know
about other legislation that is needed. Richard Tolbert also spoke to the Council regarding USM having set up the CORS system, but that there are problems for surveyors with system use.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on November 8, 2011, with the location to be determined.

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