

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

May 21, 2019, 1:30 pm at ITS

PRESENT

Mike Cresap, Chairman, Mississippi Department of Transportation
Jim Steil, Vice-Chairman, Institutions of Higher Learning
Gary Leblanc, Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services
David Dockery, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Richard Tolbert, Mississippi Association of Professional Surveyors
Dave Snider, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
Chuck Carr, Central Mississippi Planning and Development District
Bill Cheney, Mississippi Secretary of State
John Helms, Mississippi Development Authority
Michael Wright, Mississippi Board of Registered Professional Geologists

ABSENT

Dr. Brian Mitchell, Mississippi Forestry Commission
Steve Gray, Mississippi Association of Supervisors
Shari Veazey, Mississippi Municipal League
Talbot Brooks, Delta State University
Jeff Mullins, Mississippi Tax Assessors and Collectors Association
Unnamed, Senator, Mississippi State Senate
Scott Delano, Representative, Mississippi House of Representatives
Gene McGee, Mayor, City of Ridgeland

Chairman Mike Cresap called the meeting to order and declared there was a quorum.

Agenda item II. A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from the December 2018 Council meeting was made and seconded. The vote approved the December 2018 Meeting Minutes. A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from the April 2019 Council meeting was made and seconded. The vote approved the April 2019 Meeting Minutes. The MDEQ MDEM and Flood Mapping updates were accepted. Additionally, the ITS Clearinghouse update was also accepted.

Agenda item III. MDEQ – MDEM Work Plan Update & Mississippi GIS Website Demo. Bill McDonald with Waggoner Engineering (One of the partners in MGI, LLC, - MDEQ's MDEM contractor) began the presentation of the Work Plan Update by reviewing MDEM's early history, the legislation that initiated the development of MDEM, the seven digital data layers that make up MDEM, and both MDEQ's and ITS's legislated roles. In early 2018 MDEQ decided it was time to update the original 2002 MDEM Conceptual Development Plan. Mr. McDonald discussed the following:

- Changes in technologies since 2003,
- Different funding sources which have included MDOT, NOAA, USGS, FEMA and NRCS,
- Continued work on High Resolution Hydrology for the NHD,
- New work on the development of the Geodetic control Layer,
- And, the development of a centralized website for finding all key Mississippi GIS data sources.

Gary Hennington, with The Geospatial Group, discussed the development and expected “standing up” of the “Mississippi GIS” website. He followed with a demonstration of the website. Key links on the “Mississippi GIS” Home Page included links to:

- The Mississippi GIS Council Home Page,
- The Mississippi Geospatial Data Catalog Home Page for data Exploration and Download,
- A Maps and Apps Home Page that currently has a MS Geospatial Data Catalog Map Viewer and links to 7 different apps from 5 different State Agencies,
- An MDEM Story Webpage,
- And the MARIS Website.

MDEQ is proceeding with work to integrate additional MDEM data layers and other data with the intent of being able to “stand up” the site for operation sometime in the next 6 months. Bill McDonald mentioned that on a recent trip to Washington DC, Chris Wells (MDEQ Chief of Staff) was able to demonstrate the website to several of Mississippi’s Congressional members and staffers who all seemed well pleased with the website.

Agenda Item IV. TUG & PAC Update. No updates were given but word was sent from Talbot Brooks that he may not be able to continue as TUC Chairman and may need to be replaced.

Agenda Item V. Other Business. Jim Steil reported the ITS and MARIS agreement is still under review. The purpose of the cooperative agreement is that ITS would provide infrastructure and MARIS would handle data and add data for distribution.

Jim Steil also brought up the possibility of a new Census Bureau MOU. He provided a document which has a list of New Responsibilities required of the Council and a list of Old Responsibilities. One of the requirements that would fall on the Council is collection of authoritative city and county boundaries. Mike Cresap noted that those discussions would need to be held with representatives of the MLS and Supervisors Association present to determine their interests. It was decided to table the issue to be brought up at another time.

Agenda Item VI. Next meeting will be June 18th, 2019, 1:30 pm same location.

Agenda Item VII. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 pm.