MINUTES
GULF COAST PROTECTION DISTRICT

October 22, 2025

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Gulf Coast Protection District (the "District") met in regular session, open to the public, on the 22nd day of October, 2025, at 1150 Gemini Street, Suite 1050, Houston, Texas 77058, inside the boundaries of the District, and the roll was called of the members of the Board:

Michel Bechtel	President
Bob Mitchell	Vice President
Sally Bakko	Secretary
Larry Taylor	Assistant Secretary
Roger Guenther	Director
Lori Traweek	Director
Billy Combs	Director
Tina Petersen	Director
Allan Ritter	Director
Kirk Roccaforte	Director
Sharon D. Hulgan	Director

and all of the above were present, thus constituting a quorum.

Also present for all or part of the meeting were: Coalter Baker, Executive Director for the District; Emily McGinty, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director for the District; Heather Betancourth, Communications Director for the District; Yaneth Cooper of Municipal Accounts & Consulting, L.P.; Allen Sims of Jefferson County Drainage District No. 7 ("DD 7"); Don Carona of Orange County Drainage District ("OCDD"); Kelly Burks-Copes, Toni Addison, Stuart McAllister, and Robert Thomas of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE"); Tony Williams, Sarah Purdon, David Green, and Cameron Williamson Castellanos of the Texas General Land Office ("GLO"); Dawn Pilcher of Tidewater Professional Services LLC; Chris Sallese of GFT Infrastructure, Inc. ("GFT"); Ross Gordon of Gordon Consulting Group; David Oliver, Kelly Hanen, and Cheryl Panozzo of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP ("ABHR"); and other members of the public, including those persons included on the attached list.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Baker called roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board considered approving the minutes of the September 10, 2025, meeting. After review and discussion, Director Ritter moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2025, meeting as submitted. Director Combs seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL AND BOOKKEEPING MATTERS

Ms. Cooper reviewed the bookkeeper's report, including the list of checks for payment of District bills, a copy of which is attached. After review and discussion, Director Guenther moved to approve the bookkeeper's report and payment of the bills. Director Traweek seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Mr. Baker reported that an op-ed he wrote in support of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Project ("Coastal Texas") was published in the *Houston Chronicle* on Friday, October 3, 2025.

Mr. Baker reported that Congressman Randy Weber as well as a group of additional Texas representatives submitted letters to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") in support of Coastal Texas on September 22, 2025.

Mr. Baker provided a report regarding the National Waterways Conference that District staff and Board members attended last month in Washington, D.C. He also reported regarding a meeting with OMB Director Russ Vought to discuss Coastal Texas.

Mr. Baker reported that District staff traveled to Washington, D.C. in mid-October and met with Adam Telle, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, to advocate for Coastal Texas design funding.

Mr. Gordon reported on financial and administrative efforts from the previous month. He reported on preparation and submittal of Advance Funds Requests to the GLO in the amount of $1,100,000 for funding appropriated by Senate Bill 1, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session on behalf of DD7 and in the amount of $5,110,000 for funding appropriated by House Bill 1, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session on behalf of the Orange County project.

Mr. Gordon reported that District staff coordinated with GLO on Senate Bill 1, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session requirements and on the close-out of the GLO's 2025 fiscal year.

Mr. Gordon reported on a Senior Executive Board Meeting held on October 14, 2025, that District staff attended with representatives from USACE (Galveston and Southwestern Divisions).

Regarding Sabine to Galveston ("S2G") matters, Mr. Gordon reported that the District and USACE continue to aggressively coordinate efforts related to the Orange County Project Chief's Discretionary Authority memorandum, implementation of the 35% design maturity requirements, and the Post Authorization Change Report ("PACR").

Mr. Gordon reported that review of the 30% design plans for the initial segment of ecosystem restoration segment G-28, Bolivar Peninsula and West Bay Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Shoreline and Island Protection ("G-28-1"), a project included in Coastal Texas, has been concluded by the District, USACE, and GLO. He noted that the District, USACE, and GLO completed the value engineering workshop during the week of October 13 – 17, 2025.

Mr. Gordon provided updates on Coastal Texas special projects, including the GLO Sediment Sources Studies and the Texas A&M University at Galveston ("TAMUG") Gate Alternatives Study. He also reported regarding coordination with the City of Houston on the evaluation of accessing sediment from Lake Houston for beach nourishment projects.

Mr. Baker reported regarding the proposed formation of an "Academic Advisory Council" and stated a revised proposal from the TAMUG Institute for Disaster Resilient Texas was received on September 30, 2025, and is under review. He noted that the District is hiring a Chief Program Manager, and the proposed Academic Advisory Council would support the District in the development of Coastal Texas.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Director Bechtel reported on recent and upcoming meetings and events with stakeholders and elected officials regarding District projects and funding. He provided a report on recent travel by him, Mr. Baker, and representatives from GLO to the Netherlands and England for the I-STORM conference.

SABINE TO GALVESTON MATTERS

Mr. Sallese gave a presentation on District program management matters related to the Orange County Separable Element of S2G (the "Orange County Project").

Mr. Sallese updated the Board on the PACR efforts and reported that, in accordance with USACE guidance, USACE Galveston is focused exclusively on the PACR and actions needed to achieve 35% design and complete the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

Mr. Sallese updated the Board on the status of design of the Arlanxeo Levee project. He reported that 60% design plans for the project are currently under review by USACE. He noted that early start projects and further advancement of other subsequent design and construction efforts are on hold pending clarification and/or changes to current guidance from USACE.

Mr. Sallese provided an update on coordination with USACE regarding review of the full phase II environmental site assessment report for the Orange County Project and development of a strategy to address potential HTRW-related matters.

Mr. Sallese reviewed a summary of recent program management activities and upcoming program management activities for the next 30-60 days. He also reviewed financials for the program management team.

REPORT FROM JEFFERSON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 7

Mr. Sims provided a report on the status of construction contracts and utility relocations for the Jefferson County Separable Element of S2G. He reported advertisement for bids for PAV03A.1 (construction of levee crossing at FM 365) is scheduled to commence early in 2026. Mr. Sims also reported that 35% design plans for PAV04 have been received, and he responded to questions from the Board related to floodwall replacement.

COASTAL TEXAS MATTERS

Mr. Gordon provided an update on Coastal Texas matters. He reported that the District continues to work with GLO and USACE on refinement of a strategy for a Project Partnership Agreement for Coastal Texas. Mr. Gordon then reported that the proposed amendment to the Design Agreement between the District and USACE for Coastal Texas remains at OMB and noted that this amendment will facilitate accelerated funding to USACE. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gordon stated that the Board concurred to discuss the status of the Requests for Qualifications for Engineering Services for the Bolivar Roads Gate System (RFQ-2025-1) and the Bolivar and West Galveston beach and Dune System (RFQ-2025-2) with its attorney during executive session.

REPORT FROM GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Ms. Purdon provided an update on design of G-28-1 breakwater feature by Ducks Unlimited, the design engineer for the project, and reported that design of the project is on schedule and 30% design plans were submitted to USACE on September 12, 2025. She noted that a value engineering study is now going to be included in the 60% design phase for the project. Ms. Purdon stated that the alignment of Breakwater Section Nos. 6 and 7 may need to be modified to avoid a Piping Plover critical habitat and discussed impacts on oyster reefs based on current design of Breakwater Section No. 6.

Ms. Purdon reported that the GLO Sediment Sources Studies are complete and a final report related to offshore resources is now publicly available.

REPORT FROM REGION 6 STATE FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

Director Bakko updated the Board regarding the 2028 Regional Flood Plan noted that Region 6's Public Engagement Committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow.

EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

The Board concurred to discuss this matter during executive session.

SCHEDULE AND LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING

Following discussion, the Board concurred to hold the District's next meeting on November 12, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Bridge City Community Center, 105 Parkside Drive, Bridge City, Texas 77611.

CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, TO CONSULT WITH ATTORNEYS

At 11:13 a.m., the Board convened in executive session pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, to seek the advice of its attorney on legal matters related to S2G matters. The Board determined that Mr. Gordon and Mr. Corona's attendance in this executive session was necessary for the Board to obtain the necessary legal advice from its attorneys and requested their presence in the executive session. Present at the closed meeting were all Directors, Mr. Corona, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Baker, Mr. Oliver, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATE ACTION

At 11:33 a.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.072, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, TO DELIBERATE THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, LEASE, OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY

The Board did not convene in executive session pursuant to Section 551.072, Texas Government Code.

CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.074, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, REASSIGNMENT, DUTIES, DISCIPLINE, OR DISMISSAL OF A PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE

At 11:34 a.m., the Board convened in executive session pursuant to Section 551.074, Texas Government Code, to discuss employment matters related to District personnel. Present at the closed meeting were all Directors, Mr. Baker, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Oliver, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATE ACTION

At 11:35 a.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.071, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, TO CONSULT WITH ATTORNEYS

At 11:36 a.m., the Board convened in executive session pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, to seek the advice of its attorney on legal matters related to Coastal Texas matters. The Board determined that Mr. Gordon, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Pilcher, and Mr. Green's attendance in this executive session was necessary for the Board to obtain the necessary legal advice from its attorneys and requested their presence in the executive session. Present at the closed meeting were all Directors, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Pilcher, Mr. Green, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Baker, Mr. Oliver, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

At 12:03 p.m. Mr. Thomas, Ms. Pilcher, Mr. Green, and Mr. Gordon left the executive session.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATE ACTION

At 12:11 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

Director Guenther moved to authorize the Executive Director for the District to enter into negotiation of a Master Services Agreement with Jacobs for engineering services for the Bolivar Roads Gate System (RFQ-2025-1). Director Roccaforte seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Director Bakko moved to authorize the Executive Director for the District to enter into negotiation of a Master Services Agreement with HDR, Inc. for engineering services for the Bolivar and West Galveston beach and Dune System (RFQ-2025-2). Director Traweek seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Secretary, Board of Directors

(SEAL)

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