

MINUTES
GULF COAST PROTECTION DISTRICT

July 9, 2025

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Gulf Coast Protection District (the "District") met in regular session, open to the public, on the 9th day of July, 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. Hulkan	Director

and all of the above were present except Directors Bechtel and Ritter, thus constituting a quorum.

Also present for all or part of the meeting were: Coalter Baker, Executive Director for the District; Dedrea Norman, Chief Financial Officer for the District; Grace Bader, Administrative Assistant for the District; Emily McGinty, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director for the District; Heather Betancourth, Communications Director for the District; Don Carona of Orange County Drainage District ("OCDD"); Allen Sims and Toby Davis of Jefferson County Drainage District No. 7 ("DD 7"); Ray Russo, representing OCDD and DD7; Lt. Col. Ian O'Sullivan and Toni Addison of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE"); Sarah Purdon, Mary Davison, and Joshua Oyer of the Texas General Land Office ("GLO"); Chris Sallese of Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Ross Gordon of Gordon Consulting Group; 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 June 11, 2025, meeting. After review and discussion, Director Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2025, meeting as submitted. Director Bakko seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ADDRESSES AND METHODS FOR TEXAS PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT REQUESTS

The Board considered designating a mailing address and an email address and approving other methods for receipt of requests for public information under the Texas Public Information Act ("TPIA Requests"), pursuant to Section 552.234 of the Texas Government Code. After review and discussion, Director Taylor moved to: (1) adopt a Resolution Establishing Addresses and Methods for Texas Public Information Act Requests to (a) designate the address of the District's official office as the mailing address and GCPD@txdistricts.info as the email address for receipt of TPIA Requests to the District, and (b) direct that the designated addresses and methods be printed on the sign displayed by the District under Section 552.205, Texas Government Code; and (2) direct the Resolution to be filed appropriately and retained in the District's official records. Director Traweck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

RENEWAL OF DISTRICT'S INSURANCE POLICIES

The Board reviewed a proposal from McDonald & Wessendorff Insurance for renewal of the District's insurance policies, effective August 18, 2025. After review and discussion, Director Combs moved to approve the proposal for renewal of the District's insurance. Director Traweck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL AND BOOKKEEPING MATTERS

Ms. Norman 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 Taylor moved to approve the bookkeeper's report and payment of the bills. Director Bakko seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Mr. Baker reported on 89th Texas Legislature matters. He reported that Governor Abbott called a special session, set to begin on Monday, July 21, 2025. He noted he does

not anticipate that bills that would impact the District will be chosen for a special session.

Mr. Baker provided a report regarding meetings that he, Director Bechtel, and representatives from the GLO attended in Washington, D.C. from June 17 - June 19, 2025, to advocate for the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Project ("Coastal Texas"), including meetings with Senator Cornyn, Chairman Babin, Representative Fleischmann, and Representative Weber's offices. He also reported regarding a call with the Associate Director for Natural Resources at the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB").

Ms. Norman reported on financial and administrative efforts from the previous month. She reported on preparation and submittal of an Advance Funds Request to the GLO for funding appropriated by Senate Bill 1, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session ("SB 1").

Ms. Norman reported on the hiring and onboarding of Heather Betancourth, Communication Director for the District. She noted that recruiting efforts continue for a Grant Accounting Manager for the District.

Mr. Gordon reported that 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, are in development by GLO.

Mr. Gordon provided an update on negotiation of Amendment No. 2 to Interlocal Project Cooperation Agreement between the District and GLO for G-28 to fund boundary surveys needed for G-28-1.

Mr. Gordon reported that a proposed second workshop with Texas A&M University-Galveston regarding the Gate Alternatives Study is being scheduled for either September or October, 2025, and noted he anticipates that the date for the workshop will be finalized within the next few weeks.

Mr. Gordon then reported regarding monthly meetings with the City of Houston regarding the feasibility of accessing sediment from Lake Houston for beach nourishment projects. He stated that House Bill 1532, creating the Lake Houston Dredging and Maintenance District, was signed into law.

Mr. Gordon provided an update on Coastal Texas matters and reported that (1) the District continues to work with GLO and USACE on refinement of a strategy for a Project Partnership Agreement for Coastal Texas; and (2) the proposed amendment to the Design Agreement between the District and USACE for Coastal Texas remains at OMB. Mr. Baker noted that Congressman Weber reached out to OMB on the District's

behalf to request an update on the status of the proposed Design Agreement amendment.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

There was no discussion on this matter.

SABINE TO GALVESTON ("S2G") MATTERS

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

Mr. Gordon updated the Board on the Post-Authorization Change Report ("PACR") efforts and reviewed the current schedule for the various elements of the PACR process.

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 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, and he anticipates that 100% design is on track for submittal in September 2025 .

Mr. Sallese then updated the Board on the status of design of the Torrent Floodwall project by USACE. He reported that design is on hold pending updated utility survey results and utility relocations and real estate acquisition for the project is on hold pending submittal of 60% design plans. He noted that the District is preparing a scope of work and fee estimate to assume responsibility of design work for the project.

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. Davis provided a report on the status of construction contracts and utility relocations for the Jefferson County Separable Element of S2G.

Mr. Sims reported that Eddie Belk of USACE in Washington, D.C. will be retiring this month and DD7 is working on scheduling a meeting with his successor.

Mr. Sims stated DD7 is planning to hold a public meeting for PAV04 in four to six weeks.

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 11:04 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 Directors Mitchell, Bakko, Taylor, Guenther, Traweck, Combs, Petersen, Roccaforte, and Hulgan, Mr. Baker, Ms. Norman, Ms. Betancourth, Mr. Gordon, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

At 11:08 a.m., Ms. Norman and Ms. Betancourth left the executive session.

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 551.071, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, TO CONSULT WITH ATTORNEYS

At 11:34 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. Baker and Mr. Gordon'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 Directors Mitchell, Bakko, Taylor, Guenther, Traweck, Combs, Petersen, Roccaforte, and Hulgan, Mr. Baker, Mr. Gordon, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATE ACTION

At 12:09 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

Director Combs moved to approve the posting of a Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services for the Bolivar Roads Gate System (RFQ-2025-01). Director Petersen requested that the language in the section of the Requests for Qualifications related to "Diversity Efforts/Disadvantaged Businesses" be strengthened. She further requested that the Board continue to discuss this issue moving forward. Mr. Baker noted that Texas Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham is in support of posting of the Requests for Qualifications. Director Bakko seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Director Bakko moved to approve the posting of a Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services for the Bolivar and West Galveston Beach and Dune System (RFQ-2025-02). Director Petersen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

COASTAL TEXAS MATTERS

Mr. Gordon presented a Procurement Overview of RFQ-2025-01 and RFQ-2025-02, a copy of which is attached, and reported that the presentation will be posted to the District's website.

REPORT FROM GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Ms. Purdon reported that Amendment No. 2 to Interlocal Project Cooperation Agreement between the District and GLO for G-28 has been executed by the GLO, and she anticipates that funds requested by the District will be received on July 11, 2025.

Ms. Purdon provided a report on design of G-28-1 breakwater feature by Ducks Unlimited, the design engineer for the project, and noted that preparation of the design plans is on schedule.

Ms. Purdon then reported regarding the GLO developing its own memorandum of understanding (the "MOU") for Coastal Texas construction work and noted that GLO submitted the MOU to USACE.

REPORT FROM REGION 6 STATE FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

There was no discussion on this matter.

EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

The Board discussed this matter during executive session.

SCHEDULE AND LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING

Following discussion, the Board concurred to hold the District's next meeting on August 13, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

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.

REPORT ON 89TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Ms. Hanen distributed a report prepared by ABHR regarding legislative matters pertaining to the 89th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature.

ADJOURNMENT

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


Secretary, Board of Directors

(SEAL)

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES

	Minutes
	<u>Page</u>
List of persons present at the meeting	1
Bookkeeper's report.....	2
Procurement Overview of RFQ-2025-01 and RFQ-2025-02	6