

MINUTES
GULF COAST PROTECTION DISTRICT

April 12, 2023

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Gulf Coast Protection District (the “District”) met in regular session, open to the public, on the 12th day of April, 2023, at the Falstaff Building, 3316 Church Street, Galveston, Texas 77550, inside the boundaries of the District, and the roll was called of the members of the Board:

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| Michel Bechtel | President |
| Bob Mitchell | Vice President |
| Roger Quiroga | Secretary |
| Sally Bakko | Assistant Secretary |
| Roger Guenther | Director |
| Michael VanDerSnick | Director |
| Lori Traweek | Director |
| Billy Combs | Director |
| Adrian Garcia | Director |
| Allan Ritter | Director |
| Kirk Roccaforte | Director |

and all of the above were present except Directors Bakko, VanDerSnick, Combs, Garcia, and Roccaforte, thus constituting a quorum.

Also present at the meeting were: Nicole Sunstrum, Executive Director of the District; Grace Bader, Administrative Assistant for the District; Don Carona and Martin Dies of Orange County Drainage District (“OCDD”); Allen Sims and Phil Kelley of Jefferson County Drainage District No. 7 (“DD 7”); Ray Russo, representing OCDD and DD 7; Jay Guerrero of the Office of U.S. Senator John Cornyn; Brie Little and James McQuillan of the Office of U.S. Congressional District 14 Representative Randy Weber; Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes, Nicole Snyder, Bobby Petty, Lt. Brown, and Lt. Arevalo of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”); Robert M. Quintero of the City of Jamaica Beach; Chris Sallese of DEC; Tony Williams, Elizabeth Ozuna, and Danielle DaVacque of the Texas General Land Office (“GLO”); Dawn Pilcher of LJA Engineering, Inc.; Bill Diehl of the Greater Houston Port Bureau; Capt. Clint Winegar and JJ Plunkett of the Houston Pilots; Kristen Lee of the Office of Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Precinct 2; JR Reddish of Binkley & Barfield; Margaret Dubbin of GeoConsultants; David Oliver of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP; Mark Burton of Municipal Accounts & Consulting, L.P.; Lars Zetterstrom of LAN; Jay Luckritz of Black & Veatch; Connor Stokes, Brittany Little, and Mariah Najmuddin of Hollaway Environmental and Communications Services, Inc.; Ross Gordon of Gordon Consulting Group; Austin Ficken of Masterson Advisors LLC; Bob Esenwein of Stantec; Russ Poppe of HNTB; Eric Potts, Joseph Majdalani, Michael Reedy, and Tony Risko of Freese and Nichols; Norman Kramer of Tetra Tech; Leigh Martin of Schaumburg & Polk, Inc.; Gretchen McInnes of Hanes Geo Components; Quentin Stubbs of NOAA; Wendall Braniff of Braniff Attorneys; Bob Stokes of Galveston Bay Foundation; Mark E. Haas of MBH Engineering; Bas Jonkman of Delft University of Technology; Joanie Steham of TIRN; Molly Quirk and Darrell Morrison of Ardurra; Simon VanDyk and Glamour Perry of Touchstone District Services; John Shanahan; and other members of the public.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Sunstrum called roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

The Board considered approving the minutes of the March 8, 2023, regular meeting. After review and discussion, Director Mitchell moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Director Traweck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL AND BOOKKEEPING MATTERS

Mr. Burton 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 Quiroga moved to approve the bookkeeper's report and payment of the bills. Director Ritter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

UPDATED BUDGET

This item was tabled.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Board reviewed the District's annual report to be submitted to the Texas Legislature, the Legislative Budget Board, the General Land Office, and the Commissioners Court of each county in which the District is located. After review and discussion, Director Guenther moved to approve and authorize submission of the annual report. Director Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Dr. Burks-Copes updated the Board on efforts related to the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management Program ("S2G"). She discussed USACE efforts to prepare a Post Authorization Change Report for the Orange County Separable Element of S2G to determine whether changes are within the Chief's discretion. Dr. Burks-Copes discussed environmental issues and efforts by DD 7 to work with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on remediation and disposal procedures. She discussed schedules for award of contracts and task orders for S2G projects.

Dr. Burks-Copes next updated the Board on efforts related to the Coastal Texas program. She discussed funding and recruitment efforts.

Dr. Burks-Copes then reported on recent and upcoming stakeholder engagements and workshops. She responded to questions from the Board.

REPORT FROM TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Mr. Williams introduced Ms. Ozuna and Ms. DeVacque as new members of the GLO team. Ms. Ozuna said she will be coordinating with the District on financial matters and ensuring timely communications and funding. Mr. Williams then reported on the status of GLO projects and meetings. Dr. Burks-Copes discussed the status of preparation of memorandums of understanding with the District and GLO.

REPORT FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

Director Bechtel reported on recent meetings with stakeholders and elected officials. He also discussed pending legislation that impacts the District.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Sunstrum reported on continued meetings and work on legislation and funding at the state and federal levels. She also reported on discussions with USACE regarding the memorandum of understanding with the District.

REPORT FROM ORANGE COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT AND JEFFERSON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 7; UPDATE FROM DEC ON ORANGE COUNTY PROJECTS

Mr. Carona reported on the Orange County Separable Element of S2G. He said USACE is preparing a proposal for the final stage of the interior drainage analysis and design. Mr. Sallese reported on efforts and meetings of the District's program management team with stakeholders and USACE representative regarding interior drainage and supplemental environmental assessments. He discussed the scope of work to be issued by USACE to move forward with early contractor involvement. Mr. Sallese also reported on completion of phase I priority area site assessments and said they are waiting for USACE to begin phase II assessments. He then discussed strategic planning efforts and an upcoming workshop to finalize the proposed Project Management Plan to be presented to the Board.

Mr. Sims updated the Board on the Jefferson County Separable Element of S2G. He reported on a match payment made to USACE and updated the Board on the status of DD 7 projects. Mr. Sims also reported on a recent public engagement meeting.

UPDATE FROM REGION 6 STATE FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

There was no discussion on this item.

CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.074, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATION, OR DUTIES OF AN EMPLOYEE

The Board did not convene in executive session.

SCHEDULE AND LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING

Director Bechtel reported that the District's next meeting will be on May 10th at 10:00 a.m. at the Bay Area Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT

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

/s/ Roger Quiroga
Secretary, Board of Directors



LIST OF ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES

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