MINUTES
GULF COAST PROTECTION DISTRICT

May 13, 2026

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Gulf Coast Protection District (the "District") met in regular session, open to the public, on the 13th day of May, 2026, at Texas A&M University at Galveston, 200 Seawolf Parkway, Main (3034) Building, Room 114, Galveston, Texas 77554, inside the boundaries of the District, and the roll was called of the members of the Board:

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

and all of the above were present except Directors Petersen and Hulgan, 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; Robert Thomas, Chief Program Manager for the District; Emily McGinty, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director for the District; Heather Betancourth, Communications Director for the District; Annie Linthicum, Grant Accounting Manager for the District; Bryan Williams, Non-Federal Sponsor WIK Accounting Manager for the District; Emily Williams, Government Relations Specialist for the District; Natalia Alanis, Community Relations Specialist for the District; David Rutledge, director appointee; Allen Sims, Toby Davis, and Zachary Hinojosa of Jefferson County Drainage District No. 7 ("DD7"); Don Carona of Orange County Drainage District; Sarah Purdon, Melissa Washington, and Cameron Williamson of the Texas General Land Office ("GLO"); Chris Sallese of GFT Infrastructure, Inc.; Ross Gordon of Gordon Consulting Group; Col. Michael Fossum and Sam Brody of Texas A&M University; Jim Blackburn of Rice University; Kyle Clark of the City of Galveston; Walter Williams and Antroy Arreola of Zabel Freeman; Rick Robertson, Charles Schelpe, and Karen Coopersmith of Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.; 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

Col. Fossum introduced himself to the Board and stated that he is the Chief Operating Officer, Texas A&M University at Galveston. He welcomed the Board to the campus of Texas A&M University at Galveston.

DIRECTOR MATTERS

Ms. Hanen reported that the Orange County Commissioners Court appointed David Rutledge to the Board to replace Kirk Roccaforte, who resigned, for the term expiring June 16, 2027. Mr. Rutledge introduced himself and presented his executed Sworn Statement, Oath of Office, and Official Bond in connection with his appointment. After review and discussion, Director Traweek moved to approve the Sworn Statement, Oath of Office, and Official Bond of David Rutledge and direct that the Oath of Office be filed with the Texas Secretary of State. Director Bechtel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board considered reorganization and concurred for Mr. Rutledge to serve in the position of Director, and for the other Board members to retain their current offices and positions. The Board then considered authorizing the filing of an updated District Registration Form with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ") to reflect the new Board member. Director Traweek moved to authorize execution and filing of an updated District Registration Form with the TCEQ reflecting the new Board member. Director Bechtel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Hanen discussed the Texas Open Meetings Act and Texas Public Information Act training requirements and stated that each elected or appointed public official is required to complete training courses regarding responsibilities of the governmental body and its members under the Open Meetings Act and the Public Information Act.

Ms. Hanen reviewed a memorandum regarding conflicts of interest under Chapters 171 and 176 of the Texas Local Government Code and abstentions and disclosures required by such statutes. She stated that pursuant to Chapter 176 of the Texas Local Government Code, the District is required to maintain a List of Local Government Officers. Ms. Hanen reviewed the List of Local Government Officers with the Board. After review and discussion, Director Traweek made a motion to approve

and authorize execution of the List of Local Government Officers. Director Bechtel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Hanen reviewed a memorandum regarding annual cybersecurity and artificial intelligence training requirements for local government employees and elected and appointed officials. She stated that the required training should be completed and reported to ABHR prior to the August 31st deadline for reporting compliance to the Texas Department of Information Resources ("DIR"). After review and discussion, the Board directed the required persons to complete their certified training programs and report their completion to ABHR for reporting to DIR by August 31st.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board considered approving the minutes of the April 8, 2026, meeting. After review and discussion, Director Bechtel moved to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2026, meeting as submitted. Director Combs seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Director Guenther welcomed Director Rutledge to the Board. He expressed appreciation for Kirk Roccaforte's service on the Board.

Director Guenther reported regarding the National Waterways Conference Legislative Summit that he, Director Bechtel, and Mr. Baker attended in Washington, DC from April 20-22, 2026, and the Lone Star Harbor Safety Committee meeting that he and certain District staff members recently attended.

FINANCIAL AND BOOKKEEPING MATTERS

Ms. Norman reviewed the bookkeeper's report, including the list of checks for payment of District bills, and a monthly expenditure report as of March 31, 2026. Copies of the reports are attached. She reported that the District received advance funding from the GLO for Advance Funds Request No. 23 in the amount of $89,000.00 for funding appropriated by Senate Bill 1, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session ("SB 1") for the Orange County Separable Element of the Sabine to Galveston project (the "Orange County Project").

Director Ritter joined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Ms. Norman discussed the District's operating account. She requested authorization from the Board to open an operating account for the District at JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. ("Chase"). Ms. Norman noted she anticipates that the operating account opened for the District at First Citizens Bank will be closed within the next four to six months, and funds from that account will be swept to the new account at Chase.

Ms. Norman discussed transitioning the District's enterprise resource planning system ("ERP") from Quickbooks to Oracle NetSuite. She presented and recommended approval of an agreement with Oracle America, Inc. ("Oracle") and noted that the Audit Committee concurs with the recommendation to transition the District's ERP to NetSuite.

Ms. Norman then presented and recommended approval of a Master Agreement for Professional Services with CohnReznick Advisory LLC ("CohnReznick") to assist the District with securing an indirect cost rate and developing best practice Work-in-Kind submittals. She noted that the Audit Committee concurs with the recommendation to engage CohnReznick.

Ms. Norman next discussed and requested approval of a Request for Qualifications (the "RFQ") for external auditing services.

After review and discussion, Director Bechtel moved to (1) approve the bookkeeper's report and payment of the bills; (2) authorize the opening of an operating account for the District at Chase and approve a Depository Pledge Agreement with Chase; (3) approve the agreement with Oracle; (4) approve the Master Agreement for Professional Services with CohnReznick; (5) approve the RFQ for external auditing services and authorize posting notice of same; and (6) direct that such agreements and the RFQ be filed appropriately and retained in the District's official records. Director Traweek seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR WEBSITE SERVICES

Ms. Betancourth discussed and requested approval of a Request for Proposals (the RFP") for website services for the District's website, gcpdtexas.com, and coastaltexasproject.com in accordance with applicable procurement requirements. After discussion, Director Combs moved to approve the RFP for website services and authorize posting notice of same. Director Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, AND CHIEF PROGRAM MANAGER

There was no discussion under this agenda item.

SABINE TO GALVESTON MATTERS

Mr. Sallese and Mr. Gordon gave a presentation on District program management matters related to the Orange County Project.

Mr. Gordon updated the Board on efforts related to the Post Authorization Change Report ("PACR"), Task Order No. 12 (adaptability/cost optimization), Task Order No. 13 (35% design), and the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement ("SEIS"). He stated that the Draft PACR is under review by USACE Southwestern Division and Headquarters, negotiations related to Task Order No. 13 are nearing completion, and the District received a draft SEIS yesterday to review.

Mr. Sallese reviewed a summary of recent program management actions and provided an update regarding HTRW policy compliance for the Orange County Project and other future District projects. He stated that review of the Annual Probability of Aberrant Barge Impact Analysis preliminary report is complete.

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

REPORT FROM JEFFERSON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 7

Mr. Sims presented a report prepared by DD7 on the status of construction contracts, acquisition of land, and utility relocations for the Jefferson County Separable Element of the Sabine to Galveston project, a copy of which is attached.

COASTAL TEXAS MATTERS

Mr. Thomas provided an update on design of the Bolivar Roads Gate System and the Bolivar and West Galveston Beach and Dune System. He noted that matters related to the design of the Bolivar Roads Gate System and the Bolivar and West Galveston Beach and Dune System will be discussed during executive session.

Mr. Brody introduced himself and the Coastal Texas Research Council (the "Council") and stated that the Council is led and managed by the Institute for a Disaster Resilient Texas ("IDRT") and Texas A&M University. He said that he is the Director for IDRT, and he outlined the duties of the Council. Mr. Brody reported that the first project vetted and evaluated by the Council was submitted by Jim Blackburn of Rice University and addresses natural shorelines and carbon credits. Mr Blackburn discussed the Council proposal for financing the ecosystem restoration segment G-28, Bolivar Peninsula and West Bay Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Shoreline and Island Protection ("G-28") through the use of carbon credits. Following discussion, Mr. Baker stated that the proposal will be further discussed during executive session.

Director Traweek provided a report on the first meeting of the District's Environmental Advisory Committee, which was held on May 11, 2026. She listed the members of the committee and noted that the list of committee members can be found on the District's website. Mr. Baker reported on development of the District's Industry Advisory Committee and stated he anticipates that the first meeting for this committee will be held during the month of July 2026.

Ms. Purdon presented a report on the initial segment of G-28 ("G-28-1"), a copy of which is attached, and stated that the 90% deliverable and the Draft Engineering Documentation Report are under review. She noted that G-28-1 design will hold at 90% completion until USACE receives anticipated construction funding for the project.

REPORT FROM GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Ms. Purdon reported regarding the advance funding requests submitted by the District for funding appropriated by SB 1. She reported that Advance Funds Request No. 24 for funding for the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Project ("Coastal Texas") has been approved by GLO.

Ms. Purdon then reported regarding proposed amendments to certain Local Cooperation Agreements between GLO and the District.

Ms. Purdon also reported regarding the District and GLO's participation in the International Conference on Coastal Engineering, which is being held May 17-22, 2026.

Ms. Purdon reported regarding collaboration with the District on the Legislative Appropriations Request for the 90th Texas Legislative Session.

Ms. Purdon provided an update regarding the memorandum of understanding for Coastal Texas construction work that GLO submitted to USACE.

Ms. Purdon reported regarding a meeting between GLO leadership and USACE in Washington, DC on May 7, 2026, related to the advancement of Coastal Texas.

Ms. Purdon then reported that a Notice to Proceed has been issued for GLO's CA5-Keller Bay Restoration Project.

UPDATE ON STATE AND REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING MATTERS

Director Bakko provided a report regarding Region 6 State Flood Planning Group matters, including development of the 2028 Regional Flood Plan. She noted that the next meeting of the Region 6 State Flood Planning Group is scheduled for August 18, 2026.

EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

There was no discussion on this matter.

SCHEDULE AND LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING

Director Guenther reported that the District's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at 1150 Gemini Street, Suite 1050, Houston, Texas 77058.

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

At 11:33 a.m., the Board convened in executive session pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, to seek the advice of its attorney on Coastal Texas matters. At that time, the Board determined that Ms. Purdon and Mr. Clark'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 Guenther, Bechtel, Bakko, Taylor, Mitchell, Traweek, Combs, Ritter, and Rutledge, Ms. Purdon, Mr. Clark, Mr. Baker, Ms. Norman, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Betancourt, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

At 11:53 a.m., the Board determined that Mr. Williams and Mr. Arreola'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, and they joined the executive session.

At 12:33 p.m., Mr. Clark, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Arreola left the executive session.

At 12:37 p.m., Ms. Betancourt and Ms. Purdon left the executive session.

At 12:51 p.m., Directors Taylor and Mitchell left the executive session/Board meeting.

At 12:51 p.m., the Board determined that Mr. Robertson, Mr. Schelpe, and Ms. Coopersmith'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, and they joined the executive session.

At 1:29 p.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 1:30 p.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 Guenther, Bechtel, Bakko, Traweek, Combs, Ritter, and Rutledge, Mr. Baker, Ms. Norman, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

At 1:32 p.m. Mr. Thomas and Ms. Norman left the executive session.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATE ACTION

At 1:40 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

Director Bechtel moved to approve Task Order No. 2 to the Master Services Agreement for Engineering Services with HDR Engineering, Inc. for engineering services for the Bolivar and West Galveston Beach and Dune System and direct that such task order be filed appropriately and retained in the District's official records. Director Bakko seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Director Bechtel moved to approve Task Order No. 2 to the Master Research Agreement with Texas A&M University in an amount not to exceed $250,000.00, subject to finalization, and direct that such task order be filed appropriately and retained in the District's official records. 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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