MINUTES
GULF COAST PROTECTION DISTRICT

July 8, 2026

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Gulf Coast Protection District (the "District") met in regular session, open to the public, on the 8th day of July, 2026, 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:

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
David Rutledge	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; 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; Allen Sims of Jefferson County Drainage District No. 7 ("DD7"); Don Carona of Orange County Drainage District; Sarah Purdon, Tony Williams, David Repp, and Brent McNguyen of the Texas General Land Office ("GLO"); Chris Sallese of GFT Infrastructure, Inc.; Ross Gordon of Gordon Consulting Group; Jens Figlus of Texas A&M University; Jim Blackburn of Rice University; Rick Robertson of Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. ("Jacobs"); Cameron Perry and Harrison McNeil of HDR Engineering, Inc. ("HDR"); David Oliver, Kelly Hanen, and Cheryl Panozzo of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP; 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 comments from the public.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board considered approving the minutes of the May 13, 2026, meeting. After review and discussion, Director Ritter moved to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2026, meeting as submitted. Director Bechtel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Director Guenther reported regarding the recent International Conference on Coastal Engineering held in Galveston, which included a tour of Galveston Bay projects sponsored by the GLO. He also reported that he and Mr. Baker will attend an industry event sponsored by the Greater Houston Port Bureau and participate in a fireside chat.

FINANCIAL AND BOOKKEEPING MATTERS AND AMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR END SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Ms. Norman reviewed the bookkeeper's reports for the months of May and June, the list of checks for payment of District bills, and a monthly expenditure report as of May 31, 2026. Copies of the reports are attached. She discussed receipt of a cash contribution request from GLO in the amount of $99,600,000.00 from funds appropriated by House Bill 1, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session ("HB1") for DD7's estimated fiscal year 2027 35% contribution requirement for the Jefferson County Separable Element of the Sabine to Galveston project (the "Jefferson County Project") (Cost Category 5).

The Board considered amending the District's current budget. Ms. Norman presented a draft amended budget for fiscal year end September 30, 2026, a copy of which is attached.

After review and discussion, Director Hulgan moved to (1) approve the bookkeeper's report and payment of the bills; and (2) adopt the amended budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, as presented. Director Bechtel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

457B BENEFIT PLANS THROUGH NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS AND COREBRIDGE FINANCIAL

Ms. Norman discussed the District offering 457(b) deferred compensation plans through Nationwide Retirement Solutions and Corebridge Financial to its employees. She noted that the 457(b) plan has a $0 cost to the District and employee enrollment is voluntary. Following discussion, Director Taylor moved to approve the 457(b) plans. Director Traweek seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Board reviewed the District's annual report. Mr. Baker stated that the report will be distributed as required by the legislation creating the District and posted on the District's website. After review and discussion, Director Bakko moved to approve and authorize distribution of the annual report. Director Traweek seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Ms. Norman reviewed an amended Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual for the District. After review and discussion, Director Bechtel moved to adopt a Resolution Adopting Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual and direct that the Resolution be filed appropriately and retained in the District's official records. Director Traweek seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

LEASE FOR OFFICE SPACE AT 1150 GEMINI ST., HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058

Mr. Baker reported that the District is considering expanding the District's office space. He stated that the matter will be further discussed later in the meeting during executive session.

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

Mr. Baker reported that the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Project ("Coastal Texas") was included in the fiscal year 2027 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for appropriations in the amount of $10.6 million.

Mr. Baker reported regarding a meeting he attended with the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works and the GLO in Washington, DC to advance the Sabine to Galveston ("S2G") project. He then reported regarding a meeting with Dave Hibner, Director of Programs for the Southwestern Division, USACE ("SWD"), that he and Directors Guenther and Ritter attended to present the strategic implementation plan and discuss accelerating S2G.

Mr. Baker reported that the District's new logo and brand has been recognized in the 2026 Hermes Creative Awards in the Brand Identity System and Logo Design categories.

Mr. Baker reported that the District hosted a GCPD 101: Understanding the Coastal Texas Project (Ike Dike) workshop with the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region in June. He stated that the next workshop to be hosted by the District will be held later this month.

Ms. Norman reported on financial and administrative efforts from the previous month. She provided an update on the District's Enterprise Resource Planning system migration from Quickbooks to Oracle NetSuite.

Ms. Norman reported that the District posted job descriptions seeking an accountant position and up to three engineer/environmental professionals, and she provided an update regarding the number of applicants who submitted credentials for the roles.

Ms. Norman reported that a draft budget for fiscal year end September 30, 2027, will be presented for review at the August Board meeting.

SABINE TO GALVESTON MATTERS

Mr. Sallese and Mr. Gordon gave a presentation on District program management matters related to the Orange County Separable Element of the Sabine to Galveston project (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 agency technical review and policy review comments for the Draft PACR were received last week and comments are under review by SWD, and District Quality Control (DQC) review of the Draft SEIS is underway.

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 that the Torrent subsurface utility engineering field investigations and draft report are complete, and 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 Project, a copy of which is attached.

Mr. Sims reported that approval of the PACR for the Jefferson County Project was received from SWD on June 23, 2026. He reported that USACE sent funds in the amount of $99,600,000.00 for DD7's estimated fiscal year 2027 35% contribution requirement for the project.

COASTAL TEXAS MATTERS

Mr. Robertson provided an update on design of the Bolivar Roads Gate System and reviewed a presentation prepared by Jacobs, a copy of which is attached, on the four phases and the status of the project. Mr. Robertson responded to questions from the Board.

Mr. Thomas provided an update on design of the Bolivar and West Galveston Beach and Dune System. He noted that matters related to Task Order No. 3 to the Master Services Agreement for Engineering Services with HDR Engineering, Inc. ("Task Order No. 3 to HDR") for engineering services for the Bolivar and West Galveston Beach and Dune System will be discussed during executive session.

Mr. Thomas reviewed a Request for Proposals ("RFP") for beach data collection video monitoring services (RFP-2026-02) along the upper Texas coast from High Island to San Luis Pass. He noted that the initial proposed task order would be for one demonstration camera at a District-designated location at no cost to the District for twelve months. Following review and discussion, Director Bechtel moved to approve the RFP for beach data collection video monitoring services and authorize posting notice of same. Director Bakko seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Thomas reported regarding coordination on a proposed agreement with GLO for the District to receive work-in-kind credit for GLO construction. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Thomas then reported regarding alternative project delivery methods. He reviewed information regarding the District's options for procurement of professional and construction services pursuant to Texas law, including Construction Manager-at-Risk ("CMAR") procurement and project delivery. Discussion ensued. Following discussion, the Board concurred to authorize District staff to seek feedback from interested contractors for CMAR services for the District.

Mr. Figlus introduced himself to the Board and stated that he is a member of the Coastal Texas Research Council. He presented Task Order No. 3 to the Master Research Agreement with Texas A&M University at a total cost of $250,000.00 for a two-year Texas A&M research study to optimize the design of the Coastal Texas dual-dune and beach system to reduce the risk of breaching and flooding. Following review and discussion, Director Mitchell moved to approve the above-described Task Order No. 3 to the Master Research Agreement with Texas A&M University 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.

Mr. Blackburn discussed a proposal from the SSPEED Center of Rice University ("Rice") and Ken Kennedy Institute at Rice to create an artificial intelligence assisted environmental assessment platform for the District called Bay Intelligence Engine ("BIE"). Mr. Blackburn responded to questions from the Board. Following discussion, the Board concurred to authorize District staff to coordinate with the Rice SSPEED Center on the preparation of a proposal for the creation of BIE to be presented at a future Board meeting.

Mr. Thomas reviewed Task Order No. 2 to the Service Agreement with Blackburn & Carter PC to continue to provide environmental consulting services for the District in support of Coastal Texas through September 30, 2027, in an amount not to exceed $130,000.00. Following review and discussion, Director Hulgan moved to approve the above-described Task Order No. 2 to the Service Agreement with Blackburn & Carter PC 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 Traweek provided a report on the virtual meeting of the District's Environmental Advisory Committee held on June 18, 2026. She noted that the next committee meeting will be held in person on July 16, 2026.

Director Hulgan reported on development of the District's Industry Advisory Committee and reported that the committee held its first meeting on June 30, 2026, and its next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2026.

REPORT FROM GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Ms. Purdon gave an update on the initial segment of the ecosystem restoration segment G-28, Bolivar Peninsula and West Bay Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Shoreline and Island Protection and stated that the final invoice from the contractor, the last deliverable, and the Engineering Documentation Report from USACE are pending.

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, August 12, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at 1150 Gemini Street, Suite 1050, Houston, Texas 77058.

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 11:26 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. Oliver, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

At 12:06 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

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

At 12:09 p.m., the Board convened in executive session pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, to consult with its attorneys regarding Coastal Texas and S2G matters and the District's office space lease. Present at the closed meeting were all Directors, Mr. Baker, Mr. Oliver, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

At 12:13 p.m., the Board determined that Mr. Repp and Mr. McNguyen's attendance was necessary for the Board to obtain legal advice from its attorneys, requested their presence in the executive session, and they joined the executive session.

At 12:37 p.m., Mr. Repp and Mr. McNguyen left the executive session.

At 12:44 p.m., the Board determined that Ms. Norman's attendance was necessary for the Board to obtain legal advice from its attorneys, requested her presence in the executive session, and she joined the executive session.

At 1:39 p.m., Ms. Norman left the executive session.

At 1:48 p.m., Director Taylor left the executive session and the Board meeting.

At 1:51 p.m., the Board determined that Ms. McGinty, Ms. Betancourth, Ms. Norman, and Mr. Thomas' attendance was necessary for the Board to obtain legal advice from its attorneys, requested their presence in the executive session, and they joined the executive session.

At 2:05 p.m., Ms. McGinty left the executive session.

At 2:06 p.m., the Board determined that Mr. Sims, Mr. Sallese, and Mr. Gordon's attendance was necessary for the Board to obtain legal advice from its attorneys, requested their presence in the executive session, and they joined the executive session.

At 2:10 p.m., Mr. Sallese left the executive session.

At 2:36 p.m., Mr. Gordon and Mr. Sims left the executive session.

At 2:36 p.m., the Board determined that Mr. McNeil and Mr. Perry's attendance was necessary for the Board to obtain legal advice from its attorneys, requested their presence in the executive session, and they joined the executive session.

At 2:55 p.m., Mr. McNeil and Mr. Perry left the executive 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.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATE ACTION

At 2:59 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

Director Bakko moved to approve Task Order No. 3 to 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 Hulgan 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)

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES