

MINUTES
GULF COAST PROTECTION DISTRICT

September 9, 2026

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 September, 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 except Directors Guenther, Bakko, Traweek, and Hulgan, thus constituting a quorum.

Also present for all or part of the meeting were: Coalter Baker, Executive Director 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; 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; Troy Griffin, Systems Administrator & IT Business Analyst for the District; Allen Sims and Toby Davis of Jefferson County Drainage District No. 7 ("DD7"); Don Carona of Orange County Drainage District; Sarah Purdon of the Texas General Land Office ("GLO"); Chris Sallese of GFT Infrastructure, Inc.; Ross Gordon of Gordon Consulting Group; Rick Robertson of Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. ("Jacobs"); Cameron Perry of HDR Engineering, Inc. ("HDR"); Chris Ordoñez of Rice University; 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 comments from the public.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board considered approving the minutes of the August 12, 2026, regular meeting. After review and discussion, Director Combs moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2026, regular meeting as submitted. Director Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Director Bechtel reported regarding the I-STORM annual meeting to be held this week and stated that Director Guenther and Mr. Thomas will be in attendance. He also reported regarding a Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Project ("Coastal Texas") tour with a Dutch delegation after today's Board meeting.

AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR END SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

Ms. Norman discussed the District's evergreen engagement with McCall Gibson Swedlund Barfoot Ellis PLLC ("MGSBE") to conduct annual audits for the District. The Board reviewed a letter from MGSBE reflecting an estimated cost of \$16,500-\$20,500 to conduct the District's audit for the fiscal year end September 30, 2026. After review and discussion, Director Ritter made a motion to authorize MGSBE to proceed with preparation of the audit for fiscal year end September 30, 2026, at a cost not to exceed \$20,500, pursuant to the engagement letter. Director Taylor seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ANNUAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

In accordance with the District's Investment Policy, the Board considered the annual disclosure statements of Mark Burton and Ghia Lewis as the District's bookkeeper/Investment Officers and Ms. Norman as a District Investment Officer. Ms. Norman explained that the statements disclose any relationships with entities or individuals who are offering, have offered, or may offer to engage in an investment transaction with the District. After review and discussion, Director Ritter moved to accept the disclosure statements as presented and to authorize them to be filed with the Texas Ethics Commission and retained in the District's official records. Director Petersen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF INVESTMENT POLICY

The Board conducted its annual review of the District's Investment Policy, and Ms. Norman stated that neither ABHR nor the bookkeeper or Investment Officers have

any recommended changes. After review and discussion, Director Ritter made a motion to adopt a Resolution Regarding Annual Review of Investment Policy and to direct that such resolution be filed appropriately and retained in the District's official records. Director Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE AUTHORIZED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS AND ADOPTING LIST OF QUALIFIED BROKER/DEALERS WITH WHOM THE DISTRICT MAY ENGAGE IN INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS

The Board reviewed a Resolution Establishing Authorized Depository Institutions and Adopting List of Qualified Broker/Dealers with Whom the District May Engage in Investment Transactions. Ms. Norman noted that the list of qualified broker/dealers provided by the District's bookkeeper is attached as an exhibit to the Resolution. After review and discussion, Director Petersen moved to adopt a Resolution Establishing the Authorized Depository Institutions and Adopting List of Qualified Broker/Dealers with Whom the District May Engage in Investment Transactions, and direct that such resolution be filed appropriately and retained in the District's official records. Director Ritter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

RENEWAL OF DISTRICT'S INSURANCE POLICIES

The Board reviewed a proposal from McDonald & Wessendorff Insurance for renewal of certain District insurance policies in the total amount of \$13,322.00. Ms. Norman noted that with Board approval of the proposal, the effective date for all seven of the District's liability policies will align with the District's fiscal year. After review and discussion, Director Combs moved to approve the proposal from McDonald & Wessendorff Insurance in the total amount of \$13,322.00. Director Mitchell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL AND BOOKKEEPING MATTERS AND

The Board reviewed the bookkeeper's report for the month of August, the list of checks for payment of District bills, and a monthly expenditure report as of July 31, 2026. Copies of the reports are attached. After review and discussion, Director Mitchell moved to approve the bookkeeper's report and payment of the bills. Director Taylor seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR END SEPTEMBER 30, 2027

Ms. Norman presented the District's proposed budget for the fiscal year end September 30, 2027, a copy of which is attached. After review and discussion, Director Ritter moved to adopt the District's budget for the fiscal year end September 30, 2027, as presented. Director Combs seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

RENEWAL OF THE DISTRICT'S HEALTH, DENTAL, AND VISION INSURANCE POLICIES

Ms. Norman reviewed a proposal for renewal of the District's health, dental, and vision insurance policies through TX Health Benefits Pool ("TXHB") and discussed an employer funded Health Reimbursement Account for District employees. Following review and discussion, Director Mitchell moved to (1) authorize renewal of the District's health, dental, and vision insurance policies through TXHB for the November 1, 2026 through October 31, 2027 plan year; and (2) authorize District staff to conduct an analysis of options for alternative health, dental, and vision insurance providers ahead of the November 1, 2027 renewal cycle. Director Ritter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board concurred to further discuss the terms of an employer funded Health Reimbursement Account for District employees during executive session with its attorney.

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

Mr. Baker provided an update on a proposed lease agreement for office space at 1150 Gemini St., Houston, Texas 77058.

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

Mr. Baker discussed engagement with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE"), Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Adam Telle (the "ASA"), and GLO regarding funding to advance Coastal Texas. He noted that the ASA directed USACE Galveston to determine how to proceed with the Orange County Separable Element of the Sabine to Galveston project (the "Orange County Project").

Ms. Norman reported that the District hired Tony Williams as Project Manager III and Shawn Faciane as the District's Director of Budget, Accounting, and Reporting, effective October 1, 2026.

TASK ORDER UNDER PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT WITH GFT INFRASTRUCTURE, INC. FOR FISCAL YEAR END SEPTEMBER 30, 2027

Mr. Thomas presented GFT's 2026-2027 proposed Scope of Work and Fee Proposal for Program Management and Engineering Services Contract and associated Task Order No. A-5. After review and discussion, Director Mitchell moved to approve the above-described task order and direct that it be filed appropriately and retained in the District's official records. Director Combs seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

SABINE TO GALVESTON ("S2G") 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 internal review of the Draft SEIS is complete, and public release of the Draft SEIS is scheduled in October 2026.

Mr. Sallese reviewed a summary of recent program management actions and provided an update regarding Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste policy compliance for the Orange County Project and other future District projects. He also reviewed a summary of upcoming program management activities for the next 30-60 days.

REPORT FROM JEFFERSON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 7

Mr. Davis 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 S2G, a copy of which is attached. He stated he anticipates that the contract for construction of PAV03C will be awarded in April 2027.

COASTAL TEXAS MATTERS

Mr. Robertson reviewed a presentation prepared by Jacobs regarding design of the Bolivar Roads Gate System, a copy of which is attached. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Robertson responded to questions from the Board.

Mr. Perry reviewed a presentation prepared by HDR on design of the Bolivar and West Galveston Beach and Dune System, a copy of which is attached. Mr. Thomas reported regarding negotiation of Amendment No. 1 to Task Order No. 2 to HDR for the Bolivar and West Galveston Beach and Dune System which replaced Activity 3.5 and stated that the amount of the task order remained unchanged.

Mr. Ordoñez presented Task Order No. 4 to the Master Research Agreement with Texas A&M University submitted by the Rice University SSPEED Center to create phase 1 of an artificial intelligence assisted environmental assessment platform for the District called Bay Intelligence Engine ("BIE") in the amount of \$474,283.00. He stated that the proposed project duration is one year. Following review and discussion, the Board concurred to further discuss the proposal with its attorney during executive session.

Ms. Alanis provided a report on the District's Environmental Advisory Committee and stated that the next committee meeting will be held on September 24, 2026.

Ms. Alanis then provided a report on the August meeting of the District's Industry Advisory Committee.

Mr. Thomas 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 USACE Galveston's approval of the Engineering Documentation Report is pending.

REPORT FROM GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Ms. Purdon reported that the memorandum of understanding for Coastal Texas construction work submitted by the GLO to USACE has been executed.

Ms. Purdon also reported that GLO is defining additional processes and procedures for the District for project funding.

Ms. Purdon reported regarding recurring strategic implementation development meetings between USACE and GLO to discuss certain GLO ecosystem restoration project details.

UPDATE ON STATE AND REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING MATTERS

There was no discussion on this matter.

EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

The Board concurred to discuss employment matters during executive session.

SCHEDULE AND LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING

Director Bechtel reported that the District's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14, 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 11:27 a.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 project matters. The Board determined that Mr. Baker, Ms. Norman, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Betancourth, Ms. Williams, Mr. Corona, Mr. Sallese, and Mr. Gordon's attendance was necessary for the Board to obtain legal advice from its attorneys and

requested their presence in the executive session. Present at the closed meeting were Directors Bechtel, Taylor, Mitchell, Combs, Petersen, Ritter, and Rutledge, Mr. Baker, Ms. Norman, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Betancourth, Ms. Williams, Mr. Corona, Mr. Sallese, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Oliver, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

At 11:48 a.m., Mr. Corona, Mr. Sallese, and Mr. Gordon left the executive session.

At 12:20 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

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 12:21 p.m. the Board convened in executive session pursuant to Section 551.074, Texas Government Code, to discuss employment matters related to District personnel. The Board determined that Mr. Baker's attendance was necessary and requested his presence in the executive session. Present at the closed meeting were Directors Bechtel, Taylor, Mitchell, Combs, Petersen, Ritter, and Rutledge, Mr. Baker, Mr. Oliver, Ms. Hanen, and Ms. Panozzo.

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 12:27 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session.

Director Mitchell moved to approve Task Order No. 4 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 Petersen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously

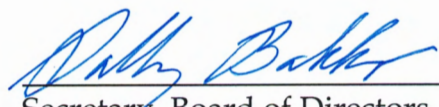
Director Combs moved to approve a \$2,500 employer-funded Health Reimbursement Account for District employees. Director Rutledge seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

(SEAL)




Secretary, Board of Directors

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