

# ***West Galveston Island Property Owners Association***

**March 18, 2023**

**0900 Call to Order**

**0904 Introduction of Board Members**

**The WGIPOA meeting was held on February 18, 2023 at the Galveston Country Club. The meeting was called to order by Jerry Mohn, President. A quorum was established with the attendance of Jerry Mohn – President; Chris Lauer – Bermuda Beach; Boyd Carr – Isla del Sol; Julie Greenwell – Sea Isle; Craig Vance – Terramar; Peggy Zahler – Spanish Grant Beach; Peter Moss – Sand Hill Shores; Dan Walsh – Spanish Grant Bay; Sarah Hawk – Sportsman Road.**

**0907 Introduction of elected officials**

**0906 Approval of January 31, 2023 financials – Moved by Peggy Zahler and approved by Boyd Carr**

**0907 WGIPOA supported Artist Boat with a donation of \$3,000 for World Ocean’s Day. This donation was accepted by President Karla Klay who discussed World Ocean’s Day and its importance.**

**0911 Vacant Property Scam notice was sent out by the Secret Service and discussed by Julie Greenwell. Scammers are looking up vacant properties with out of town owners. They are potentially listing these properties without the owner’s consent, closing quickly, and then running off with the money.**

**0914 Introduction of Marie Robb, Galveston Council Member - District 6**

**State Bill 434 is dead and is being replaced by Bill 2550, which was written by the GLO and is being discussed. This replacement bill is helping to define the public beach areas along with other “grey area” nuances. This will allow for continued nourishment project on West End beaches. In association, the City is seeking CEPRA funds for additional nourishment projects.**

**FM 3005 drainage is continuing to be discussed to address water pooling issues in neighborhoods. During the FM 3005 construction project, the ditches along FM 3005 were dug a foot deeper than planned which is leading to continued lack of drainage along the highway.**

**TWIA bills are being submitted to achieve better windstorm coverage for coastal areas and decrease prices for this insurance.**

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The City is continuing to repair, mill/overlay, and/or retop streets throughout the West End. Marie is still working ensure that the City's road budget is not just split up evenly amongst the City districts, but having money sent directly to roads in need.

The City's Beach Access Plan is still on schedule to be in compliance with the GLO's 2023 goal. The City is still in favor of getting all cars off of the beach while staying in compliance with state regulations. The goal is to get all cars off the beach and provide alternative parking.

Marie is still moving forward with getting natural gas lines run to all of the neighborhoods in the West End.

In the upcoming election, look for the 4B sales tax. It will continue the already existing sales tax allocation of the \$7.9 million which sends money to City of Galveston beaches, parks, infrastructure (street improvements), and economic development. These projects require large bonds to construct and are supported with this tax allocation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please text Marie Robb at (409) 256-4518 or email at [Marie@MarieRobb.com](mailto:Marie@MarieRobb.com), and she will answer and/or forward the issues to the appropriate agencies.

**0932 West End Police Report from Lt. Sean Migues.**

There were quite a few teenagers at San Luis Pass during the first week of Spring Break. The Galveston Police Department tries to stay ahead of these events and protect the folks on the island. The staffing of the GPD is increasing with new recruits and the call back of former officers. There is an increase in burglaries and theft with the increase in homeless migrants moving toward the West End. Please make sure to lock up your items around your homes (kayaks, coolers, jet skis, unlocked trailers, golf carts, etc).

If you see something, say something. While knowing people in high places is nice, please feel free to call the non-emergency phone line right away at [409-765-3702](tel:409-765-3702). Sometimes getting the right information to the right people quickly in order to address the issue.

**0951 Gulf Coast Protection District (GCPD), Sally Balko**

GCPD is the non-federal sponsor for the Texas Coastal Spine Project (Ike Dike).

HB 2416 is being written to set up a Gulf Coast Protection Trust Fun. This will allow the GCPD to funnel allocated non-federal funds to the Coastal Spine Project which. These funds are required to match half of the federal funds for the current and future projects. This will utilize funds for the construction projects and then the ongoing maintenance associated with these projects in the future.

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**1001 Beach Maintenance Advisory Committee (BMAC), Craig Vance**

Victoria Newsom was recognized for her recycling efforts in restaurants and throughout the city.

**1003 City of Galveston Parks Board – CEO Kelly de Schaun; COO Kimberly Danesi; Environmental Coordinator Elizabeth Schneider**

Sargassum (seaweed) Relocation Program (SRP) helps with the movement of seaweed and cleaning of beaches after inundation events. The City currently works with the Parks Board to maintain the parks that they own. West End neighborhoods are required to pay for permits if they plan to have the City help in relocation efforts. The sargassum is moved from the beach inward and onto the toe of the dunes in the area.

The Parks Board has placed 5.5 million cubic yards of sand over the past 30 years with the majority (3.8 million) being placed since 2009. For these projects to be successful, multiagency relationships are built to drive state and federal interest in order to plan and fund these projects. \$147 million of funding, sand dollars, has been secured for beach nourishment in the last 10 years. Once the beaches are engineered and constructed, FEMA funding can be applied for in order to repair beaches after FEMA declared disasters.

The Park Board is working to keep sediment within our beach systems by returning dredge sand dredged offshore back onshore. This allows the Parks Board to defend existing projects like the Seawall and seek opportunities to conduct large scale nourishments. The current Texas Coastal Resiliency Master Plan (Region 1, Tier 1) includes the nourishment project from 8 Mile Road through 13 Mile Road. GOMESA (offshore oil and gas funds) are funneled through the GLO to pay 100% of this project.

Private property assertions are inhibiting work on the East End of Galveston, as well. The City has utilized a landman to work through these issues. It is assumed that any issues in the future will be circumvented by pushing the project seaward and off of the private properties.

**1050 Adjournment of the meeting.**

**The next meeting is April 15, 2023 at the Galveston Country Club. The guest speaker is Brandon Wade, General Manager and CEO of the Gulf Coast Water Authority.**