

## **Budget and Priorities (B&P) Subcommittee of the Galveston Bay Council (GBC)**

**Date:** Monday, October 5, 2020, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Galveston Bay Estuary Program (GBEP), Virtual Teams

### ***Minutes***

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#### **Attendees**

**Members attended:** Glenn Clingenpeel, Albert Gonzales, George Guillen, Kathy Janhsen, Brian Koch, Mike Lee, Kerry Niemann, Cherie O'Brien, Nancy Parra, Ceil Price, Lisa Rickards, Linda Shead, and Lori Traweek.

**GBEP Staff attended:** Cynthia Clevenger, Lindsey Lippert, Kristen McGovern, Lisa Marshall, Christian Rines, and Patricia Thompson.

#### **Welcome and Introductions.**

Lisa Marshall and Glenn Clingenpeel welcomed the members to the meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes from June 25, 2020 was made by Brian Koch and a second was made by Glenn Clingenpeel. The minutes were approved.

#### **FY 2022 Work Plan Project Review and Budget Discussion**

Patricia Thompson gave an overview of the FY 2022 proposed budget and each of the subcommittee coordinators presented the proposed project proposals selected by the subcommittees to put forward for the B&P subcommittee to discuss and consider for approval.

Ms. Thompson then proposed a balanced budget that the staff had prepared for consideration by the subcommittee. After some discussion, the members approved the balanced budget with some revisions to the Water and Sediment Quality proposed projects. During the discussions, Linda Shead declared her affiliation with the Conservation Assistance Project and the Coastal Heritage Preserve project and Lori Traweek declared her affiliation with the same two projects.

A motion to approve the work plan was made by George Guillen and a second was made by Mr. Koch. The FY 2022 work plan was approved.

#### **Planning for the October GBC Meeting**

Three GBC members will no longer represent their organization on the GBC.

1. Shane Simpson, SJRA will replace Jace Houston;
2. Maria Valdez, DOW/Greater Houston Partnership will replace Will Nipper, DOW;
3. Elizabeth Fazio Hale, GCA will replace Ms.Traweek.

Members volunteered to read the bios of the new members: Mr. Clingenpeel will read Mr. Simpson's bio, Ceil Price will read Ms. Valdez's bio, and Ms. Traweek will read Ms. Fazio Hale's bio.

Caryn Brooks, the Industry Representative for the GBC, has changed her responsibilities and can no longer serve on the GBC. Ms. Traweek would like to nominate Vance Darr, Kuraray, America to serve as the new Industry Representative. She will read his bio and nominate him during the GBC meeting.

### **Presentations**

In addition to the staff presenting the FY 2022 proposed budget and projects, two additional presentations have been scheduled:

*State of the Bay, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition; New Website* – Lisa Gonzalez, and Erin Kinney, Ph.D, Houston Advanced Research Center

*Scalable Roadway-Level Flood Warning Systems* – Jacob Torres, Ph.D, Torres and Associates, LLC

### **Galveston Bay Council - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Statement**

GBC members presented a DEI statement for the subcommittee to consider. Some minor revisions were made. Albert Gonzales suggested the GBC vote to make the DEI statement a standing rule to the bylaws. The subcommittee members agreed. The final DEI statement reads:

*Just as natural ecosystems depend on biodiversity to thrive, the long-term preservation of the Galveston Bay estuary depends on the equitable, just and inclusive engagement of all communities throughout the watershed.*

*The Galveston Bay Council is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusiveness as a core policy and fundamental operating principle. It is the policy of the council to engage in an active and ongoing process that affirms human diversity in its many forms, encompassing but not limited to ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation and identification, age, economic circumstance, class, disability, geography, and religion.*

*The Council seeks diversity and equity to ensure that a range of perspectives, opinions, and experiences are recognized and considered in achieving the mission of protecting and preserving the Galveston Bay Estuary.*

### **Scheduling the next B&P Subcommittee meeting**

Then next quarterly meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

### **Announcements:**

- Nancy Parra announced that early voting starts on October 13<sup>th</sup> and runs through October 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be 122 voting locations with some drive-through locations. Information is available for Harris County at [Harrisvotes.com](http://Harrisvotes.com).

**Upcoming meetings:**

Galveston Bay Council: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 21, 2020, WebEx  
Virtual Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.