GALVESTON BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM (GBEP)

**DRAFT - Galveston Bay Council (GBC) Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2022**

**Attendees:**

**Galveston Bay Council Chair:** Glenn Clingenpeel (Trinity River Authority)

**Galveston Bay Council Vice-Chair:**Albert Gonzales (Low Income Communities)

**Estuary Program Staff Lead:**Lisa Marshall(GBEP)

**Members Present:** Glenn Clingenpeel, Elizabeth Fazio Hale, Albert Gonzales, Lori Hamilton, Jonathan Holley, Kristin Lambrecht, Helen Paige, Nancy Parra, Ana Partin, Caimee Schoenbaechler, Ronnie Schultz, Rusty Senac, Linda Shead, Shane Simpson, Charrish Stevens, Todd Running, Sue Theiss,

**Members Not Present/Delegates:** Scott Alford, Vance Darr, Andrea Catanzaro, Winfred Colbert, Jeff DallaRosa, Cruz Hinojosa, Brian Koch, Audrey Kuklenz, Michael Lee, Garry McMahan, Pamela Plotkin, Melissa Porter, Lisa Rickards, Taylor Rieck, Hanadi Rifai, Sharron Stewart, Bob Stokes, Matthew Tilimon, Maria Valdez, Kirk Wiles, Scott Williams, Tracy Woody

**(\*=Member designated a proxy)**

**Current Vacancies:** Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (State Agency) and Chambers-Liberty County Navigation District (Small Local Governments)

**Other Attendees:** Kerry Niemann, Lisa Brasher, Carrie Latimer, Shaun Austin, Cathy Delaney, Drew Hutto, Gordon Pederson, and Dianna Ramirez

**Additional GBEP Staff Present:** Matthew Abernathy, Lindsey Lippert, Kristen McGovern, Christian Rines, and Vanessa Zemke

**Call to Order:Introduction of Members and Delegates**

Glenn Clingenpeel brought the meeting to order and thanked Elizabeth Fazio Hale for securing the bus.

**Action Item: Approval of November 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Clingenpeel opened the meeting with the approval of the minutes. Lori Hamilton made amended changes to specify Mr. Clingenpeel as attending in person as the Chair of the Council and to move Earl Lott to “Other Attendees.” Ms. Fazio Hale made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Nancy Parra seconded the motion.

**Report of the Program** (Lisa Marshall)

**Announcement:** Introduction of Matthew Abernathy, Education and Outreach Coordinator.

Matthew joined GBEP in April 2022 as the Education and Outreach Coordinator for the program. He holds a B.S. in Ocean & Coastal Resources and a Master of Marine Resource Management, both from Texas A&M University – Galveston. Prior to working at GBEP, he has worked for Harris County Precinct 4, the Galveston Bay Foundation, and the Houston Parks & Recreation Department and has over 15 years’ experience in outdoor education, conservation, and land management. When he’s not at work he enjoys spending time with his family, which usually involves baseball or going to the beach.

**Report of the Chair** (Glenn Clingenpeel)

**Council Members Roundtable: News and Announcements**

**Caimee Schoenbaechler (Texas Water Development Board)** – The Texas Water Development Board has five openings in their Surface Water Division in Austin, TX.

**Mr. Clingenpeel (Trinity River Authority)** – There is a Region 3 Water Basin meeting on April 21, 2022, and the plan is scheduled to be drafted by the summer.

**Ms. Hamilton (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) (TCEQ)** – A surface water quality standards hearing is set for May 2. Proposed changes include revisions to clarify the prohibition of discharges of preproduction plastics, site specific changes, and revisions to toxic material.

**Kerry Niemann (TCEQ)** – The Non-Point Source Annual Report has been approved by the EPA.

**Todd Running (Houston-Galveston Area Council)** – A Clear Creek Watershed Protection Plan Meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2022.

**Dianna Ramirez (Texas General Land Office)** –Workshops are currently being held for the next Coastal Management Program funding cycle. The Gulf Coast Protection District has been formed by legislator to serve as the nonfederal sponsor to the Sabine to Galveston Bay project. The Texas Coastal Study is awaiting authorization by Congress.

**Ms. Marshall (GBEP)** – Asked members to provide any ideas for presentations for the July Galveston Bay Council meeting.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

**Upcoming Galveston Bay Council Meeting Dates:** July 20, 2022; and October 19, 2022. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the quarter from 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.