

West Galveston Island Property Owners Association

October 19, 2024

0900 Call to Order

0900 Introduction of Board Members

The WGIPOA meeting was held on October 19, 2024, at West Isle Marina. The meeting was called to order by Jerry Mohn, President. A quorum was established with the attendance of Jerry Mohn – President; Boyd Carr – Isla del Sol; Kim Van Zandt - Condos; John Lightfoot - Pointe San Luis; Julie Greenwell – Sea Isle; Craig Vance – Terramar; Chris Lauer – Bermuda Beach; Sarah Hawkes – Sportsman’s Road; Rosemarie Gonzales – Acapulco Village; and, Joe Trum – Dunes of West Beach.

0902 Introduction of Elected Officials

Our district representative Marie Robb and Jamaica Beach Council Member Taz Jones. in attendance and speaking later.

0904 Approve September minutes and financials.

Moved by Rosemarie Gonzales and seconded by Chris Lauer.

0905 District 6 Happenings – City Council Member Marie Robb (and Mayor Pro-Tem)

The City has 2 beach nourishment projects that are currently moving forward. These projects are using beneficial reuse of sands to renourish beaches from Delanera RV Park through 13-Mile Road. These projects are planned to start in May or June of next year.

Drainage ditches are being assessed across on the island in association with a major road assessment. Most of these assessments were completed before Hurricane Beryl.

Hotel Occupancy Taxes (HOT tax) are taxes on hotel, short-term rental uses, and cruise ship parking. These taxes are utilized for safety and beautification projects across the island. The City is taking over the implementation of taxes on short-term rentals in order to be able to enforce rules placed on them.

There is continued development across the island, but the City council is working to make sure that it is done responsibly and with the island’s best, long-term interests in mind. The Margaritaville planned use development (PUD) plan was turned down due to the heavy number of variances for the property and the lack of spacing between the properties. The developers broke ground before Hurricane Beryl, removed the equipment for the hurricane, and have yet to return to the property.

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

Page two

0923 Sally Bakko – Gulf Coast Protection District

As part of the Coastal Texas Protection Project, an accelerated funding agreement has been put in place. This means that the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Texas General Land Office (GLO) can begin the dune nourishment design work prior to federal funding being released. The 2025 plan to include \$500,000 for the projects in the breakwaters off of the Bolivar Peninsula and the dune systems. This money are for plans and is then entered into the “new start” designation which occurs prior to construction.

The more quickly we start beach nourishment efforts, the faster we get into a maintenance schedule that will nourish the beaches on a 6-year maintenance cycle for the next 50-years. This is a short-term win for the beginning of this large-scale project which also includes the gate systems across the ship channels.

Fortification of the dunes is still being brought up and discussed in all conversations with the GLO.

0939 Chris Lauer – BMAC Report

There was no BMAC meeting in October and the next meeting is November 1, 2024.

0940 Port of Galveston – Roger Reese (Marie Robb)

The grain silos have been taken down at the port.

Federal money allocated for the ports is based on monetary pass through for each channel. The larger the port, the more money that is allocated for dredging activities. Our ship channel is currently not dredged to the full depth. City personnel will be going to Washington D.C. to help get funding to increase our funding for ship channel dredging activities.

The Parks Board is working with port and cruise terminals to work on packages for hotel stays and island activities prior to the cruises leaving the island. This would increase HOT taxes for the island and make for a better experience of those going on cruises. In addition, there is a third cruise ship terminal coming into Galveston. This should benefit cruise and cargo influx to Galveston.

Additional construction activities include plans for Harborside and 61st Street to alleviate cruise traffic from 45/Broadway. There are also plans to rebuild the sky bridge (overhead walkway) over Harborside Drive from the parking garages to the cruise terminals.

The Port of Galveston is in negotiations with the Port of Houston to work together to bring larger projects into the area. These plans include a lot of infrastructure work on Pelican Island. Plans are underway to rebuild Pelican Island bridge. The old bridge will stay in place until the new bridge is operational. There is also discussion of a water treatment facility.

Page three

1002 Facebook and online recommendations – Jerry Mohn

Please visit and share the WGIPOA Facebook page. It will be utilized to spread knowledge regarding the West End. There are currently 560 members. In addition, if there is anything that you'd like to share on this page, please send your recommendations to the WGIPOA Board.

1004 Adjournment

The next WGIPOA meeting will be in January 2025 with City Officials including the Mayor.

A video copy of the meeting provided by Taz Jones.

<https://youtu.be/4SolPS8zGTY>