

West Galveston Island Property Owners Association

June 20, 2026

0900 Call to Order

The WGIPOA director's meeting was held on June 20, 2026 at the Jamaica Beach City Council building and Fire Department. A quorum was not established with the attendance of Craig Vance – President; Boyd Carr – Isla del Sol; Rosemarie Gonzalez – Acapulco Village; Peggy Zahler – Spanish Grant Beach; John Scott Jordan- Beachside Village; Doug Little – Pirates Properties, Lafitte's Cove; Julie Greenwell – Sea Isle; Guy Sullaway – Point West; and Chris Lauer – Bermuda Beach.

0912 District 6 Happenings by Jason Hardcastle, Galveston Council Member - District 6

New development on the bay is requesting variances. The variances are proposed for higher level development. Jason indicated that the development is going to happen, so the choice is either higher level or lower level development. The higher level development includes birding islands, low light levels at night, repairing living shorelines, and a higher expandable wastewater treatment plant. If the variances are not passed, the area will most likely be developed without additional infrastructure.

Next priorities include:

1. clear development and regulations for developers;
2. building relationships on the other side of the causeway;
3. infrastructure improvements to the roads, drainage, and wastewater plants;
4. efficiencies in funding and spending;
5. conduct a business processes assessment;
6. utilization of new technologies and equipment; and
7. reviewing pension plan for workers.

1015 Terri Leo-Wilson - Representative

Terri has worked on getting bills to cover the following items during emergency situations:

1. local governments to work together to share personnel and resources;
2. protection of emergency workers including line workers during a storm;
3. coverage for students missing school due emergencies;
4. helping rural hospitals provide coverage and financial help;
5. database for emergency equipment across the state;
6. increased penalties for fraud during a disaster; and
7. mental health care for emergency responders.

Over the last session, our District lost the ability to raise tax rates during and after a catastrophic event without voter approval to pay for emergency responders and equipment.

The TS Lonestar, a marine vessel staged at Texas A&M Galveston, can be set up as an emergency hospital and command center.

Damage reports following a disaster need to be filled out for the city, county, and state to receive federal funds following a disaster. Please fill out your reports even if you don't file an insurance claim.

New resiliency poles are being placed up and down the coast and are more resilient to hurricane force winds, ice storms, and fires. They are being put up as fast as they are being produced. Terri and other legislators are pushing to increase production.

Power generation for the grid and water demand is beginning to fall behind population growth across the state.

1040 JP Listowski – Mayor of Galveston

Galveston learned from the last storm that rolled through and is making minor changes to the city's emergency response plans. Thanks and welcome.

1042 Joe Giusti – Galveston County Commissioner, Precinct 2

When large storms are rolling in, please plan to leave if you can do so safely.

1044 Jason Hardcastle, Galveston Council Member - District 6 (West End)

New to this position, but not to the city council or the area. He will continue to share information that is shared with him regarding the area.

1044 Brian Maxwell, City Planner for Galveston

This last storm gave us a test of emergency systems. We learn from every storm. The City prescribes to two weather forecasting services. All information will roll out before, during, and after a storm.

1044 Bill Hageman, Galveston County Office of Emergency Management

During non-emergencies they are meeting with local governments and agencies to increase awareness. During emergency events they ramp up before events to track resources and ensure that all affected areas have what they need to respond. Get a plan of what you would need to stay during a storm, and also plan on when you would choose to evacuate.

The State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) is a website for those with disabilities, limited mobility, communication barriers, or those requiring additional medical assistance during an emergency to register. This free registry is used to provide information to emergency planners and responders on the needs of the community.

<https://stear.texas.gov>

1110 Kyle Baden, Jamaica Beach Fire Chief

During emergencies, the fire department can respond to situations with up to 35 mph winds and 24" of water. Beyond that, the equipment is taken to a safe place to respond as soon as the situation allows the equipment and responders to be fit to perform their duties.

As a reminder, if an evacuation order is made, it means that emergency services will be suspended because local responders will not be able to provide assistance.

1116 Chief Mathew Seurattan, Jamaica Beach Police

Please register online with STEAR if you or someone in your family might need assistance, even outside of a storm.

Prior to storms, crews will perform additional maintenance and check emergency generators. is being used for emergency service notifications.

1123 Jimmy Fullen, Galveston County Sheriff

Please evacuate if told to do so. If you need anything, please feel free to contact him directly out (409) 771-3917.

1123 Andre Mitchell, Galveston Police Department

The Galveston Police Department is responsible for re-entry onto the island. They will protect the houses and island. Please bring your ID and other documents indicating you live on the island for re-entry. If you need anything, please contact him at (409) 392-3012.

1126 Galveston Disaster Preparedness

Make a disaster kit that is fit for your household. Plan evacuations ahead of time and before you need them.

Include a person off of the island who can be the center of your communications in case the cell phone grid is limited, or goes down.

1126 Brian Duggan, Centerpoint Energy

Brian is local to the island and is helping when the power goes out. Tropical Storm Arthur was different than other storms. After the eye of the storm passed, the wind picked up and there was no rain to wash off the salt spray on the equipment. Salt spray causes arching across the transformers, and it may not cause issues, but if they go out, they take days to replace.

Centerpoint needed to wash off the substations with deionized water. Transformers have to be off to wash them. This causes minor outages.

Centerpoint is working with Florida Power and Light to proactively come up with creative solutions including regular preventative maintenance and sharing additional lessons learned from F

1126 Austin Kirwin, Galveston Island Beach Patrol Chief

In addition to being a lifeguard, Austin is available as a peace officer on the beach. If you need anything, please feel free to call him at (409) 789-4374.

1142 Galveston Insurance Claims

Premium 321 is needed to cover most windstorm related losses.

Make sure any repairs are completed by someone who is used to building for the strength and resiliency needed for a house on the island.

Document the current status of your home before you leave so that you can compare and show losses. As soon as you know you have damage, please call to get in line with an adjuster.

1147 Announcements

Thanked speakers and guests.

1148 Adjournment