

COASTAL BEND BAYS & ESTUARIES PROGRAM, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 28, 2010
MINUTES

BOD Members/Proxies Present

Robert Corrigan for the Bays Council
Tom Bridges for San Patricio County
Tom Russell for Port Industries of Corpus Christi
Tom Curlee for Port Industries of Corpus Christi
Peggy Sumner for the City of Corpus Christi
Jay Reining for the City of Corpus Christi
Robert B. Wallace, Jr. for Coastal Bend Bays Foundation

Others Attending

Jeff Foster, TCEQ
Barbara Keeler – EPA/Dallas (via telephone)
Georgia Neblett, Mission-Aransas NERR
James Dodson

Staff Present

Ray Allen	Rosario Martinez
Alice Sanchez	Jace Tunnell
Leo Trevino	Beth Wilson
Jake Herring	

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions, and Quorum Determination

Mr. Robert Wallace, Jr., Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:04 am and a quorum was set.

Ms. Neblett gave a brief presentation concerning the development of construction plans for their education center. She was most appreciative of Mr. Allen's assistance in obtaining funding from the Texas General Land Office for this facility.

2. Consideration and Action re: Minutes of Meeting held on October 22, 2009 – Ms. Anne Hulse (attachment 1)

Mr. Corrigan made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2009 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reining and passed unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda: The following items are of a routine or administrative nature and do not require an action of the Board. Any member of the Board of Directors may request that an item on the consent agenda be discussed in open session:

- a. **Monthly Financial Report, Local Government Funding Report, and Working Capital/Reserve Fund Report – Ms. Alice Sanchez (attachments 2A, B, C)**
- b. **Monthly Project Status Report – Mr. Leo Trevino (attachment 3)**
- c. **Communications Activities Update – Ms. Beth Wilson (attachment 4)**
- d. **Environmental Education Activities Update – Ms. Lari Jo Johnston (attachment 5)**
- e. **CBBEP Property Management Update - Mr. Jake Herring (attachment 6)**
- f. **Future Meeting Schedule w/cancellation of February meeting – Ms. Anne Hulse (attachment 7)**

Mr. Reining inquired whether the Coastal Bend Land Trust (CBLT) or the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program (CBBEP) holds property titles. Mr. Wallace explained that the CBLT holds conservation easements and Mr. Allen stated that CBBEP holds property titles.

Mr. Allen invited the Board to visit the improvements at Kate's Hole.

Additional Agenda Item:

Consideration and Action regarding possible reduction in funding by TCEQ for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 (attachment 14)

Mr. Wallace explained that as a result of the Governor's direction for every state agency to reduce their current fiscal year budget by 5%, TCEQ has decided not to cut salaries, but to potentially reduce their contribution to CBBEP by about 19% which translates into a \$140,000 cut in FY 2010 and \$40,000 cut in FY 2011. Mr. Allen presented a list of potential project budgets to revise/cancel in order to meet the necessary funding cuts.

Mr. Wallace proposed that the Board authorize Mr. Allen to negotiate with TCEQ, EPA and other partners to move between \$115,000 and \$140,000 of current and prior year TCEQ-funded contracts to later years, or to cancel contracts in whole or in part. The canceling of projects would require Board approval.

Mr. Reining made the motion to authorize Mr. Allen as stipulated above and was seconded by Mr. Bridges. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on CBBEP proposals submitted to Coastal Impact Assistance Program and Texas Coastal management Program – Mr. Dustin Cravey (attachment 8)

Mr. Cravey announced the various CIAP and CMP grants recently awarded to CBBEP, including \$1,500,000 for Nueces Delta property acquisition. A discussion regarding various property acquisition strategies ensued.

5. Consideration and Action regarding proposed changes to CBBEP employee retirement plan – Mr. Bob Corrigan and Ms. Alice Sanchez (attachment 9)

- a) **Resolution to terminate 403(b) Plan**
- b) **Authorizing staff to issue RFP for 401(k) retirement plan administration**

Mr. Corrigan discussed the current benefit plans offered to CBBEP employees. Due to the fact that Wells Fargo has ceased servicing 403(b) plans, it became necessary to find another vehicle by which employees can build their retirement.

Mr. Reining moved to adopt the Resolution to Terminate 403(b) Plan as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Corrigan and passed unanimously.

6. Consideration and Action regarding development of San Antonio Bay Partnership and authorizing funding for consulting services – Mr. Ray Allen (attachment 10)

Mr. Allen introduced Mr. James Dodson who was contracted by CBBEP to develop local support for an estuary program in the San Antonio Bay area. The contracted effort has been successful and needs to be extended in order to secure additional funding for this effort to maintain its momentum.

Mr. Reining made a motion to extend this contract for six months and was seconded by Mr. Russell. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Consideration and Action regarding the allocation of \$15,000 to continue Salinity monitoring in the Nueces River Delta – Mr. Jace Tunnell and Mr. Leo Trevino (attachment 11)

Mr. Tunnell explained that this is simply bridge funding to carry this project from its original timeline to the new FY Workplan because insufficient data has been received to date due to limited freshwater pipeline diversions which were interrupted by rain events.

Mr. Corrigan made a motion to continue this project. Mr. Bridges seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

8. Consideration and Action regarding an In-Lieu-Fee Mitigation Bank partnership with the Texas General Land Office – Mr. Leo Trevino and Mr. Ray Allen (attachment 12)

Mr. Reining made a motion authorizing Mr. Allen to continue negotiating with the TGLO to establish an In-Lieu-Fee Mitigation Bank partnership. The motion was seconded by Mr. Russell and passed unanimously.

9. Consideration and Action regarding a wetland enhancement project on CBBEP's Nueces River Property in conjunction with CBBEP's marsh restoration project along the Nueces Bay Causeway – Mr. Ray Allen and Mr. Leo Trevino (attachment 13).

Mr. Bridges made a motion to approve this project and was seconded by Mr. Reining. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Executive Director Comments – None.

11. Board of Director Comments – The Board was reminded that the February meeting has been cancelled due to travel.

12. Public Comments – none.

13. Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 10:07 am.

Approved by the Board of Directors on _____

Robert B. Wallace, Jr., President and Chairman of the Board