

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

August 26, 2010
MINUTES

BOD Members/Proxies Present

Robert Corrigan for the Bays Council
Tom Russell for Port Industries of Corpus Christi
Tom Curlee for Port Industries of Corpus Christi
Francis Gandy for the Port of Corpus Christi
Bill Green for the Port of Corpus Christi
Peggy Sumner for the City of Corpus Christi
Jay Reining for the City of Corpus Christi
Tom Bridges for San Patricio County
Robert Wallace for the Coastal Bend Bays Foundation

Others Attending

Carola Serrato, Chair of Bays Plan Coordination Team

Staff Present

Ray Allen	Alice Sanchez
Anne Hulse	Leo Trevino
Jake Herring	Jace Tunnell
Lari Jo Johnston	Beth Wilson
Rosario Martinez	

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

Mr. Robert Wallace, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:05 am and a quorum was set.

2. Consideration and Action re: Minutes of Meeting held on July 22, 2010 – Ms. Anne Hulse (attachment 1)

Mr. Corrigan made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2010 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Russell 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. **Grants and Proposals Update – Prepared by Dustin Cravey (attachment 4)**
 - d. **Communications Activities Update – Ms. Beth Wilson (attachment 5)**
 - e. **Environmental Education Activities Update – Ms. Lari Jo Johnston (attachment 6)**
 - f. **CBBEP Property Management – Prepared by Mr. Jake Herring (attachment 7)**
 - g. **Future Meeting Schedule – Ms. Anne Hulse (attachment 8)**

4. Consideration and Action regarding FY 2011:

- a. Authorizing a permanent, full-time environmental educator assistant position- Mr. Ray Allen and Ms. Lari Jo Johnston (attachment 9)**
- b. The FY '11 Annual Budget – Mr. Bob Corrigan and Ms. Alice Sanchez (attachments 10A, B)**
- c. The FY '11 Annual Work Plan – Ms. Carola Serrato & Mr. Bob Corrigan (attachment 11)**

Ms. Serrato explained the process by which projects are identified and defined by the various Implementation Teams, and subsequently recommended to the Coordination Team for evaluation. The Coordination Team scrutinizes each project before incorporating them into the Annual Work Plan which is then presented to the Bays Council for approval and finally, presented to the Board of Directors. During that process this year, a recurring theme involved the need to provide additional assistance (other than volunteers) to the environmental education program in order to increase the volume of student fieldtrips to the Nueces Delta Preserve, a goal the Coordination Team supports.

Ms. Sanchez presented two versions of the proposed Annual Budget, 'A' without and 'B' with the proposed environmental educator assistant position. Mr. Allen stated that the Finance Committee had reviewed the proposed Annual Budget without the educator assistant position, but had recommended re-evaluating the Annual Budget with the educator assistant position included.

Mr. Reining stated that CBBEP needs to start documenting the costs (staff time) of conducting in-house projects, as opposed to outsourcing them, to evaluate cost-effectiveness.

Mr. Corrigan announced that the Finance Committee will be evaluating the Administrative Budget in May 2011 instead of waiting until the Coordination Team approves the Project Budget and then reviewing the whole Annual Budget at once.

Mr. Corrigan also stated that CBBEP needs to get back into the grant-writing business so we are not as dependent upon EPA and TCEQ for funding, which will likely decrease in the future.

Mr. Reining made the motion to approve hiring an environmental educator assistant, approve the FY '11 Annual Budget 'B', and also approve the FY '11 Annual Work Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Green and passed unanimously.

Mr. Wallace requested that CBBEP contact a media person to produce either a video, or a public service announcement, publicizing the availability of educational fieldtrips to the Nueces Delta Preserve.

Mr. Corrigan commended Ms. Serrato for her superior performance as chair of the Bays Plan Coordination Team and thanked her for her service.

Mr. Curlee observed that additional facilities will also be required to accomplish the goals of the environmental education program. Mr. Wallace agreed that a heated, air-conditioned building will be necessary, as will a permanent restroom facility.

Additional Agenda Item:

Consideration and Action regarding accepting a Conservation Easement from the City of Corpus Christi on properties along Oso Bay – Mr. Jake Herring (attachment 15)

Mr. Green made a motion to accept the Conservation Easements from the City of Corpus Christi on properties along Oso Bay and was seconded by Mr. Corrigan. The motion passed unanimously, with the City of Corpus Christi abstaining.

5. Consideration and Action regarding CBBEP accepting a donation of property, fee simple and conservation easement, and management funds from Tortuga Dunes on Mustang Island – Mr. Jake Herring (attachment 12)

Mr. Herring explained that the US Army Corps of Engineers wants 61.98 acres behind the coming Tortuga Dunes development conserved in perpetuity. The Preserve at Mustang Island would provide a \$20,000 management fund to CBBEP for property taxes and maintenance on this property donation and easement.

Mr. Wallace stated that CBBEP's deed to this property needs to be for the whole 72.4 acre block, with an exception for the State wetland acreage, as opposed to a legal description for the 61.98 acres, in case the beachfront changes; and the easement needs to be the property, not just the surface, with an exception for all prior mineral reservations.

Mr. Bridges made a motion to accept the donation of property, fee-simple, and conservation easement accompanied by management funds from Tortuga Dunes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Russell and passed unanimously, with Mr. Gandy voting for the Port of Corpus Christi and Mr. Corrigan and Mr. Green abstaining.

6. Presentation and Discussion of Partnership with City of Corpus Christi for improved Public Access at Wilson's Cut on Mustang Island – Mr. Jay Reining and Mr. Jake Herring (attachment 13)

Mr. Reining explained that CBBEP currently owns this land and at some point in the future, the City of Corpus Christi will be looking for this land to be donated back to them. Mr. Wallace asked that the City consult with CBBEP to ensure the most important areas are preserved. Mr. Reining concurred.

7. Executive Session: Public Notice is given that the Board of Directors may go into an Executive Session as authorized by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551.072 to deliberate regarding real property and may in open session take such action as appropriate on items deliberated in Executive Session.

a. Discuss and Consider real property acquisition in the Nueces River Delta (attachment 14)

The meeting did not go into Executive Session. Mr. Wallace reported partners are still being sought to acquire land. Mr. Allen stated that the GLO CIAP funds are available and this has already been approved. They are simply waiting on us.

Mr. Allen stated that he had just completed an airboat tour of the Delta, courtesy of UTMSI, and the area is completely recovered from the drought and highly productive.

8. Executive Director Comments – None

9. Board of Director Comments - None

10. Public Comments - None

11. Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 9:38 am.

Approved by the Board of Directors on _____

Robert Wallace, Jr., Chairman of the Board