



Gulf Coast Water Authority

Gulf Coast Water Authority  
Board of Directors Board Workshop  
MINUTES  
September 21, 2017

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Gulf Coast Water Authority will meet on **Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 11:00 AM** at the GCWA Administrative Office, 3630 FM 1765, Texas City, Texas 77591, for the following purpose(s).

1. Call to Order

*Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors President Russell Jones called the meeting to order at 11:12 AM.*

2. Roll Call

*President Russell C Jones, Vice President C.B. "Bix" Rathbun, PhD, Assistant Secretary Brad Matlock PE, Treasurer Bennie Jones Jr., Director Cliff Mock, Director Mike O'Connell, Director Dave Leaver and Director James McWhorter PE were in attendance.*

*Absent: Wilson, Hamilton*

3. Discuss capital projects that should be developed to the point of being shovel ready.

*Ivan Langford stated in the past, when last minute funding has become available for projects, those projects which received the funding were shovel ready. Director Bix Rathbun suggested GCWA have a list of shovel ready projects prepared and Mr. Langford agreed, especially now with funding being made available to complete repairs from Hurricane / Tropical Storm Harvey. Potential Projects include:*

- River Bank Stabilization*
- Concrete Lining of Briscoe Canal*
- 8 Miles of Old Galveston 39" Line*
- Mustang Reservoir*
- Replacement of Check Structures along the canals (Automated Structures)*
- Management of Water Levels in Canals (water loss prevention / excess water run-off control)*
- Thomas Mackey Water Treatment Plant*
  - \* Distribution Pump Station*

*\* UV Disinfection*

*\* Switch from Chlorine Gas*

*Staff will develop these projects and bring to the board for additional direction in the future*

4. Discuss study to look at expanding Mustang Reservoir capacity.

*James Vanderwater stated there is approximately 4 MGD of effluent water being released from Chocolate and Mustang Bayou which needs to be studied as possible source of firm water. With the possibility of additional firm water, the study would need to include the expansion of the Mustang Reservoir. Currently, there is only one customer being served from this system and the reservoir has been maintained on an as needed basis. Increased maintenance on the reservoir would need to be considered in the study as well. Staff will move forward with a feasibility study of the Mustang Reservoir.*

5. Discussion on retaining Washington DC Representation

*Ivan Langford reminded the board of GCWA's study conducted with BRA on the reallocation of water from Whitney Lake. The study found Whitney Lake has 500,000 A/F of water of which BRA is able to access 10%. The remaining water is controlled by the Southwest Power Administration for the creation of hydro power.*

*During the 84th Legislative Session of the State of Texas, a bill was passed to allow GCWA to purchase and resell power. GCWA is scheduled to meet with Southwest Power Administration (a part of the Department of Energy) to discuss the purchase of hydro power. GCWA's goal is to purchase the hydro power produced on Lake Whitney, subsequently releasing water into the Brazos River. GCWA is currently working on a solution to claim the water released during the production of hydro power purchased by GCWA.*

*Mr. Langford stated Shane Hamilton had expressed interest in attending the meeting with Southwest Power Administration on October 10, 2017 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Ivan invited all board members who were interested to attend as well.*

*Mr. Langford continued, explaining continued discussions regarding Whitney Lake will need GCWA Representation in Washington, D.C. The Board felt this may be expensive, but alternative situations may be more expensive. GCWA will put out a Request for Proposals to determine the best person to represent GCWA. Mr. Langford has already spoken to one possible candidate, lobbyist Patrick Anderson. Mr Anderson specializes in items regarding the Corp of Engineers. Mr. Langford expects a RFP from Mr. Anderson and requested Board Members contact potential lobbyists to submit a RFP as well.*

***The GCWA Board of Directors recessed at 12:27 PM for a short break.***

***The GCWA Board of Directors reconvened at 12:37 PM.***

6. Discussion on Option & Reservation River Water

*Ivan Langford presented a list of GCWA's current option contracts on the A and B Canal Systems. Mr. Langford's main concern on these contracts, with the exception of INEOS, was the failure to address storage of the water. The Board discussed the challenges of the various option contracts and how to begin addressing those challenges.*

7. Discussion concerning restructuring of Board Meetings

*Ivan Langford stated most of the items discussed at committee meetings is being repeated during the monthly report at the Board Meeting. In an effort to be more considerate of the Board Members time, Ivan presented various scheduling options for meetings. The Board decided to meet monthly on the first and third Thursday with a Regular Meeting followed by a Workshop. The monthly reporting by the managers will be presented at the first meeting of the month. Committees will stay intact and meet as needed.*

8. Historical Review of Water Charges

*Aric Owens reviewed the Canal, Chocolate Bayou, Thomas Mackey Water Treatment Plant and Industrial Historical Budgeted Water Cost Per Million Gallons from FY 2013-2014 through FY 2017-2018. Mr. Owens also reviewed Water Rates and GCWA's Finished Water Costs.*

9. Comparison of Past Budgets and Expenditures.

*Aric Owens reviewed Salaries & Wages, Purchased & Contracted Services, Supplies, Material & Utilities, Maintenance, Repairs & Parts, Employee Benefits, General & Administrative, Professional Fees, and Capital Improvement Costs from FY 2013-2014 through FY 2017-2018.*

10. Adjournment

*Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors President Russell Jones adjourned the meeting at 2:10 PM.*

Passed and approved this 24th day of October 2017.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Wilson", is written over a horizontal line.

Eric Wilson, Secretary  
Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors