

CITY OF ROCKPORT

MEETING MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR WATER ISSUES

9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 19, 2014

Rockport City Hall, 622 E. Market Street

On this the 19th day of June 2014, the Environmental Committee For Water Issues of the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Texas convened at 9:30 a.m. at the regular meeting place in City Hall, and notice of meeting giving time, place, date and subject having been posted as described in V.T.C.A., Government Code § 551.041.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Tom Callan
Committee Member Ron Helmke
Committee Member Larry Hellums
Committee Member Virginia Hallinan

COMMITTEE MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Committee Member Shawn Johnston

STAFF MEMBER(S) PRESENT

ELECTED OFFICIALS

ACND Malcolm Diekow
Councilwoman Barbara Geurtner

Opening Agenda

1. Call to order.

With a quorum of the Committee Members present, the Regular Meeting of the Environmental Committee For Water Issues was called to order by Tom Callan at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2014, in the Council Chambers of the Rockport City Hall, 622 E. Market Street, Rockport, Texas.

2. Citizens to be Heard.

At this time, comments will be taken from the audience on any subject matter that is not on the agenda. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the Environmental Committee For Water Issues may not discuss or take action on any item which has not been posted on the agenda.

There were no citizens to be heard.

3. Deliberate and act on the May 15, 2014, meeting minutes.

MOTION: Committee Member Ron Helmke moved to approve the May 15, 2014 meeting minutes. Committee Member Larry Hellums seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Hear and deliberate on a report regarding ongoing activities of the Mission Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve (MANERR).

There was no representative from the MANERR present. Committee member liaison to MANERR, Ron Helmke, had no new news to report.

5. Hear and deliberate on a report regarding ongoing activities of the Aransas County Navigation District.

Malcolm Diekow, Aransas County Navigation District Commissioner, gave an update on the status of the proposed land swap/lease agreement with Harbor Front Limited Partnership. Requested paperwork for review has been submitted to the General Land Office (GLO). The Nav District should learn the tentative time frame for completion of full review by the GLO within a couple of weeks.

Keith Barrett, Harbor Master, reported that progress was being made on the Shoreline Stabilization Project planned for Little Bay. A modification of the original plan is being sent out for bids. This proposal allows for the project to be completed in segments should costs for the entire project exceed available funding. Mr. Barrett reported that silt at the outflow of Tule Creek will not be removed prior to installation of the oyster shell. No dredging of the basin is planned at this time.

In a separate endeavor, the north and south ends of the beach park will undergo a renourishment project.

6. Hear and deliberate on a report regarding the Region N meeting of the Texas Water Development Board .

There was no new news to report.

7. Deliberate and act on re-publication of previous outreach articles.

On review of previous outreach articles it was decided to consider resubmitting the article entitled, "City Use of Herbicides" for re-publication in the Rockport Pilot.

8. Deliberate lab results from the Texas Beach Watch program.

Lab results were reviewed. No bacterial counts of concern were noted.

9. Hear and deliberate on the status of the City of Rockport drainage plan.

Urban Engineering is working on a modeling program to address the city's drainage plan. Tom Callan will contact Urban Engineering and request they provide us with an update at the next Environmental Committee meeting.

10. Deliberate on the draft of the “Guidance for Sustainable Development on the Texas Coast” manual developed by the University of Texas Water Resources Department.

David Reid, Aransas County Engineer, informed the committee that a Best Management Program for the Texas coast was being developed and was available for preview on the web at txcoastalbmp.org. Tom Callan encouraged committee members to attend a meeting on the topic scheduled for June 25 at 1:30 at the Rockport Service Center.

11. Deliberate on possible agenda items for the July meeting.

Ron Helmke referenced a letter to the Rockport Pilot regarding yard waste being blown into the streets where it can then enter storm drains reaching our bays. Tom Callan will get together with Environmental Specialist, Kendra Baird, and discuss possible ways to educate and inform home owners and lawn care professionals of this ongoing issue and report to the committee at the next meeting.

13. Adjournment.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Regular Meeting was adjourned at 10:20a.m.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
FOR WATER ISSUES**



Tom Callan, Chairman

ATTEST:



Kendra Baird, Environmental Specialist
Public Works Department