TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: December 11, 2015

Meeting Location: Hilton Garden Inn, South Padre, Texas

- Meeting called to order by Jerry Mohn at approximately 12:30 PM. Officers and board members in attendance were introduced and sponsors recognized. Elected and public officials at the meeting were also recognized.

- Welcoming remarks were provided by Mayor Bharat Patel.

- Annual Meeting: Election of Directors. Motion made and seconded to re-elect following Board of Directors
  ➢ Reuben Trevino – Cameron County
  ➢ Dan Heilman – Nueces County
  ➢ Commissioner Dude Payne – Brazoria County
  ➢ Andy Elms – Jefferson County
  ➢ David Parsons – Port Aransas, At Large
  ➢ Peter Ravella – Austin, At Large

Presentations:
Reuben Trevino – South Padre Coastal Resource & Parks Administrator
- South Padre Beneficial Use Dredge Project: 600,000 cubic yards at a cost of $1.05/cubic yard. Historically it’s been $.86/cubic yard. Reviewed the history of South Padre and development as a resort area. Active participation in beneficial use applications is a key in maintaining the beaches.
- South Padre Efforts Toward Balancing Natural Functioning Landforms and Tourism: Developed beach maintenance guidelines back in 2006 with a scientific based approach. Provide to the public educational materials stressing the importance of the dune system and beach maintenance. Future challenges for South Padre will be the north area.

Ray Newby - General Land Office, Coastal Resource
- Coastal planning efforts starting up between the Corps and GLO: Texas coastline has 367 miles of beaches and more than 3300 miles of bay shorelines with 18 coastal counties that represents 26% of the State’s population. The Texas ports generate $6.5 billion and the Texas coast has the largest petrochemical complex in the world.
- Top issues of GLO coastal concern
  ➢ Wetlands and habitat loss
  ➢ Impacts to fish and wildlife
  ➢ Gulf beach and dune erosion
➢ Water quality and quantity

• Looking ahead:
  ➢ RESTORE Act and possible GOMESA Funds - Develop decisive support tools to identify critical areas and needs that will help guide and enhance planning funding and performance in how these needs are addressed
  ➢ USACE Coastal Texas Study – Identify a comprehensive plan in 5.5 years at a cost of $19.8 million with cost share 50/50 between the USACE and GLO. End result will be a Texas Coastal Resiliency Plan with 50% of the cost dedicated to a feasibility analysis Galveston Bay storm protection alternatives.

Peter Ravella – PAR Consultants:
• Cameron County Erosion Response Plan (ERP): purpose is to plan ahead, be more resilient, look at what we can develop on sandy beaches in a less risky way and thus protect public and private interests.
• ERP Elements include building a setback line which could be a prohibition for new development since 1000 acres of beach front property of platted lot loss. Finish the ERP end of March.
• Challenges:
  ➢ Longest undeveloped stretch of barrier island in the U.S.
  ➢ New Causeway from mainland
  ➢ Space X coming to Boca Chica
  ➢ Potential for economic growth
  ➢ A high risk, high erosion shoreline

John Lee – Chair Government Affairs Committee:
• Passed out the Texas ASBPA Chapter Legislative Agenda for Washington DC ASBPA Summit 2/23-2/25/16 that identified 10 areas to pursue. Main ones include:
  ➢ Encourage Texas Congressman to join the Congressional Coastal Communities Caucus Congressman. Of the three Texas Coastal Congressmen, only one belongs, Randy Weber, District 14, and we need Blake Farenthold, District 27, and Fileman Vela, Jr, District 34 to join.
  ➢ RESTORE ACT Funds – make certain benefit to Texas coast
  ➢ Support Federal funding of the Corp of Engineers for specific Texas coastal projects (outlined on the agenda)
  ➢ Support GOMESA funding
  ➢ Support BUDM (Beneficial Use of Dredge Materials) projects to be eligible for FEMA public assistance funding following a federal disaster declaration.

Skip Davis – April 1, 2016, Symposium
• Discussed the success of the March 20, 2015, Symposium in Corpus Christi, and the upcoming on in 2016 at the UT Marine Science Institute in Port Aransas. Abstracts to be submitted by December 15.

• Adjournment 2:40 PM
Note: Since there was not a quorum of the Board of Directors, 2016 Officers could not be elected. By email the week of December 14 the Board elected the following Officers for 2016:

2016 Officers:
President: Jerry Mohn
Vice President - Upper Coast: John Lee
Vice President - Mid Coast: David Parsons
Vice President – Lower Coast: Reuben Trevino
Treasurer: Marie Robb
Secretary: Dan Heilman