

Media Contact

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Galveston Park Board Update: July 10, 2014

The Galveston Park Board of Trustees held its regularly scheduled meeting at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 8 at Park Board Plaza. Below is an update of news from the boardroom.

Board Approves Two-Year Contract for External Financial Audit

On Tuesday the Park Board of Trustees approved a \$120,000 two-year contract with Houston-based financial auditing firm DRDA, PLLC. The firm will create a tailored audit program for the 2014 and 2015 fiscal years, which will be prepared after a survey of internal statements is completed. The firm will begin the audit in October of each fiscal year following the reporting year and will issue results by January of the following year.

Board Approves Contract with Texas A&M Galveston for Seaweed-Enhanced Dune Project

The board Tuesday approved a \$60,000 contract with Texas A&M University at Galveston (TAMUG) to construct an 800-foot seaweed-enhanced dune at East Beach after hearing a presentation from coastal engineer Dr. Jens Figlus. The estimated \$150,000 pilot project will test the durability of seaweed-core dunes against surf and wind. Texas A&M will be responsible for the design of the dune, adaptation of heavy equipment necessary to bale the seaweed and the construction of the dune. The Park Board is providing the venue for the pilot project, the use of equipment and the financial contribution of \$60,000. The project has also received an \$88,775 grant from the Texas General Land Office. Dune construction is set to begin this month and the project is estimated to be completed by August 2015.

Board Approves Release of \$140,000 for Additional Beach Maintenance

On Tuesday, the board unanimously approved to release an additional \$140,000 for beach maintenance from the beach cleaning contingency budget. The additional funds will be utilized in the current budget year for the continuance of contracting personnel and equipment for beach maintenance.

About the Park Board of Trustees

The Park Board of Trustees oversees beach maintenance and tourism development on Galveston Island, including operations for beach cleaning, the Galveston Island Beach Patrol and the Galveston Island Convention & Visitors Bureau. For more information on the Park Board of Trustees, please visit www.galvestonparkboard.org.

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