

By: Paul

H.B. No. 3893

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to meetings of the board of directors of the Gulf Coast Authority.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 2.07, Chapter 409, Acts of the 61st Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h) to read as follows:

(a) The board shall meet regularly as necessary ~~[at least once each month, and may meet at any other time provided in its bylaws]~~.

(d) Notwithstanding Chapter 551, Government Code, Chapter 49, Water Code, or any other law, the board may hold an open or closed meeting by telephone conference call, videoconference, or other similar telecommunication method. The board may use a telephone conference call, videoconference, or other similar telecommunication method for purposes of establishing a quorum, for voting, or for any other meeting purpose.

(e) A meeting held by telephone conference call, videoconference, or other similar telecommunication method is subject to the notice requirements applicable to other board meetings.

(f) The notice of a meeting to be held by telephone conference call, videoconference, or other similar

telecommunication method must include:

(1) a toll-free telephone number that members of the public may use to hear and, if applicable, speak at the meeting;

(2) free-of-charge access information for any audiovisual or audio-only feeds; and

(3) instructions for a member of the public to speak at the meeting from a remote location.

(g) If the board prepares an agenda packet or other materials that would have been distributed to members of the public at a face-to-face meeting, the board shall make the packet or other materials available electronically.

(h) A meeting held by telephone conference call, videoconference, or other similar telecommunication method shall be recorded. The recording shall be made available to the public. The board shall maintain a copy of the recording for at least one year after the date of the hearing.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.