

**Media Contact**

Mary Beth Bassett  
Public Affairs Manager  
Park Board of Trustees  
Office: 409-797-5121  
Email: [mbassett@galvestonparkboard.org](mailto:mbassett@galvestonparkboard.org)



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## **Galveston Park Board Update: January 11, 2018**

The Galveston Park Board of Trustees held its regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 9 at Park Board Plaza. Below is an update of news from the boardroom.

### **Park Board to Launch Simplified Tax Reporting System**

A new payment process will allow entities that collect Hotel Occupancy Taxes (HOT) to file and pay them in one step. The new process will automatically calculate the tax rate when the tax payer files his revenue report and will process the payment at the same time. Currently, tax payers must file and pay separately. The new system is being tested among a group of short-term rental property owners and is expected to launch in February. This is the final step in a multi-year process aimed at making HOT collections more business friendly. Previous changes include coordinating payment dates with state mandates, allowing tax payers to file quarterly instead of monthly and accepting credit card payments.

### **Park Board Employee Engagement Survey Reveals High Rate of Job Satisfaction**

Human Resources Manager Kimberly Danesi shared the results of a recent employee engagement survey with the Park Board on Tuesday. Completed in October, the survey revealed a 97% job satisfaction rate among employees, a 10% increase since 2015, the first time the organization participated in the survey. The Society for Human Resources Management hosted the survey and compiled the results. Eighty-one employees (98% of staff) completed surveys that posed 40 questions in the areas of career development, compensation and benefits, relationship with management, and work environment.

### **Park Board Business Plans Approved**

At its meeting Tuesday, the Park Board approved annual business plans for its departments. The plans include project descriptions, completion dates, and funding sources. They also identify those responsible for completing the projects. To view the plans, visit [www.galvestonparkboard.org](http://www.galvestonparkboard.org).

### **Park Board Approves 2018 Galveston Island Convention Center Operating Budget**

On Tuesday, the Park Board approved the 2017 budget for the Galveston Island Convention Center. The budget amount is \$1,929,000, up 2.5% from last year.

### **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](http://www.galvestonparkboard.org).

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