



From the desk of Chairman Constance

To All Gulf Consortium Directors,

I am writing today to inform you that the Executive Committee on March 26 has decided that the June 10, 2020, Gulf Consortium Board of Directors meeting will be held remotely via communications media technology. This was originally scheduled to be an in-person meeting in Orlando in connection with the FAC Annual Conference. This was not a decision that was made lightly and it was the subject of extensive discussion during the Executive Committee meeting on March 26, 2020. Ultimately, the Executive Committee unanimously determined that in order to do our part to maintain physical distancing and slow the spread of COVID-19, and to protect the health and safety of Directors, staff, and the public, the meeting will take place remotely via communications media technology, as authorized pursuant to section 163.01(18), Florida Statutes.

As usual, a full agenda packet will be distributed in advance of the meeting and the meeting will be publicly noticed and open to interested members of the public, who will be able to access and participate in the meeting remotely. As chairman, I will ensure we are patient and we will proceed through the agenda at a pace that allows for full and open discussion of all members and maintains public participation. As the Executive Committee has been meeting remotely for a number of years, we are fortunate to have experience conducting meetings in this manner. We will be holding our next meeting on or about June 4th.

At the January 2020 Gulf Consortium Board meeting, we had a robust discussion of the merits of conducting meetings remotely. At that meeting, the Board elected to not adopt a proposed policy to allow remote participation during our meetings. This would maintain existing policy whereby for in-person Board meetings, Directors attending by phone would participate during discussion but could not vote. However, due to the current crisis Consortium Board meetings will be held remotely by communications media technology, and all Directors will be permitted to vote. Voting will be by voice and by roll-call for any votes without unanimous consent.

Staff will follow up with more detail about the meeting time, and with the phone number and connection link, for those who wish to follow along via the web link for screen sharing.

I appreciate your patience and diligence during these exceptional times as we work together to keep each other safe, while persevering in serving our communities and our great state of Florida.

Sincerely,

Christopher Constance, Charlotte County