

**MINUTES OF VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING NO. 2439  
COMMISSIONERS OF  
JEFFERSON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 7**

**Place:** 3400 Highway 73  
Port Arthur, Texas

**Date:** March 18, 2025

**Present:** Commissioners  
Richard Beaumont  
Matthew Vincent  
Allen Sims, General Manager  
Nathan Brandimarte, Attorney for

**District**  
Lester Champagne  
Albert Moses, Jr.  
James Gamble, Sr.

**Visitors:** Toby Davis, DD7  
Terry Wade, DD7  
Rene Jackson, DD7  
Brady Girouard, DD7  
Garrett Boudoin, DD7  
Kirby Johnson, DD7  
Brian McZeal, DD7  
Barron Cook, DD7  
Keith Zotzky, AWC  
Brandon Rose, Purple Wave Auction  
Trevor Holmes, Brystar  
Chandler Hall, Eastex Utilities  
Clint Bell, Norman Highway

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Beaumont after ascertaining that the Notice of Meeting had been posted in accordance with the law. Commissioner Moses gave the invocation.

Public Comment

Mr. Brandon Rose with Purple Wave Auction thanked the Board and District for the opportunity to auction the District's surplus engines. All the engines have been sold and there are two engines that remain to be picked up by the successful bidders.

Minutes of Meeting No. 2438

The Minutes of Meeting No. 2438 were approved as read.

Consider Award for Bids for Calendar Year 2025 Equipment Provision Services

Mr. Kirby Johnson stated that the proposals for the 2025 Equipment Provision Services were opened at the board meeting held on February 28, 2025. Mr. Johnson stated that the responding companies were Duck's Dragline Service, Inc., Frelow Trucking, Lawco, LLC, and Ramtex Industrial LLC. No contractor bid on all the equipment listed in the bid requests. Therefore, a recommendation letter was submitted by Kirby Johnson, P.E. to award the bids to multiple contractors subject to their proposals. Mr. Johnson recommended that Duck's Dragline Service, Inc., Frelow Trucking, Lawco, LLC, and RAMTEX Industrial, LLC be awarded the bids in their respective categories. Commissioner Moses moved to approve awarding the bid for the 2025 Equipment Provision Services to Duck's Dragline Service, Inc., Frelow Trucking, Lawco, LLC, and RAMTEX Industrial, LLC respectively as recommended by staff. Commissioner Champagne seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Award for Bids for Calendar Year 2025 Seasonal Mowing Services

Mr. Brady Girouard stated that the proposals for the 2025 Seasonal Mowing Services were received on February 27, 2025, and opened at the board meeting held on February 28, 2025. Mr. Girouard stated that the responding companies were Earthworks

Landscape and Maintenance LLC, Angel Lady Services LLC, Coastal Maintenance, Bayou Elite Solutions LLC, Southern Style Services LLC, and GP Evans Contractors, LLC. The bid prices are for a single round of mowing of the levee and area ditches, consisting of approximately 1,164 acres. The mowing season requires four to five rounds. Mr. Girouard stated that Earthworks Landscape and Maintenance LLC was the lowest bidder at \$44,723.76 per round. However, upon further review, the bidder did not meet the minimum equipment requirements specified in the bid documents. The bidder was contacted and asked to provide photos and documentation of the equipment that was planned to be used for this contract. Attempts were made to contact references and only one was reachable, with a satisfactory response.

Angel Lady Services LLC was the next lowest bid and most responsive bidder at \$45,407.64 per round. This bidder met all the minimum equipment requirements specified in the bid documents, provided a qualified work history, and submitted a bid free of informalities. All three references provided were contacted and all three provided a commendable response. Commissioner Moses asked what entities provided references. Mr. Girouard stated the references were provided by TxDot Liberty, TxDot Galveston, and a large development group in The Woodlands, Texas. Staff recommend that the Board of Commissioners award the CY 2025 Seasonal Mowing Services to Angel Lady Services LLC at \$45,407.64 per round. Commissioner Champagne moved to award the bid for Calendar Year 2025 Seasonal Mowing Services to Angel Lady Services LLC in the amount of \$45,407.64 per round as recommended by staff. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. Commissioner Gamble voted nay. The motion carried.

Consider Award of Bid for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System

Mr. Kirby Johnson stated that proposals for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system were solicited in order to establish a design build contract with prospective respondents to design and construct a new district-wide SCADA system. The Board of Commissioners voted to appoint a selection committee to handle the opening, reading, and scoring of submitted qualification and proposal packets. On January 7, 2025 the Board voted to approve the committee-appointed list of respondents to proceed to the Request for Proposals (RFP) step of the process. All respondents that turned in a qualification packet were invited to proceed to the RFP process. Two of the three respondents withdrew from the RFP process.

Proposals were received at the District's office on February 26, 2025 and were opened and scored on February 28, 2025 by the selection committee. The technical proposal was reviewed thoroughly and thereafter, an interview was conducted with key members of the respondent's design and construction team. At the conclusion of the interview, the selection committee opened and scored the price proposal. The original price proposal was for \$9,094,663.69. However, upon reviewing the price proposal, the selection committee noticed some of the numbers on the payment and performance bonds to be inconsistent with what the District believed to be the industry standard. After negotiations and clarification, the total price proposal was reduced to \$8,708,202.19. Out of a possible 250 points W-Industries/Epic Engineering scored 217.5 points with the final negotiated price of \$8,708,202.19 with a project duration of 1320 calendar days.

After careful review W-Industries / Epic Engineering provided an adequate technical approach to the proposed project and a complete price proposal. It is the recommendation of the selection committee that the proposal for the Supervisory Control

and Data Acquisition System Design Build contract be awarded to W-Industries / Epic Engineering in the amount of \$8,708,202.19. Commissioner Vincent moved to approve awarding the bid for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System Design Build Contract to W-Industries / Epic Engineering as recommended by staff. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Open Bids and Consider Award for Bids for Improvements to Blocks Bayou Ditch Phase

II

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bidder Info. Form</u>	<u>Statement of Qualifications</u>	<u>Bidder References</u>	<u>Bid Proposal</u>	<u>Addendum #1 Received</u>	<u>Addendum #2 Received</u>	<u>Bid Bond</u>	<u>Working Days</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Norman Highway Constructors, Inc.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	100	1,760,495.00
Brystar Contracting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	100	2,083,700.00
MB Western Construction Co.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	120	1,894,963.00
Ramtex	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-----	2,614,596.22
Vortech Contracting, Inc.	X	X	X	X	---	----	X	84	999,157.00
Eastex Utility Construction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	140	1,959,591.95

Commissioner Vincent moved to table the bids submitted for study and review by the District's engineer and staff and award the bid for Improvements to Blocks Bayou Ditch Phase II at the next meeting board meeting. Commissioner Champagne seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Approval to Advertise for Bids for Diesel Engines and Reduction Gears for Star Lake and Rodair Pump Stations

Mr. Sims requested approval to Advertise for Bids for 5 Diesel Engines and Reduction Gears for Star Lake and Rodair Pump Stations. Commissioner Moses moved to approve the request to Advertise for Bids Diesel Engines and Reduction Gears for Star

Lake and Rodair Pump Stations. Commissioner Champagne seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Approval of Pay Request No. 3 to Triangle Civil Services for Relocation of Sanitary Sewer Line at Port Acres Wastewater Treatment Plant

A recommendation letter was submitted by Keith Zotzky, with Arceneaux, Wilson & Cole LLC for Pay Request No. 3 to Triangle Civil Services for work performed from February 1, 2025, to February 28, 2025 in the amount of One Hundred Sixty-Nine Thousand One Hundred Seventy-One and 20/100 (\$169,171.20) Dollars for traffic control, bypass pumping, stored materials secured on the project site, installation of the manhole located on the north side of Hwy 365 is 20% complete, and the connection to the existing wet well is 75% complete. Mr. Zotzky stated that 65% of the work has been completed using 64% of the contract's working days. Commissioner Champagne moved to approve Pay Request No. 3 to Triangle Civil Services for work performed and stored materials secured on the project site from February 1, 2025, to February 28, 2025, in the amount of One Hundred Sixty-Nine Thousand One Hundred Seventy-One and 20/100 (\$169,171.20) Dollars. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Summary

Mr. Allen Sims stated that in the last two weeks several meetings were held with state and federal representatives and senators. Overall, the meetings were positive. Initially, the Gulf Coast Protection District (GCPD) was informed that it would receive \$3 - \$4 million a year for administration costs. Considering that the GCPD requested \$230 million for the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project, the amount was not ideal for meeting the District's needs. However, Friday of last week the GCPD was informed that the House designated \$230,540,000 from the House Supplemental Bill for the Project.

These are unspent funds from 2021 and 2023 budgets which are re-distributed through a supplemental bill. Pending any further negotiations and/or movement from House and Senate the GCPD will receive the full funding request for the District's matching funds to go toward the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project. The District's cost estimate from the Corps will be completed near the end of 2025. At that time, the District's cost share will officially increase for the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project. While in Washington, DC there were no specific issues that needed to be addressed. The purchase of public land was discussed. At this time, if the District need to purchase land from public entities, the cost of the land would not go toward the District's 35% cost share. However, there may be a way to obtain a variance. In late January, the Corps published its standard operating procedure to acquire real estate and relocate utilities to receive credit for these costs. The frustrating part is that the District has been acquiring real estate and relocating utilities for four years and the Corps is just now putting out its standard operating procedure for these items. The District engineers have proposed some amendments to the Corps standard operating procedures which are now being reviewed by the Corp.

### Manager Reports

The District is negotiating with Randy Sonnier to acquire land from Total near the old Taft School to dig a large detention pond. During those discussions, Mr. Sonnier requested that the District make a presentation to the Nederland City Council regarding various ongoing projects of the District that would benefit the residents of the City of Nederland. Mr. Sims stated that he and Mr. Toby Davis will make a presentation to City of Nederland City Council that is set for March 24, 2025.

The District is currently working with the City of Port Arthur to upgrade the ditch off Rice Farm Road. The agreement is that the City of Port Arthur will supply the material and the District will do the work.

The District put six of its old engines up for bid through Purple Wave which is a nationwide auction company. Historically, the District has utilized Horn Auction for this process. The bids were anywhere from \$400 to \$2,100 per engine. The Purple Wave bids were significantly higher. The bids were from \$2,800 to \$16,500 totaling \$44,200 for the six engines.

Executive Session - Pursuant to Sections 551.074, Texas Government Code, Regarding Personnel and Sections 551.071, Texas Government Code, Regarding Potential or Threatened Litigation

At 2:47 p.m., the Commissioners entered an Executive Session regarding personnel and potential litigation.

At 3:29 p.m., the meeting returned to its regular session.

Consider and Take Action, if any, on Items Discussed in Executive Session

Commissioner Champagne motion to approve the Attorney for the District, Nathan Brandimarte respond to allegations made by Philip Klein on his website, Southeast Texas Political Review. Commissioner Moses seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Checks and Purchase Orders

Maintenance Fund

Ck. No. 26022 – 4 Horn Industrial  
\$3,716.20 – Mainlift Rental

Ck. No. 26023 – Ace Glass & Mirror  
\$100.00 – Repair Crash Bar on Glass Door – Admin Office



Ck. No. 26024 – Airgas USA, LLC  
\$392.00 – Multiple Cylinder Rentals

Ck. No. 26025 – Bosco Industries  
\$170.00 – Control Panel at PS 16 Annex

Ck. No. 26026 – Cintas Corp  
\$54.33 – Traffic Mat & Hand Sanitizer Service - Admin Building

Ck. No. 26027 – Tx State Comptroller of Public Accounts  
\$50.00 – Offroad Diesel Late Filing Fee

Ck. No. 26028 – Dan Delich Consulting  
\$3,500.00 – Legislative Consulting Services

Ck. No. 26029 – Deep South Crane & Rigging Co.  
\$1,680.00 – Rental & Operation of Tandano at PS 13

Ck. No. 26030 – DISA Global Solutions, Inc.  
\$420.00 – Employee Drug Testing

Ck. No. 26031 – Duck’s Dragline Service, Inc.  
\$10,780.00 – Trackhoe Work – Rodair Gully Project

Ck. No. 26032 – Electrical Specialties, Inc.  
\$45.00 – Monthly Alarm System Monitoring

Ck. No. 26033 – FMW, P. C.  
\$2,300.00 – February 2025 Accounting Services

Ck. No. 26034 – Function 4 LLC  
\$402.81 – Konica Copier Lease – March 2025

Ck. No. 26035 – Gregory Bostwick  
\$500.00 – Weather Services – March 2025

Ck. No. 26036 – Jeff. Cty DD7 Petty Cash Fund  
\$905.05 – Petty Cash Reimbursement

Ck. No. 26037 – Jefferson Central Appraisal District  
\$109,769.09 – Q2 2025 Entity Allocations

Ck. No. 26038 – Jeffrey S. Ward & Associates, Inc.  
\$30,000.00 – HMGP Studies & Planning

Ck. No. 26039 – Kansas City Southern  
\$125.00 – Drainage Pipe Rental

Ck. No. 26040 – Kyla Dean  
\$1,054.05 – TWA Travel Reimbursement

Ck. No. 26041 – LJA Environmental Services, LLC  
\$33,374.15 – Environmental Services -A3A, Groves, Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project

Ck. No. 26042 – LJA Surveying, Inc.  
\$29,210.00 – Survey Work – Blocks Bayou & Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project

Ck. No. 26043 – M & S Unlimited Services, LLC  
\$350.00 – Transport Broderson Crane – PS 2

Ck. No. 26044 – Mazzanti & Associates LLC  
\$2,500.00 – Legislative Consulting Services

Ck. No. 26045 – Nerbert Frelow  
\$7,600.00 – Dump Truck Services

Ck. No. 26046 – Ray Russo  
\$15,022.98 – Legislative Consulting Services

Ck. No. 26047 – Richard Beaumont  
\$2,717.03 – Conference Travel Reimbursement

Ck. No. 26048 – Ritter Forest Products Nederland  
\$1,154.00 – Mat Rental and Transportation

Ck. No. 26049 – Ron Lewis & Associates LLC  
\$3,500.00 – Legislative Consulting Services

Ck. No. 26050 – Sam & Tash Services, Inc.  
\$1,569.62 – Admin Office Janitorial Services

Ck. No. 26051 – TCDRS Annual Conference  
\$890.00 – TCDRS Annual Conference Registration

Ck. No. 26052 – The Brandimarte Law Firm, PLLC  
\$21,243.00 – Legal Services – February 2025

Ck. No. 26053 – Thorpe Plant Services, Inc.  
\$15,721.56 – Scaffold Rental – PS 1 & PS 10, PS3 Pump Bells

Ck. No. 26054 – Toby Davis  
\$3,973.80 – Conference Travel Reimbursement

Ck. No. 26055 – Tower Medical Center of Nederland  
\$620.00 – Medical and Physical Exams

Ck. No. 26056 – TWCA Risk Management Fund  
\$7.50 – February 2025 MVR Billing

Ck. No. 26057 – Mutual of Omaha Companies  
\$2,245.97 – Health Insurance Payment

Ck. No. 26058 – Waukesha-Pearce Industries, Inc.  
\$37,337.50 – Multiple Equipment Rentals

Ck. No. 26059 – Wave Solutions  
\$5,295.50 – Computer Software, Telephone & IT Services – March 2025

Ck. No. 26060 – Weisinger Incorporated  
\$164,973.00 – Replace Parts on Units 3 & 4 at PS 16 Annex

Ck. No. 26061 – Wells Fargo  
\$1,926.55 – Travel Expenses, Advertising, Office Supplies & Software Subscriptions

Ck. No. 26091 – Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas  
\$157.18 – Health Insurance Paymnet

Insurance Admin

Ck. No. 10170 – Assured Benefits Administrators  
\$77,480.76 – Monthly Health Insurance Administration

GLO

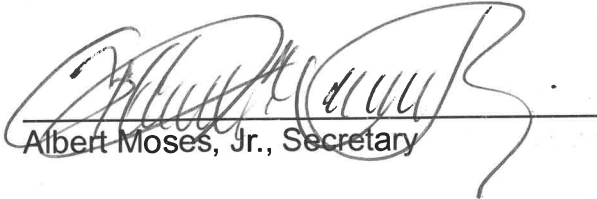
Ck. No. 5096 – Texan Engineering  
\$16,627.17 – Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project – PAV03A & PAV03C Relocation Design Fees

Ck. No. 5097 – Triangle Civil Services  
\$169,171.20 – Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project – PAV03A.1 – Sanitary Sewer Line Relocation

Commissioner Moses moved that the checks from the Maintenance Fund Account, Insurance Admin Account, and the GLO Fund Account be approved for payment. Commissioner Champagne seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Beaumont asked if there was any other business to come before the Board. There was none.

At 3:30 p.m., Commissioner Moses moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Champagne seconded the motion. The motion carried.



Albert Moses, Jr., Secretary



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Richard Beaumont, Chairman



**VISITOR SIGN-IN SHEET**  
**MEETING NO. 2439**  
**Tuesday, March 18, 2025**

	Name	Contact Information Email or Telephone	Public Comment	
1	Trevor Holmes - Brystar	trevor@brystar.com	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
2	Brandon Rose - Purplewave	Brandon.Rose@purplewave.com	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3	Chanda Hall - Easter Util	409-242-1510	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
4	Clint Bell Norman Hwy	409 988 0324	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
5	Nathan Brantmore	409-651-2618	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
6			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
7			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
8			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
9			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
11			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
12			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
13			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
14			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
15			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>