

**MINUTES OF VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING NO. 2419
COMMISSIONERS OF
JEFFERSON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 7**

Place: 3400 Hwy 73
Port Arthur, Texas

Date: May 21, 2024

Present: Commissioners
Richard Beaumont
James Gamble, Sr.
Lester Champagne
Albert Moses, Jr.
Matthew Vincent
Phil Kelley, General Manager

Visitors: Allen Sims, DD7
Toby Davis, DD7
Dean Depew, DD7
Brian McZeal, DD7
Terry Wade, DD7
Brady Girouard, DD7
Garrett Boudoin, DD7
Kirby Johnson, DD7
Igalious "Ike" Mills, Mills Consulting

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.

Minutes of Meeting No. 2418

The Minutes of Meeting No. 2418 was approved as read.

Open Bids and Consider Award for Bid for Emergency Stand-By Fuel Supply

Bids were opened and read as follows for Emergency Stand-By Fuel Supply:

Bidder	Complete Bid Proposal/Schedules	Bidder References	Delivery Charge	Markup Per Gallon
Suncoast Resources	√	√	\$250	.05
Jaquar	√	√	\$600	1.25

Allen Sims recommended the bid be awarded to Suncoast Resources based on the delivery charge and markup price. Mr. Phil Kelley concurred with Mr. Sim's recommendation. Dean Depew stated Suncoast has proven themselves in the past and has always been well prepared when needed. Commissioner Champagne moved to award the bid for Emergency Stand-By Fuel Supply to Suncoast Resources based on the recommendations of staff. Commissioner Moses seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Award of Bid for Sanitary Sewer Line Relocation at Port Acres Wastewater Treatment Plant

Toby Davis, District Engineer, stated bids were opened at the May 7, 2024 Board meeting, and the District received four (4) bids for the Sanitary Sewer Line Relocation at Port Acres Wastewater Treatment Plant. All bids were checked for errors and accuracy. The lowest bid was by Triangle Civil Services in the amount of One Million Four Hundred Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Seven and No/100 (\$1,444,497.00) Dollars with 200 working days. After review of the low bidding contractor's references and qualifications, it is recommended that the bid be awarded to Triangle Civil Services. Commissioner Vincent moved to award the bid for the Sanitary Sewer Line Relocation

at Port Acres Wastewater Treatment Plant to Triangle Civil Services for the amount of One Million Four Hundred Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Seven and No/100 (\$1,444,497.00) Dollars. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Final Payment to Mike Barnett Construction for the Roof Repairs for Central Pump Station

A recommendation letter was submitted by Kirby Johnson, P.E. for Pay Request No. 3 (Final) to Mike Barnett Construction for Roof Repairs to the Central Pump Station in the amount of Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Four and 46/100 (\$14,104.46) Dollars. Mr. Johnson stated the pay request is for Texas Windstorm Inspections and release of retainage. 100% of the work has been completed using 65% of the contract's working days. The Contractor did a great job, and it is recommended that the final pay request be approved for payment and the Certificate of Construction Completion be accepted. Commissioner Champagne moved to approve Pay Request No. 3 (Final) to Mike Barnett Construction for Roof Repairs to the Central Pump Station in the amount of Fourteen Thousand One Hundred Four and 46/100 (\$14,104.46) Dollars and the Certificate of Construction Completion be accepted. Commissioner Moses seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Pay Request No. 1 to Inland Environmental for Asbestos Abatement/Demolition of Former Taft Elementary School

A recommendation letter was submitted by Kirby Johnson, P.E. for Pay Request No. 1 to Inland Environments Ltd. for the Asbestos Abatement/Demolition of the Former Taft Elementary School in the amount of One Hundred Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Eight-Five and 40/100 (\$114,485.40) Dollars. The Contractor is requesting payment for mobilization of equipment, partial removal of concrete drives and

playground equipment, partial abatement of asbestos containing materials and partial demolition of the school building. 46% of the work has been completed using 24% of the contract's working days. Commissioner Moses moved to approve Pay Request No. 1 to Inland Environments Ltd. for the Asbestos Abatement/Demolition of the Former Taft Elementary School in the amount of One Hundred Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Eight-Five and 40/100 (\$114,485.40) Dollars. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Approval to Attend TWCA 2024 Summer Conference

Mr. Phil Kelley stated the TWCA Summer Conference will be held in Arlington, Texas on June 12-14, 2024. Commissioner Gamble moved that Commissioners and staff be authorized to attend. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sabine to Galveston Bay Project Summary

Mr. Allen Sims stated things are moving slow and there is not much to report. Colonel Blackmon was in town today to witness the driving of Steel H-Piles at Pump Station 18; however, once he arrived and was on location, they were told all submittals had not been completed and they did not have the crane matting approval required for driving the piles. There is an Executive Governance Meeting ("EGM") scheduled on Thursday of this week, wherein Messrs. Kelley and Sims will meet with the Colonel for a general project update.

Work has begun with the Gulf Coast Protection District ("GCPD") on the request for the next legislation session. Two meetings have already been held, and another meeting is scheduled for tomorrow to develop the District's strategy. The Legislative

Budget Board has requested that each agency submit its budget by the first of July, 2024.

Commissioner Gamble asks for further explanation concerning the pile driving at Pump Station 18. Mr. Sims explained Contract 3A is in construction, which includes the fronting protection at Pump Station 18, Pump Station 17, which is Lakeside off of Highway 73, and then Pump Station 16 Alligator. The pile driving will be done in that order starting with Pump Station 18. They will drive piles and pour concrete beams so that when the storm surge comes up on the unprotected side of the Hurricane Levee, it will not push the pump station back. This will allow for 100 years in the future sea level rise and the amount of pressure that will be put on the pump station at that time.

Mr. Kelley asked Mr. Sims to explain what is involved in a pile test. Mr. Sims explained an out of the way site is located; five (5) piles are driven, one on each corner and one in the middle; wait 14 days and then drive the piles another foot; wait another 14 days and set up a machine that uses the four (4) piles on the corners as anchor points and put a jack on the pile in the middle, put a weight or pressure on the pile to be sure it can hold the weight; and then turn the jack over and pull on the pile to see if it will resist the tension that may be put on it. Based on the pile test, it will be determined if the pile needs to be longer or shorter to handle the loads that will be applied. This is the preliminary test to see if the piles need to be adjusted before the pile driving begins.

Manager's Miscellaneous Reports/Financials

Mr. Phil Kelley presented the financial statements prepared by FMW, P.C. for the period ended April 30, 2024, and gave a collateral securities report as of April 30, 2024.

Mr. Kelley also advised that funds will begin to be moved over next week to the District's new bank.

Checks & Purchase Orders

Maintenance Fund

Ck. No. 24228 – Adam Johnson
\$115.29 – Herbicide License Renewal

Ck. No. 24229 – Allied Electrical Systems
\$1,908.00 – Annual Fire Extinguisher Inspections

Ck. No. 24230 – Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas
\$306.32 – Health Insurance Payments

Ck. No. 24231 – DISA, Inc.
\$300.00 – Pre-Employment Drug Screens

Ck. No. 24232 – Function 4 LLC
\$402.81 – Konica Copier Lease Payment-May 2024

Ck. No. 24233 – GC Electric, Inc.
\$1,152.00 – Generator Stator Reconditioning at PS 11

Ck. No. 24234 – GP Evans Contractors
\$7,498.05 – Seasonal Mowing Services

Ck. No. 24235 – Granicus
\$3,210.00 – Live Stream Service 2024-2025

Ck. No. 24236 – Inland Environments, Ltd.
\$114,485.40 – Taft Elementary School Demolition

Ck. No. 24237 – Ken's Electrical Marine Service
\$650.00 – Generator Repair at PS 11

Ck. No. 24238 – LJA Engineering, Inc.
\$15,751.01 – General Engineering, Data Collection, Stormwater Management Plan, Rodair Gully Detention HMGP and PS 5 Roof Replacement

Ck. No. 24239 – Mike Barnett Construction
\$14,104.46 – Roof Repairs for Central Pump Station

Ck. No. 24240 – National Waterways Conference, Inc.
\$1,525.00 – Membership Dues 2024-2025

Ck. No. 24241 – Port Arthur Newsmedia LLC
\$290.76 – Advertisement for Emergency Fuel Supply

Ck. No. 24242 – Sam & Tash Services, Inc.
\$1,569.62 – Cleaning Services Admin Building

Ck. No. 24243 – Texas Water Conservation Association
\$1,950.00 – TWCA 2024 Summer Conference

Ck. No. 24244 – Thorpe Plant Services, Inc.
\$370.19 – Scaffold Rental at PSs 11 and 1

Ck. No. 24245 – TWCA Risk Management Fund
\$924.00 – Auto Insurance Amendment

Ck. No. 24246 – Vortech Contracting, Inc.
\$54,142.00 – Labor to Erect Vehicle Shed

Ck. No. 24247 – Wave Solutions LLC
\$4,136.00 – Monthly Email and IT Service for May 2024

GLO Account

Ck. No. 5068 – Union Pacific Railroad Company
\$2,454.21 – Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project

Commissioner Gamble moved that the checks from the Maintenance Fund, and GLO Fund accounts be approved for payment. Commissioner Moses seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Phil Kelley recognized a guest, Mr. Igalious “Ike” Mills, and asked if he wanted to speak. Mr. Mills said he was in attendance to see how the taxpayer’s money is being spent and is definitely interested in the economic development impact dealing with the water flow in the area. He is the former Director of the Port Arthur EDC and is working with the Chairman of the NAACP Development Committee looking at environmental issues. Mr. Kelley thanked him for coming.

Executive Session – Pursuant to Section 551.072, Texas Government Code, Regarding Property Acquisition and Pursuant to Section 551.074, Texas Government Code, Regarding Personnel

At 2:26 p.m., the Commissioners entered an Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.072, Texas Government Code, regarding property acquisition and pursuant to Section 551.074, Texas Government Code, regarding personnel.

At 3:01 p.m., the meeting returned to regular session.

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

Commissioner Champagne moved to authorize the District's Manager to make an offer to purchase 80.62 acres of land based on the current market appraisal of the property. Commissioner Moses seconded the motion. The motion carried.


Commissioner Champagne moved to extend the General Manager's contract for a period of six (6) months. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

At 3:02 p.m., Commissioner Vincent moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.



Richard Beaumont, Chairman



Albert Moses, Jr., Secretary