

**MINUTES OF VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING NO. 2404
COMMISSIONERS OF
JEFFERSON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 7**

Place: 3400 Hwy 73
Port Arthur, Texas

Date: October 3, 2023

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

Phil Kelley, General Manager
Pete Steele, Attorney for the District

Visitors: Toby Davis, DD7
Barron Cook, DD7
Kirby Johnson, DD7
Brady Girouard, DD7
Dean Depew, DD7

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. 2403

The Minutes of Meeting No. 2403 was approved as read.

Consider Authorization to Advertise for Statement of Qualifications Regarding Engineering Services for Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants

Mr. Kelley requested approval to advertise for Statement of Qualifications for Engineering Services for Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant applications.

Mr. Toby Davis stated there will be a notice of funding opportunity posted at the end of this year. The District's Grant Administrator, Jeffery S. Ward & Associates, advised that it would be advantageous for the District to secure an engineering firm in advance of

applying for the grants. The engineering firm will aid the District in applying for the grants. The plan is to combine the current grant that has been awarded to the District along with the new grants. A series of studies will be conducted to identify projects which will be managed under one master plan. The grants applied for will be used to create a master drainage study which will identify needed drainage improvements and construction projects throughout the District that would fit the grant protocol. The grants are typically \$900,000 to \$2 million dollar projects. Commissioner Vincent motioned to approve the Authorization to Advertise for Statement of Qualifications Regarding Engineering Services for Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants. Commissioner Moses seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Consider Accepting a Fee Parcel for Right of Way Along Lakeview Main Channel from Port Arthur Independent School District

Mr. Kelley stated the property made the basis of this consideration is a Port Arthur ISD parcel. The District currently has a twenty-foot easement within the parcel, and this is just a formality for the District to take the property in fee. Port Arthur ISD will simply deed the property to the District. Commissioner Champagne motioned to accept the Fee Parcel for the Right of Way along the Lakeview Main Channel from Port Arthur ISD. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project Summary

Mr. Brady Girouard stated that design, work-in-kind, negotiations for rights of entry with landowners and project meetings continue on contracts. No significant changes since last report.

Mr. Kelley stated that he, Allen Sims, Toby Davis and Barron Cook toured the New Orleans East Bank Levee System to look at flood gate designs that are being considered

as part of the District's design. The system consists of approximately 200 miles of levee that runs through St. Charles, Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Bernard parishes. The System was built by the Corps after Katrina. Mr. Kelley stated that the system they have in place is very impressive and protects a lot of area along Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Borgne from storm surges associated with major hurricanes. The system includes a state of the art SCADA System and three very large pump stations that are only used during storm surge events. The system has numerous closure gate structures including a large sector gate that crosses the Intracoastal Canal. There are some gate structure designs that may fit applications needed for our system. Mr. Toby Davis stated that the engineering design firm is considering the suspended overhead and roller gate designs.

Manager Reports

This is the first board meeting of the new fiscal year. There are no managers' reports at this time.

Permits

Mammoet US South – Request for proposed Heavy Hauls (2) Crossing the HFPL at Ramp G. Mr. Brady Girouard recommended approval of the permit with a permit fee of \$550.00 and no bond required. Mr. Kelley asked if a survey was still required periodically. Mr. Girouard stated that a survey is still required every six months. Commissioner Vincent moved to approve the permit requested by Mammoet USA South for the proposed Heavy Haul Crossing the HFPL as recommended by Mr. Girouard. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

No executive session was held.

Checks & Purchase Orders
Maintenance Fund

Ck. No. 23013 – 4 Horn Industrial
\$459.00 – Troweling Machine Rental – Fab Shop Driveway Pour

Ck. No. 23014 – Allied Electrical Systems
\$519.00 – Fire Extinguisher Repairs – Various Pump Stations

Ck. No. 23015 – Lyle Machinery
\$126.00 – Bucket with Teeth Rental – PS # 2 Driveway Pour

Ck. No. 23016 – Coastline Concrete Pumping. LLC
\$2,912.38 – Administration Building & Fab Shop Concrete Pour

Ck. No. 23017 – Colwell Electric Company, Inc.
\$7,425.89 – Generator Transfer Switch Repair at PS's 1 & 6

Ck. No. 23018 – Dan Delich Consulting
\$1,500.00 – Legislative Consulting Fees

Ck. No. 23019 – Dannenbaum Engineering Corp.
\$15,947.65 – Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project & Groves HMGP Detention Project

Ck. No. 23020 – Duck's Dragline Service, Inc.
\$6,830.00 – LS250X4 Trackhoe Rental – Fab Shop Concrete Pour

Ck. No. 23021 – Electrical Specialties, Inc.
\$45.00 – Alarm Monitoring – Administration Building

Ck. No. 23022 – Groves Equipment Rental Co., Inc.
\$2,700.00 – Terrain Crane Rental, 9/17 – 10/16/23

Ck. No. 23023 – HERC Rentals Corporation
\$3,005.85 – Dump Truck Rental, 8/21 – 9/18/23

Ck. No. 23024 – James Gamble, Sr.
\$270.00 – Health Insurance Payment

Ck. No. 23025 – Jefferson County Agriculture Comm.
\$150.00 – Recertification Fee for Pesticide License (3)

Ck. No. 23026 – Kirby Johnson
\$50.00 – Texas Board of Engineers PE License Renewal

Ck. No. 23027 – KT Trucking & Cattle Co.
\$900.00 – Transport Fees for Dozer (3)

Ck. No. 23028 – Mazzanti & Associates LLC
\$2,500.00 – Legislative Consulting Fees

Ck. No. 23029 – National Waterways Conference, Inc.
\$1,525.00 – Membership Renewal Dues

Ck. No. 23030 – Ray Russo
\$2,950.00 – Legislative Consulting Service

Ck. No. 23031 – Sam & Tash Services, Inc.
\$1,569.62 – Cleaning Services 9/9 – 9/22/23

Ck. No. 23032 – Sunbelt Rentals
\$238.75 – Light Tower Rental, Pump Station Driveway Pour

Ck. No. 23033 – Texan Engineering & Consulting, LLC
\$13,115.00 – General Engineering / Permits / Lateral B-4-B

Ck. No. 23034 – TWCA Risk Management Fund
\$1,642.00 – Auto Liability & Physical Damage Insurance Amendment

Ck. No. 23035 – Wave Solutions LLC
\$3,864.00 – Monthly IT & Email Service – October 2023

Ck. No. 23036 – Wells Fargo
\$2,223.79 – Communication Equipment, Travel, Phone Service, Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project

Ck. No. 23037 – Terrell's Tree Service
\$1,600.00 – Tree Removal – 2 Locations in Port Neches, TX

Ck. No. 23060 – Ron Lewis & Associates
\$3,500.00 – Legislative Consulting Fees


Ck. No. 23061 – Thorpe Plant Services Corporation
\$45,922.00 – Scaffold Rental, Material & Labor Engine Install PS # 1

Commissioner Champagne moved that the checks from the Maintenance Fund account be approved for payment. 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 2:19 p.m., Commissioner Moses moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. The motion carried.



Richard Beaumont, Chairman



Albert Moses, Jr., Secretary