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**MINUTES OF VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING NO. 2345  
COMMISSIONERS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY  
JEFFERSON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 7**

Place: 4749 Twin City Highway, Suite 300  
Port Arthur, Texas

Date: April 6, 2021

Present: Commissioners  
Richard Beaumont  
Lester Champagne  
James Gamble  
Matthew E. Vincent  
Phil Kelley, Manager  
Pete Steele, Attorney

Absent: Albert Moses, Jr.

Visitors: Allen Sims, DD7  
Brady Girouard, DD7  
Garrett Boudoin, DD7  
Dean Depew, DD7  
Kim Carroll, Texan Engineering (via Zoom)  
David French, Nederland (via Zoom)

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 Gamble gave the invocation.

Minutes of Meeting No. 2344

The Minutes of Meeting No. 2344 was approved as read.

Receive, Open and Read the Names of Responding Firms to Request for Proposals for HMGP Grant Administration Services Related to Damage Repairs and Mitigation Improvements as a Result of Tropical Storm Imelda, DR-4466

Mr. Phil Kelley stated, as the Board is aware, the District has been awarded the Phase I Review for another grant for detention on Rodair Gully, which is a part of the

Imelda Disaster Declaration. The District must first go out for grant administration services to prepare the Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) that is required to be submitted first to the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM). Mr. Kelley proceeded to receive, open, and read the names and bid amounts of the responding firms to the Request for Proposals for Grant Administration Services as follows:

<b>CONTRACTOR</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT BASE BID</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ADDITIVE ALTERNATE BID</b>
Jeffrey S. Ward & Associates	\$132,800.00	\$2,500.00
Tidal Basin	\$93,200.00	\$1,000.00

Commissioner Vincent asked for an explanation of the additive alternate bid, and Mr. Kim Carroll of Texan Engineering explained depending on how complicated the BCA input information is, the contractor may have to make another run through their software to get accurate results. The additive alternate bid is the figure to cover this cost. Mr. Kelley stated at this time, all the District is required to do is unseal the proposals and read out the names of the responders. The District, along with Kim Carroll, will put together a committee to review the proposals, and a recommendation will be brought to the Board later to award the bid. Mr. Kelley further stated that both firms are currently working for the District on other HMGP projects, and Jeff Ward & Associates has been the grant administrator on the Alligator project.

Consider Progress Payment No. 1 to Cummins, Inc. for Diesel Engines and Reduction Gears for Lakeview and Rodair Pump Stations

A recommendation letter was submitted from Allen Sims for Progress Payment No. 1 to Cummins Sales and Service for Diesel Engines and Reduction Gears for

Lakeview and Rodair Pump Stations in the amount of Four Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty and No/100 (\$432,250.00) Dollars. Mr. Sims stated all four (4) engines have been received in good condition by the District, and the District is holding a 5% retainage until such time as the engines are tested. Mr. Sims explained why the District is holding 5% instead of its usual 10% retainage and stated contract language stipulates if the amount is over \$50,000 and 10% retainage is withheld, the District may possibly have to pay interest on the additional 5% withheld. Mr. Kelley stated that one of the engines has been installed at Lakeview Pump Station No. 8. The Corps of Engineers' Contractor who has been conducting the PL84-99 emergency funding repairs/upgrades at Lakeview is waiting on some equipment to come in and has pulled off this job and has moved to work at Delmar Pump Station No. 10. Therefore, the other engine for Lakeview Pump Station will be installed next week. The other two (2) engines are being stored and will be installed later at Rodair Gully Pump Station. Commissioner Champagne moved to approve Progress Payment No. 1 to Cummins Sales and Service in the amount of Four Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty and No/100 (\$432,250.00) Dollars for Diesel Engines and Reduction Gears for Lakeview and Rodair Pump Stations. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project Summary

Mr. Brady Girouard gave a brief update on the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project and stated Contract No. 1 at Valero Refinery is still underway with the Contractor resuming work on five zones and the main site due to the leniency on the

borrow material design specification. The District is soliciting some work-in-kind (GeoTech and Survey) on Contract No. 2 to facilitate the USACE Chicago District to begin performing the design work. Contract 3 and 3B have reached a 95% design level, and the District is engaged in sizable utility relocations through the Valero Refinery and the Port of Port Arthur. The District is currently working through some issues regarding surface and sub-surface easements and is not sure what all this will entail. Contract No. 3A is moving forward trying to reach a 65% design level. Coordination efforts are being made with Allen Sims and Dean Depew on pump station fronting issues, as well as with Motiva and KCS on utility relocations. Contract No. 4 still has variable limits on what the contract will entail. Meetings are being conducted between the Chicago District and the Tennessee District. They are exploring the idea of portions of the project being design build and other portions being design bid build. The design bid build sections would be the areas deemed by the Corps where the roadway surface cannot be the line of protection because if an overtopping event occurs, the road will wash away. Most of the levee system has about nine inches of limestone base with asphalt on top, and it is being considered to remove this material, raise the levee with acceptable clay material and build the road surface back on top. It is uncertain as to what the limits will be to work through the logistics of getting this done. For the sake of argument, the District does not believe this overtopping theory, but this is the position the Corps is taking so it will take some more work and elevating those sections of the levee systems.

Commissioner Champagne stated the District received \$200 million from the State to be divided into three (3) Projects and asked if there is a rough estimate of what the District has spent thus far. Mr. Kelley stated the District has received a little over \$38 million out of the \$106 million that has been dedicated to the District. The District has spent more money on engineering and in-kind services that has not been submitted for reimbursement at this time. The District received the approximate \$4 million that was paid to Valero for pipeline relocation as an advance payment from the General Land Office (GLO). The total spent is between \$38 million and \$39 million. Initially, the District's portion of the \$200 million was \$148 million but the GLO redistributed the funds and \$106 million has been dedicated to the District due to it having an active Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) and moving forward, \$78 million is dedicated to Orange County to start an interior study, and \$10 million is dedicated to Velasco Drainage District who has signed a PPA but has not executed the proper Certifications. Commissioner Champagne asked if the money still had to be spent within a certain amount of time. Mr. Kelley stated initially the money had to be spent within two years, but when it was appropriated to the GLO, they set the money aside in their construction account and it extends the time to five years. Mr. Brady Girouard stated Contract 3 relocations are estimated to be \$20 million, and it is the intention of the District to have these completed by January 1, 2022. There will be sizable contracts that will need advanced funding.

Manager's Miscellaneous Reports

Since the date of the last Commissioner's meeting, the following work has been done:

HFPL Maintenance/Herbicide Crew

Herbicide Application

- N. Port Acres Ditch, B5A, SNWW Armor stone covering from Coke Docks to Pump Station 7, Rosehill to Lamar Softball Field.
- Main B, Main C Faber Form, Main B Lateral 1 Faber Form, Jack Street Ditch
- All Pump Stations, Halbouty, Lateral B1, MUD Ditch, Lee Ditch, C11
- Airport Viterbo Laterals 1, 2 and 3, Tiger Bayou (Earthen Section), C12, Main C Loop
- Main C Extension, started Main C Laterals 1-7

Levee:

- Checked flap and screw gates
- Dropped off materials needed for HFPL repair at Closure Structure #11

Misc.:

- Weed eat sheet pile wall at Valero
- Mowed DD7 properties on Lakeshore Drive
- Pulled trash at various pump stations during rain events

Contractor:

- Ducks Dragline Service: Re-establishing ditch bank on Blocks Bayou.

Construction Notes - Alligator Bayou Pump Station Annex

March 8, 2021 – March 26, 2021

Monday, March 8:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were sunny. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (5) operators/laborers reported.

Allco is welding steel plates onto the top of (4) sheet piles to reinforce the tops so that they can try to pull the piling tomorrow.

Tuesday, March 9:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were sunny. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (5) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew is attempting to pull sheet pile out from the wall in the intake bay. The crew pulled on (1) sheet for about 45 minutes and the sheet did not move. The crane operator tried a different technique and was able to pull (6) sheets out in 2.5 hours. The crew started welding support plates on the next sheets further down the wall.

Wednesday, March 10:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were cloudy. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (5) operators/laborers reported.

Allco is welding steel support plates onto the top of the sheet piling to reinforce the sheets for pulling.

E.S.I. (1) is on site to replace the 60-ton crane's contactor. The crane is now functioning properly.

Thursday, March 11:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were cloudy. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (5) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew is welding steel support plates onto the top of more sheet pile to reinforce the sheets for pulling. It was noted that Mike Nunez came to the job site to deliver a new control panel for the second floor's return fuel system.

Friday, March 12:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were cloudy. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (5) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew is continuing to weld steel support plates onto the top of more sheet pile to reinforce the sheets for pulling.

Lufkin Gear (1) is on site to inspect the angle gears. The mechanic added 8-ounces of oil to unit #1's pump section pipe and ran the engine for thirty minutes to raise the gear pressure and check the rise in temperature. The temperature in unit #1 came up to about 96 degrees. The mechanic adjusted the angle gear pressure up to 26~27 p.s.i. The mechanic looked inside unit #6's angle gear and found metal shavings present. He also noticed that all the ring gear bolts were loose. The mechanic said not to run unit #6's angle gear until the problem is addressed. The mechanic looked inside unit #5 and found the same fastening style with Allen lead bolts on the ring gear and unsecured by tie-wire. Unit #6 and 5 ring gear bolts are not secured by tie-wire.

Lufkin's mechanic and DD7 crew members inspected all the other units. The crew found that all units have hex head bolts fastening the ring gears and all have locking tie-wire through the bolts to keep the bolts from backing out and/or from coming loose. It was recommended by DD7's Scott Snyder to not run unit #5 and to follow the

mechanic's recommendation to not run unit #6 until the ring gear bolts are changed and secured by tie-wire.

Monday, March 15:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were partly cloudy. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (5) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew is pulling sheet pile on the intake bay side of the station.

DD7's Scott and Kody removed the small clutch air compressor from unit #2. The compressor is not pressuring the system up. It comes on and runs only for a few seconds then shuts off. The compressor gauge does not show any pressure.

Reyes Construction (10) is on site forming the concrete cap on the North side of the intake bay along the haul road.

Tuesday, March 16:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were cloudy with light rain in the morning. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (7) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew is water jetting down the side of the sheet piling so that they can keep pulling on the sheets. The crew is welding reinforcing steel plates to the top of the sheet piling.

Reyes Construction (10) is on site pouring 70~80 yards of concrete for the intake bay's wall cap on the North side of the intake bay.

Wednesday, March 17:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today until noon due to a rain out. Weather conditions were cloudy. Heavy rain started around 11:30. The site conditions were muddy.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (7) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew is water jetting next to the sheet pile and welding reinforcing steel plates to the top of the sheet piling. The crew rained out at lunch around 12 pm.

Thursday, March 18:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were sunny and cold. The site conditions were muddy.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (7) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew started pulling sheet pile and were able to pull (2) full sheets out before they started having problems with the Vibro. While working on the Vibro, the crew continued to weld reinforcing steel plates onto the top of the sheets.

DD7's Nathan and Tony removed the fuel solenoid valve on unit #2 and replaced it with a new one.



Friday, March 19:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were sunny with cool temperatures. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (7) operators/laborers reported.

Allco has a mechanic working on the Vibro. The crew is welding steel plates to the sheet piling for reinforcement. They were able to pull a few sheets late in the day.

Monday, March 22:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were partly cloudy with a chance of rain later in the evening. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (6) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew is water jetting around both sides of the sheet pile that the crew has had difficulty removing. The crew is continuing to weld reinforcing steel sheets onto the top of the sheet piling.

Tuesday, March 23:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were sunny. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (7) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's crew is water jetting around the sides of the sheet pile and welding steel plates to the tops of the piling.

Wednesday, March 24:

Alligator Project; Allco did not work today, no laborers reported to work. Weather conditions were sunny. The site conditions were dry.

DD7's Nathan and Tony changed out the fuel solenoid valve on unit #1.

Thursday, March 25:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were partly cloudy. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (7) operators/laborers reported.

Allco's was able to pull (5) sheets fully out today that they jetted around yesterday. Allco wants to get the office trailer off rent. Allco and DD7's Scott started to move everything out of the trailer.

Friday, March 26:

Alligator Project; Allco worked on site today. Weather conditions were sunny. The site conditions were dry.

Allco superintendent (1) on site Terrell (1) with (6) operators/laborers reported.

Allco is pulling more sheet piling out today (4). The crew is starting to work on removing the support battered I-beams on the intake side of the station.

DD7's Scott finished moving his paperwork and belongings out of Allco's office trailer and into the new station's office.

Mr. Phil Kelley gave a brief update on the creation of the Gulf Coast Protection District. Mr. Kelley stated for Commissioner Gamble's information that Senator Taylor and Representative Dennis Paul has co-sponsored a Bill to create what is called a Gulf Coast Protection District which will spread across five (5) counties including Orange, Harris, Jefferson, Chambers and Galveston County. The main focus of this Gulf Coast Protection District is to construct the Ike Dike in addition to the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project. The Ike Dike includes a Storm Surge Protection System along the Bolivar Peninsula and continues across the bay and the Houston Ship Channel to Galveston and then encircles Galveston. There was a big article about this in the Beaumont Enterprise on Sunday, April 4. The Bill has been heard by the Senate Committee, and it is Mr. Kelley's understanding the Bill will go to the Senate Floor tomorrow. The Bill has yet to be taken up by the House Committee. Mr. Kelley has been asked to go to Austin this Friday for a meeting with the Chief of Staff of Senator Taylor, Representative Paul, and Zack Johnson with Speaker Phelan's office. Other individuals who have been asked to attend are the County Judges of the five (5) counties and Don Carona with Orange County Drainage District. Mr. Kelley has asked Chairman Beaumont to go, Pete Steele, Ray Russo, and Allen Sims. Mr. Kelley will keep the Board up to date on how this matter progresses. Commissioner Champagne stated he was unaware of the article in the Beaumont Enterprise but is glad the information is getting out to the public. The public will have the final input. Mr. Kelley stated it will be a district that may have the ability to assess a property tax throughout

the five counties although it will go to the voters to get a tax approval. One of the comments was to limit the tax assessment to 5¢ per \$100, and the draft Bill that is being considered does contain the 5¢ assessment language., If the tax is ever tried to be raised, they will have to go back to the voters to increase it. One of the comments that had been heavily discussed and is not included in the Bill is that the district would include the opportunity to fund interior drainage throughout the five counties. As it currently stands, this language is not written into the Bill. Mr. Kelley said Ron Lewis worked hard on getting this language included and he feels certain Mr. Lewis will be attending the meeting on Friday. Also, Mr. Kelley does not feel that Speaker Phelan is to the point that he will support the Bill as it is currently written because he is concerned about the interior drainage in Orange County ahead of building a Hurricane Flood Protection Levee. Ultimately, it is up to the Commissioners' Court of each county whether to participate, and Brazoria County has already decided to opt out.

#### Permits

Port Arthur Terminal – Proposed At-Grade Pipeline Crossing of the HFPL High Ground Area. Mr. Brady Girouard recommended approval with a Five Hundred Fifty and No/100 (\$550.00) Dollar permit fee and no bond required. Commissioner Vincent moved to approve Mr. Girouard's recommendation. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### Checks & Purchase Orders Maintenance Fund

Ck. No. 18107 – Bobcat of Beaumont  
\$239.87 – Rental of MI Braker Attachment

Ck. No. 18108 – Cummins Sales and Service  
\$432,250.00 – Diesel Engine Replacement

Ck. No. 18109 - Dan Delich Consulting  
\$1,950.00 – Legislative Consulting Fees

Ck. No. 18110 - Dannenbaum Engineering Corp.  
\$26,019.94 - Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project  
and Groves Detention HMGP Project

Ck. No. 18111 –Duck’s Dragline Service, Inc.  
\$19,200.00 – Rental LS250X3 Trackhoe 03/12-03/31/21,  
Rental LS250X4 Trackhoe 03/12-03/31/21

Ck. No. 18112 - FILMR, LLC  
\$176.00 – Film & Social Media Posts

Ck. No. 18113 – Function 4 LLC  
\$192.98 – Rental Konmin Copier, 3/15-4/14/21

Ck. No. 18114 – James Gamble, Sr.  
\$270.00 – Health Insurance Payment

Ck. No. 18115 – Jeffrey S. Ward & Associates, Inc.  
\$5,833.33 – Groves Detention HMGP and Halbouty Detention HMGP

Ck. No. 18116 – LJA Engineering, Inc.  
\$3,120.00 – Blocks Bayou and Elevation Data/PAV 3A Zone 4

Ck. No. 18117 –Mazzanti & Associates LLC  
\$2,500.00 – Legislative Consulting

Ck. No. 18118 – Port Arthur Newsmedia, LLC  
\$303.08 – Hazard Mitigation Grant Project

Ck. No. 18119 – Ray Russo  
\$4,250.01 - Legislative Consulting Fees

Ck. No. 18120 – Richard Beaumont  
\$207.58 – Health Insurance Payment

Ck. No. 18121 – Ron Lewis & Associates  
\$3,500.00 - Legislative Consulting Fees

Ck. No. 18122 – Sigma Engineers, Inc.  
\$74,481.60 – Main Office Upgrade

Ck. No. 18123 – Steven Wayne Hanna  
\$97.00 – CDL License Renewal

Ck. No. 18124 – Sunbelt Rentals  
\$731.52 – Rental of Jumping Jack Tamper, 3/2-3/29/21

Ck. No. 18125 - Texan Engineering & Consulting, LLC  
\$16,380.00 – HMGP Projects, Reviews/Permits, General Engineering  
Services and A-3-A Crossings

Ck. No. 18126 – TWCA Risk Management Fund  
\$577.00 – Auto Policy Changes adding Cargo Trailer and  
2021 Chevrolet Silverado

Ck. No. 18127 – United Rentals  
\$2,579.17 – Rental of 54” Single Drum Vibro Roller, 3/8-3/22/21

Ck. No. 18128 - Waukesha-Pearce Industries, Inc.  
\$4,230.00 - Rental Bomag Soil Compactor, 3/2-3/30/21

Ck. No. 18129 – Wells Fargo Remittance System  
\$683.53 – Travel and Meeting Expense and Office Furniture

Commissioner Champagne moved that the checks from the Maintenance Fund be approved for payment. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. The motion carried.


Chairman Beaumont asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. There were none.

Commissioner Champagne asked if there have been any more discussions with the City of Nederland on trying to get a path forward on water going toward the Neches River. Mr. Kelley answered no but the District did go in and clean up the channel.

At 2:31 p.m., Commissioner Champagne moved that the meeting be adjourned.  
Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion. The motion carried.



Albert Moses, Jr., Secretary



Richard Beaumont, Chairman