

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
ORANGE COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT**

**September 10, 2024**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Drainage District was held on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the District Office located at 8081 Old Highway 90, Orange, Texas. A quorum of the Board of Directors was present for this meeting of the Board of Directors at the location set forth above.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Russell Covington	Director, Precinct No. 1
Larry Ancelot, Jr.	Director, Precinct No. 2
James Scales	Director, Precinct No. 3

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Brent Peveto	Director At-Large
Hal LaPray	Director, Precinct No. 4

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Neal Ford	General Manager
Douglas Manning	Assistant General Manager
Andrea Fabacher	Recording Secretary
Don Carona	Attorney
Keri Mitchuka	Accountant

**MEETING OPENED**

Mr. Scales called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Drainage District to order at 10:02 a.m. Mr. Manning led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Covington made a motion to dispense with the reading of, and to approve, the minutes of the August 13, 2024 regular meeting, August 27, 2024 special meeting and the September 4, 2024 special meeting. Mr. Ancelot seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**VISITORS**

None

**RECOGNIZE ACCEPTANCE OF TEXPOOL AUGUST 2024 REPORT**

No action required.

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2024 BILLS**

After review and discussion, Mr. Covington made a motion to approve the bills for August 2024. Mr. Ancelot seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION, AND ADOPTION OF THE TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

After review and discussion, Mr. Ancelot made a motion to adopt the tax rate of \$0.13410/\$100 for fiscal year 2024-2025. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 FOR THE PURPOSE OF MODIFYING VARIOUS BUDGETED EXPENSES**

Mr. Covington made a motion to approve the amendment to the budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 for the purpose of modifying various budgeted expenses. Mr. Ancelot seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL RENEWAL OF THE DISTRICT'S MEMBERSHIP TO THE TEXAS WATER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Ancelot made a motion to approve the renewal of the annual membership fee of \$907.00 with the Texas Water Conservation Association. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE INVESTMENT POLICY TO INCLUDE ANNUAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS FOR THE INVESTMENT OFFICERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2256.005 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE**

Mr. Ancelot made a motion to approve an amendment to the Investment Policy to include annual disclosure statements for the Investment Officers in accordance with Section 2256.005 of the Texas Government Code. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE DISTRICT'S INVESTMENT POLICY AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE SAME**

After discussion of the annual review of the District's Investment Policy and Investment Strategies, Mr. Covington made a motion to adopt a Resolution regarding the same. Mr. Ancelot seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL A RESOLUTION REMOVING HAL LAPRAY FROM THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE AND APPOINTING RUSSELL COVINGTON, BOARD DIRECTOR/SECRETARY, AS A MEMBER OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Ancelot made a motion to approve a Resolution removing Hal LaPray from the Investment Committee and appointing Russell Covington, Board Director/Secretary, as a member of the Investment Committee. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE DISTRICT'S 2025 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Mr. Covington made a motion to approve the District's 2025 Holiday schedule. Mr. Ancelot seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 12, 2024**

Mr. Covington made a motion to approve holding the Annual Employee Christmas Party on December 12, 2024. Mr. Ancelot seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FOR PIPELINE OR UTILITY PERMIT SUBMITTED BY ORANGE COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #1 FOR A WATER LINE TO BE LOCATED AT OLD SPANISH TRAIL (NEAR ADDRESS 2785), WITH ROAD RIGHT OF WAY, VIDOR, TEXAS**


Mr. Ancelot made a motion to approve the application for Pipeline or Utility Permit submitted by Orange County Water Control and Improvement District #1 for a water line to be located at Old Spanish Trail (near address 2785), with road Right of Way, Vidor, Texas. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT STAFF TO APPROVE THE DRAINAGE PLAN FOR THE NORTH 16<sup>TH</sup> STREET SHOPPING CENTER AND OFFICE BUILDING PROJECT TO BE LOCATED AT 1214 N. 16<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ORANGE, TX, PREPARED BY HANI J. THOME, P.E., DATED AUGUST 12, 2024**

Mr. Covington made a motion to authorize the Drainage District Staff to approve the Drainage Plan for the North 16<sup>th</sup> Street Shopping Center and Office Building project to be located at 1214 N. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Orange, TX, prepared by Hani J. Thome, P.E., dated August 12, 2024. Mr. Ancelot seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**BOARD ADJOURNS**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Ancelot made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

  
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James Scales  
President

  
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Andrea Fabacher  
Recording Secretary