

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

**October 8, 2024**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Drainage District was held on Tuesday, October 8<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
James Scales	Director, Precinct No. 3
Hal LaPray	Director, Precinct No. 4

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Brent Peveto	Director At-Large
Larry Ancelot, Jr.	Director, Precinct No. 2

**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 10:04 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 September 10, 2024 regular meeting. Mr. LaPray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**VISITORS**

None

**RECOGNIZE ACCEPTANCE OF TEXPOOL SEPTEMBER 2024 REPORT**

No action required.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2024 BILLS**

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

**PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING A PRESENTATION BY LJA ENGINEERING, INC. OF THE SABINE RIVER RELIEF DITCH EXTENSION AND EXPANSION PROJECT FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS STUDY**

The Board convened a public meeting to inform the public of the results of a feasibility study conducted by LJA Engineering, Inc ("LJA") regarding the Sabine River Relief Ditch Extension Project. LJA made a presentation to the Board and all others in attendance. There being no additional discussion or comments from citizens, Mr. LaPray made a motion to end the public meeting as it related to this item. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**RECEIVE QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER AND/OR ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Manning presented to the Board the District's quarterly investment report for the quarter ending September 30, 2024. Mr. Covington made a motion to accept the report as presented. Mr. LaPray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO NOMINATE ONE OR MORE CANDIDATES FOR THE 2025 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ORANGE COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT**

Mr. Covington made a motion to nominate Dale Parish for the 2025 election of Directors to the Board of Directors of the Orange County Appraisal District. Mr. LaPray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL FOR THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE DISTRICT'S GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Mr. Covington made a motion to approve the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 2 to the District's Grant Agreement with the Texas Water Development Board. Mr. LaPray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A CHANGE TO THE DISTRICT'S PERSONNEL POLICY NOS. 110 (DEFINITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT STATUS) AND 370 (RETIREMENT BENEFITS)**

Mr. LaPray made a motion to approve the change to the District's Personnel Policy No. 110 (Definitions of Employment Status) and No. 370 (Retirement Benefits). Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A CHANGE TO THE DISTRICT'S PERSONNEL POLICY NO. 330 (TRAVEL)**

Mr. LaPray made a motion to table the agenda item. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT STAFF TO APPROVE THE DRAINAGE PLAN FOR THE APEX TOWING PROJECT TO BE LOCATED AT 18755 TX-62, ORANGE, TEXAS, PREPARED BY SAMUEL PAUL FOUNTAIN, P.E., DATED SEPTEMBER 23, 2024**

Mr. LaPray made a motion to authorize the Drainage District Staff to approve the Drainage Plan for the Apex Towing project to be located at 18755 TX-62, Orange, Texas, prepared by Samuel Paul Fountain, P.E., dated September 23, 2024. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT STAFF TO APPROVE THE DRAINAGE PLAN FOR THE EQUIPMENT SHARE PROJECT TO BE LOCATED AT 6521 IH-10, ORANGE, TEXAS, PREPARED BY JEFFERY D. LEAVINS, P.E., DATED SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Mr. Covington made a motion to authorize the Drainage District Staff to approve the Drainage Plan for the Equipment Share project to be located at 6521 IH-10, Orange, Texas, prepared by Jeffery D. Leavins, P.E., dated September 30, 2024. Mr. LaPray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT STAFF TO APPROVE THE DRAINAGE PLAN FOR THE USA RAIL TERMINALS PROJECT TO BE LOCATED AT 2425 FOREMAN ROAD, ORANGE, TEXAS, PREPARED BY BRIAN L. WINNINGHOFF, P.E., DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**

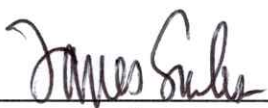
Mr. Covington made a motion to authorize the Drainage District Staff to approve the Drainage Plan for the USA Rail Terminals project to be located at 2425 Foreman Road, Orange, Texas, prepared by Brian L. Winninghoff, P.E., dated September 17, 2024. Mr. LaPray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT STAFF TO APPROVE THE DRAINAGE PLAN FOR THE ORANGE COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES BUILDING TO BE LOCATED ON FM 1442, ORANGE, TEXAS, PREPARED BY DASON CAHLIG FERNANDEZ, P.E., DATED MARCH 27, 2024**

Mr. LaPray made a motion to authorize the Drainage District Staff to approve the Drainage Plan for the Orange County Health Services Building to be located on FM 1442, Orange, Texas, prepared by Dason Cahlig Fernandez, P.E., dated March 27, 2024. Mr. Covington seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**BOARD ADJOURNS**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Covington made the motion to adjourn. Mr. LaPray seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

  
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James Scales  
President

  
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Andrea Fabacher  
Recording Secretary