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## AGENDA ITEM MEMO

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** May 9, 2024

**TO:** Board Members

**THROUGH:** Bryan McMath, Interim Executive Administrator  
Ashley Harden, General Counsel  
Rebecca Trevino, Chief Financial Officer  
Edna Jackson, Deputy Executive Administrator, Operations & Administration

**FROM:** Patricia Avitia, Deputy Chief Information Officer  
James Hulgan, Manager, Business Strategy & Automation Administration

**SUBJECT:** Contract for Applications Architect

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Consider approving a contract extension and associated increase to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Information Technology (IT) contract, which provides temporary services of an Applications Architect III, by \$77,746 with a new contract total not to exceed \$552,746 for FY 2024 – 2025.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Texas Department of Information Resources administers an Information Technology Staff Augmentation Contracts program to provide temporary IT staff resources on an as-needed, hourly basis. Applications Architects, who design and analyze software products and are integral in the creation, improvement, and testing of software, may be contracted through that program.

In February 2023, the TWDB contracted with a DIR-approved vendor to hire an Applications Architect III to provide support for the Water Data for Texas (WDfT) Infrastructure and Software Modernization Project. This project involves streamlining the software development process, remediating security and vulnerability items, and modernizing the overall infrastructure of the WDfT system. It is estimated that this project will reduce software defects by 90 percent, speed up delivery of enhancements by 70 percent, and reduce Amazon Web Services costs in this environment by 40 percent.

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Leading the state's efforts  
in ensuring a secure  
water future for Texas

[Board Members](#)

Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman | George B. Peyton V, Board Member | L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Board Member  
Bryan McMath, Interim Executive Administrator

As provided for by the original contract, the TWDB extended the contract through FY 2024, and the Board approved a contract increase to fully fund this extension. To accommodate changes in the Shared Technology Services program processes and to ensure the successful completion of the WdFT modernization project, a contract increase of \$77,746 is needed. The funding for this contract has been allocated in the FY 2025 IT Operating Budget.

**KEY ISSUES**

None.

**RECOMMENDATION**

To complete the work of the WdFT Infrastructure and Software Modernization Project and realize the efficiencies, enhanced securities, and economies to be generated by that project, the Executive Administrator recommends approving a contract extension and an associated \$77,476 increase to the vendor contract for an Applications Architect III, with a new contract total not to exceed \$552,746 for FY 2024-2025.