

## AGENDA ITEM MEMO

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** September 9, 2021

**TO:** Board Members

**THROUGH:** Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator  
Ashley Harden, General Counsel  
Rebecca Trevino, Chief Financial Officer

**FROM:** Jessica Pena, Deputy Executive Administrator  
Matt Nelson, Assistant Deputy Executive Administrator, Water  
Supply and Infrastructure

**SUBJECT:** Interagency contract with Texas Tech University to support the  
Texas Produced Water Consortium

### ACTION REQUESTED

Consider authorizing the Executive Administrator to execute an interagency contract with the Texas Tech University in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 to support the Texas Produced Water Consortium.

### BACKGROUND

In 2021, the 87th(R) Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 601 and an associated budget Rider 23 that, together, create and provide funding to support the Texas Produced Water Consortium under the Texas Education Code. The consortium was created to bring together information resources to study the economics of and technology related to, and the environmental and public health considerations for, beneficial uses of fluid oil and gas waste. The consortium will be hosted and facilitated by Texas Tech University which is currently in the process of hiring a program director.

The Texas Produced Water Consortium is a consortium that consists of:

- the host university,
- an agency advisory council,
- a stakeholder advisory council,
- a technical and economic steering committee, and
- private entities.

#### Our Mission

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

#### Board Members

Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman | Kathleen Jackson, Board Member

Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator

Except for the state funds appropriated for the host university and resources provided by the host university and other state university system entities or state agencies, the consortium will rely on other contributions such as consortium membership dues.

This interagency contract will serve as the means of providing the appropriated state funds to Texas Tech University as required by Rider 23.

**KEY ISSUES**

The Texas Water Development Board was named as one of the eight state agency members of the consortium's agency advisory council.

The Executive Administrator anticipates that the Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 funds will be transferred to Texas Tech in two annual transfers, once funds become legally available.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Executive Administrator recommends approval to authorize the execution of an interagency contract with Texas Tech University in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 to support the Texas Produced Water Consortium.