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AGENDA ITEM MEMO

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 16, 2025

TO: Board Members

THROUGH: Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator
Ashley Harden, General Counsel
Georgia Sanchez, Chief Financial Officer
John T. Dupnik, P.G., Deputy Executive Administrator, Water Science and Conservation

FROM: Caimee A. Schoenbaechler, Interim Manager, TexMesonet
Carla G. Guthrie, Ph.D., Director, Surface Water

SUBJECT: Hydrometeorological Data Agreement with Texas Tech University

ACTION REQUESTED

Consider authorizing the Executive Administrator to execute a new contract with Texas Tech University not to exceed \$574,200 for continuation of West Texas Mesonet data transfer in fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

BACKGROUND

Formed in 2016, the TexMesonet program aggregates and displays hydrometeorological data from stations across Texas to provide support for weather forecasting; flood preparedness; drought monitoring; wildfire management; water planning and conservation; and agricultural, industrial, and business readiness and productivity. Statewide weather station coverage is essential to the mission of the TexMesonet program. To facilitate statewide coverage, the TWDB retrieves data from stations in partner networks and from TWDB stations that are being installed to fill gaps in existing network coverage across the state. All data, such as temperature, precipitation, humidity, pressure, wind, solar radiation, and soil moisture from nearly 2,000 active stations across Texas, is displayed and accessible to users via a centralized website, TexMesonet.org.

To provide weather station data from the Panhandle, Plains, and West Texas, the TWDB has established a cost-effective partnership with Texas Tech University to retrieve and display data from the West Texas Mesonet network. The attachment shows the extent of statewide coverage accomplished by existing TWDB stations, West Texas Mesonet

Our Mission

Leading the state's efforts
in ensuring a secure
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Board Members

L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman | W. Brady Franks, Board Member | Ashley Morgan, Board Member
Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

stations, and other partners combined, highlighting the importance of the West Texas Mesonet for achieving statewide coverage.

KEY ISSUES

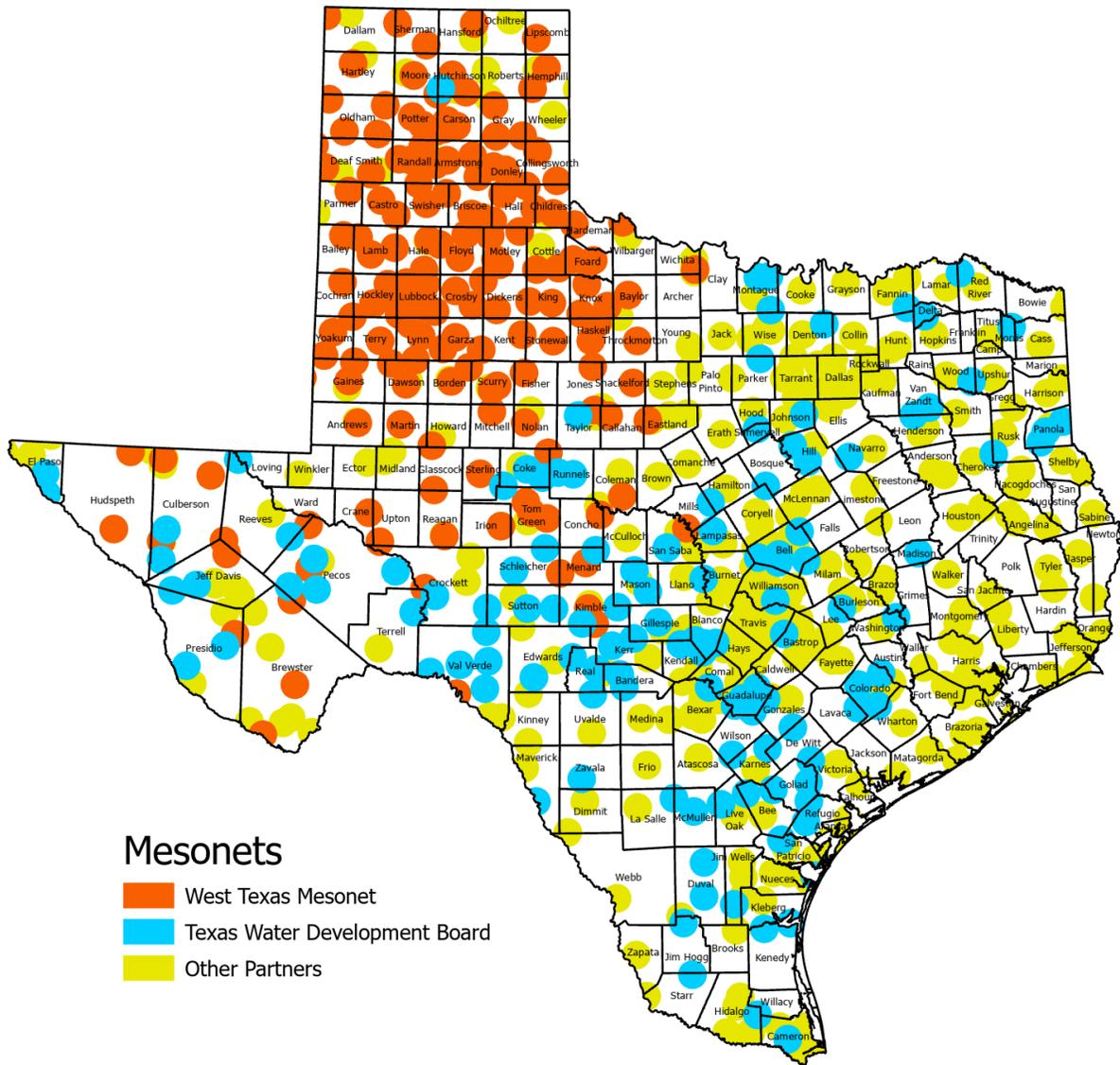
To maintain access to hydrometeorological data coverage in the Panhandle, Plains, and West Texas areas, the Executive Administrator proposes to negotiate a new contract with Texas Tech University not to exceed \$574,200 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027. Funding will be provided by general revenue and the Texas Infrastructure Resiliency Fund. The agreement will provide high quality hydrometeorological data for the next two years from at least 169 West Texas Mesonet stations for display, download, and public use via TexMesonet.org. The West Texas Mesonet complements existing TexMesonet infrastructure, provides high quality data that meets TexMesonet's siting, sensor, and reporting standards, and furthers TexMesonet's mission of providing statewide coverage.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Administrator concludes that this contract with Texas Tech University for West Texas Mesonet data is important to meeting the TWDB's mandate established under Texas Water Code § 16.028 to provide statewide monitoring of hydrometeorological conditions and recommends approval of this request.

Attachment: Map of earth observation stations displayed on Texmesonet.org, with West Texas Mesonet and TWDB stations identified.

Attachment



TexMesonet coverage by TWDB, West Texas Mesonet, and other partner stations, highlighting the importance of partnerships to achieving statewide coverage.