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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 ratifying and authorizing a contract amendment with Texas Tech University to increase the contract amount for a total cost not to exceed \$755,006.25 for additional West Texas Mesonet historical data.

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. To provide weather station data from the Panhandle, Plains, and West Texas, the TWDB established a cost-effective partnership with Texas Tech University in fiscal year 2023 to retrieve and display data from the West Texas Mesonet network. The TWDB has continued to amend this contract in each fiscal year allowing for the continued ability to display West Texas Mesonet data on www.texmesonet.org. The total cost for data access in fiscal years 2023 through 2025 has been \$655,006.25.

KEY ISSUES

In fiscal year 2025, TWDB Contract #2300012680-A with Texas Tech University was amended to add \$100,000 to obtain historical data for the period from January 1, 2000, to January 31, 2023, with redistribution rights for data beginning on January 1, 2016. The historical dataset includes 26 meteorological and agricultural variables from 148 stations.

Our Mission	:	Board Members
Leading the state's efforts	:	L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman W. Brady Franks, Board Member Ashley Morgan, Board Member
in ensuring a secure	:	
water future for Texas	:	Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

The contract was inadvertently amended to an amount that exceeded prior Board authority. On December 7, 2023, the Board approved the contract to be amended up to \$726,050.00. With the additional \$100,000 amendment in August 2025, the contract exceeded Board authority by \$28,956.25.

The Executive Administrator proposes to ratify this amendment and include additional clarifying amendments with Texas Tech University to allow for a total contract amount not to exceed \$755,006.25, providing for the purchase of high quality historical hydrometeorological data from the West Texas Mesonet network. With the acquisition of this historical dataset, TWDB has access to nearly 25 years of continuous data, allowing staff to conduct data analysis, develop data products, and provide deeper insights into conditions across Texas to support weather awareness and water resource management.

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.