

## AGENDA ITEM MEMO

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** November 9, 2023

**TO:** Board Members

**THROUGH:** Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator  
Ashley Hardin, General Counsel  
Rebecca Trevino, Chief Financial Officer  
Edna Jackson, Deputy Executive Administrator, Operations & Administration  
Darrell Tompkins, Chief Information Officer

**FROM:** Louise Twagilimana, Manager, Application Development  
James Hulgan, Assistant Manager, Application Development

**SUBJECT:** Contract for Applications Architect

### ACTION REQUESTED

Consider approving a contract increase to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Information Technology (IT) contract, which provides temporary services of an Applications Architect III, by \$225,000, with a new contract total not to exceed \$475,000.

### 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 2022, 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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in ensuring a secure  
water future for Texas

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

The TWDB extended the contract through FY 2024, as provided for by the original contract. The current contract provides for only three months of contracted staff time on the project in FY 2024. The contract total must be increased by \$225,000 to allow for the Applications Architect to complete the remaining work on the WdFT project. The funding for this contract has already been allocated in the FY 2024 IT Operating Budget.

**KEY ISSUES**

None.

**RECOMMENDATION**

To continue 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 an increase to the FY 2024 vendor contract for an Applications Architect III by \$225,000, with a contract amount not to exceed \$475,000.