RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ORIGINATING AT THE CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE CONFERENCE ROOM
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
JANUARY 8, 2025
11:00 A.M.

A meeting of the Red River Joint Water Resource District (RRJWRD) Executive Committee was held on January 8, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

Present were Josh Ihry, Steele County Water Resource District; Keith Weston, Southeast Cass Water Resource District; Don Kemp, Pembina County Water Resource District; Tom Perdue, Grand Forks County Water Resource District; Andy Neset, Traill County Water Resource District; Melissa Hinkemeyer, Secretary; Leilei Bao, Treasurer; Elizabeth Smith, Administrative Assistant; Rita Nelson, Accounting Assistant; Sean M. Fredricks, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.; William Hejl, Rush River Water Resource District; Bruce Anderson, Barnes County Water Resource District; Bill Gunderson and LuAnn Kemp, Pembina County Water Resource District; Randy Gjestvang, North Dakota Department of Water Resources (NDDWR); Brian Fuder, Red River Retention Authority (RRRA); Zach Herrmann and Mike Opat, Houston Engineering, Inc.; Kurt Lysne, Moore Engineering, Inc.; and Duane Breitling, Cass County Commissioner.

2025 elections and appointments

Sean Fredricks opened nominations for Chair of the RRJWRD. Manager Weston nominated Josh Ihry for Chair. There were no other nominations, nominations were then closed. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Ihry opened nominations for Vice-Chair of the RRJWRD. Manager Kemp nominated Keith Weston for Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations, nominations were then closed. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Ihry opened nominations for Secretary of the RRJWRD. Manager Weston nominated Melissa Hinkemeyer for Secretary. There were no other nominations, nominations were then closed. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Ihry opened nominations for Treasurer of the RRJWRD. Manager Perdue nominated Leilei Bao for Treasurer. There were no other nominations, nominations were then closed. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Manager Neset and seconded by Manager Perdue to designate the principal office and approve the RRJWRD appointments for calendar year 2025 as follows:

Principal Office
The Cass County Highway Department, 1201 Main Avenue West, West Fargo, North Dakota.

North Dakota Water Coalition:
- Voting Member: Keith Weston
- Alternate: Josh Ihry

North Dakota Water Coalition, Funding Subcommittee
- Voting Member: Keith Weston
- Alternate: Andy Neset

Red River Retention Authority:
- Three Voting Members: Josh Ihry, Tom Perdue, and Don Kemp
- Alternates: Keith Weston and Andy Neset

Red River Basin Commission:
- Two Voting Members: Keith Weston and Tom Perdue
- Alternates: Don Kemp and Josh Ihry

International Water Institute Board of Directors:
- Tom Perdue
- Alternate: Keith Weston

Assessment Benefits and Methodologies Technical Group:
- Zach Herrmann and Kurt Lysne

BTSAC - Basin Technical and Scientific Advisory Committee:
- Randy Gjestvang, Mike Opat, Mike Bassingthwaite, and Kurt Lysne

Lower Red River Regional Detention Analysis Committee:
- Don Kemp, Keith Weston, Randy Gjestvang, Zach Herrmann, Josh Hassell, and Mike Bassingthwaite

North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association:
- Josh Ihry and Keith Weston

North Dakota Water Users Board of Directors
- Sean M. Fredricks, Kurt Lysne, and Tom Perdue

North Dakota Water Users Board of Directors and Executive Committee
- Arv Burvee

North Dakota NRCS Technical Committee:
- Keith Weston and Tom Perdue

Legal Counsel
- Sean M. Fredricks

Additional Engineering Consultants
- Moore Engineering, Inc.
- Interstate Engineering, Inc.
- Houston Engineering, Inc.
- Pribula Engineering

Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda
It was moved by Manager Weston, seconded by Manager Perdue, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda, as presented.

Minutes
It was moved by Manager Weston, seconded by Manager Kemp, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2024, meeting, as presented.

Treasurer's report
The Treasurer presented the RRJWRD financial report to the Board.

Manager Neset moved to approve the following:
- Financial report, as presented
- Depositories of RRJWRD public funds
- Pledges of Assets
- Payment of the wire transfers, as presented

Depositories of RRJWRD public funds
- The Goose River Bank (Bank of North Dakota)
- Bremer Bank, N.A. – Fargo
- Bremer Bank, N.A. – Lisbon
- Bell Bank
- Alerus Financial
- Dakota Heritage Bank – Hillsboro
- Stock Growers Bank – Forman
- Choice Bank – Grafton
- United Valley Bank – Cavalier

RRJWRD Pledges of Assets
- Alerus Financial, as per agreement executed April 20, 2012
- Bell Bank – FHLB Letter of Credits dated December 13, 2024
- Bell Bank – FHLB Letter of Credit dated May 13, 2024
- Bell Bank – FHLB Letter of Credit dated June 13, 2024

- Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (Bremer) – Letter of Credit dated January 2, 2025
- Dakota Heritage Bank – $1,100,000
- The Goose River Bank (Bank of North Dakota) - $5,910,000
- Stock Growers Bank - Forman - $115,000
- Choice Bank – Grafton, as per agreement dated July 8, 2021

Manager Perdue seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

2026 budget

Discussion was held on the 2026 budget for the RRJWRD. The committee discussed remaining at 1.5 mills for 2026. The Board instructed the Secretary to work with Mr. Gjestvang to make an educational document including information about what projects and studies are in progress for use by the member districts.

Following discussion, Manager Perdue moved to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Red River Joint Water Resource District Resolution Approving 2026 Budget. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Cost-share request – RRRA funding request for educational training development

Brian Fuder discussed a cost share request regarding development of educational training material including the cost of additional staff to complete the project on behalf of the RRRA. Mr. Fuder requested a one-time payment of $5,000 from the RRJWRD for the project. Mr. Fuder has also requested the same funding from the Red River Watershed Management Board.

A motion was made by Manager Weston and seconded by Manager Perdue to approve a one-time payment of $5,000 to the RRRA regarding development of educational training material including the cost of additional staff to complete the project. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting

The next RRJWRD Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2025, at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Adjournment
There being no further business to be considered by the Board, the meeting adjourned without objection.

APPROVED:

_____
Josh Ihry
Chairman

ATTEST:

_____
Melissa Hinkemeyer
Secretary