



NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

State Auditor Joshua C. Gallion

Red River Joint Water Resource District

West Fargo, North Dakota

Audit Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Client Code: PS9014



Photo credit: North Dakota Tourism



Office of the
State Auditor

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

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RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

District Officials
December 31, 2022

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

Gary Thompson
Ben Varnson
Larry Tanke
Dan Jacobson
Josh Ihry

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Manager
Manager
Manager

Carol Harbeke Lewis
Sean M. Fredricks

Secretary-Treasurer
Attorney

STATE AUDITOR
Joshua C. Gallion



PHONE
701-328-2241

FAX
701-328-2345

www.nd.gov/auditor

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STATE CAPITOL
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 117
Bismarck, North Dakota, 58505

ndsao@nd.gov

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of District Commissioners
Red River Joint Water Resource District
West Fargo, North Dakota

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Red River Joint Water Resource District, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Red River Joint Water Resource District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, and the major fund of the Red River Joint Water Resource District, as of December 31, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards (GAS) issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Red River Joint Water Resource District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Red River Joint Water Resource District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and GAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and GAS, we

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Red River Joint Water Resource District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Red River Joint Water Resource District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *managements discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison schedules, and notes to the required supplementary information*, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 6, 2023, on our consideration of the Red River Joint Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of the effectiveness of the Red River Joint Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Red River Joint Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota
July 6, 2023

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Management's Discussion and Analysis

December 31, 2022

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of Red River Joint Water Resource District's (District) financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022. The intent of the MD&A is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole. It should, therefore, be read in conjunction with the basic financial statements and related notes.

The MD&A is an element of the Required Supplementary Information specified in the Government Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Statement No. 34 – *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2022 are as follows:

- Net position increased \$1,562,846 as a result of the current year's operations.
- Governmental net position as of the end of the fiscal year totaled \$18,619,834.
- Total revenues from all sources were \$2,870,300 on the government-wide statement of activities and \$2,867,213 on the modified accrual basis.
- Total expenses were \$1,307,454.
- The District's general fund had \$2,867,213 in total revenues, \$1,307,454 in total expenditures. Overall, the general fund balance increased by \$1,559,758 for the year ended December 31, 2022.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual financial report consists of a series of statements and related footnotes. These statements are organized so that the reader can understand the District as a financial whole. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

The statement of net position and statement of activities provide information about the activities of the whole District, presenting both an aggregate view of the District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. These statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the District's general fund.

The table below, summarizes the major features of the district's financial statements, including portions of the district's activities covered and the types of information they contain. The remainder of this overview section of MD&A highlights the structure and contents of each of the statements.

Major Features of the Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements		
	Fund Financial Statements	
	Government-Wide Statements	Governmental
Scope	Entire District	The activities of the district
Required Financial Statements	Statement of Net Position Statement of Activities	Balance Sheet Statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance
Accounting Basis and Measurement Focus	Accrual Accounting and Economic Resource Focus	Modified accrual accounting and current financial resource focus
Type of Asset/Liability information	All assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, both financial and capital, short term and long term	Generally assets expected to be consumed and liabilities paid during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets or long-term liabilities included
Type of inflow/outflow information	All revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and the related liability is due and payable

REPORTING ON THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities

These statements are summaries of all the funds used by the District to provide programs and activities and attempt to answer the question “How did the District do financially during the year ended December 31, 2022?”

The statement of net position presents information on all the District’s assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information on how the District’s net position changed during the fiscal year. This statement is presented using the accrual basis of accounting, which means that all changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in the statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (for example, uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

These two statements report the District’s net position and changes in those assets. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader whether, for the District as a whole, the financial position of the District has improved or deteriorated. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial and some not.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, the District reports governmental activities. Governmental activities are the activities where all of the District’s programs and services are reported including, but not limited to, conservation of natural resources, capital outlay and debt service.

REPORTING ON THE DISTRICT’S MOST SIGNIFICANT FUNDS

Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds

The District uses separate funds to account for and manage money dedicated for particular purposes (e.g. taxes collected from special mill levies and funds received from grants and contributions). The fund basis financial statements allow the District to demonstrate its stewardship over and accountability for resources provided by taxpayers and other entities. Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the District’s major funds. Using the criteria established by GASB Statement No. 34, the District’s general fund is considered a “major fund”.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Table I reflects significant changes in current assets and current liabilities between the December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 fiscal years. The increase in current assets is a due to CDs maturing. Current liabilities increased due to more expenditures for various cost share projects.

The District’s net position of \$18,619,834 is an unrestricted net position. The unrestricted net position is available to meet the District’s ongoing obligations.

TABLE I		
NET POSITION		
December 31, 2022 and 2021		
	2022	2021
ASSETS		
Current Assets	\$ 18,790,636	\$ 17,087,415
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities	\$ 170,802	\$ 30,427
NET POSITION		
Unrestricted	\$ 18,619,834	\$ 17,056,989

Table II shows the changes in net position for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

TABLE II
CHANGE IN NET POSITION
 As of December 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
REVENUES		
Program Revenues		
Operating Grants & Contributions	\$ 143,062	\$ 136,351
General Revenues		
Property Taxes	2,632,290	2,530,847
Interest Earnings	93,831	109,936
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,117	19,431
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 2,870,300</u>	<u>\$ 2,796,564</u>
EXPENSES		
Conservation of Natural Resources	<u>\$ 1,307,454</u>	<u>\$ 708,528</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$ 1,562,846</u>	<u>\$ 2,088,037</u>
Net Position – January 1	<u>\$ 17,056,989</u>	<u>\$ 14,968,952</u>
Net Position – December 31	<u><u>\$ 18,619,834</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 17,056,989</u></u>

Revenues and expenses were comprised of the following:

Revenues	
Property Taxes	91.71%
Operating and Non-Restricted Grants and Contributions	4.98%
Interest and Miscellaneous Revenue	3.31%
Expenses	
Conservation of Natural Resources	100.00%

Expenses for cost share projects increased during 2022.

The statement of activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table III shows the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and other unrestricted revenues.

TOTAL AND NET COST OF SERVICES
 As of December 31, 2022 and 2021

	Total Cost For Year Ended Dec. 31, 2022	Net Cost For Year Ended Dec. 31, 2022	Total Cost For Year Ended Dec. 31, 2021	Net Cost For Year Ended Dec. 31, 2021
Conservation of Natural Resources	<u>\$ 1,307,454</u>	<u>\$ (1,164,392)</u>	<u>\$ 708,528</u>	<u>\$ (572,177)</u>

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

The purpose of the District's governmental funds is to provide information on the near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of available resources. Unassigned fund balance generally can be used as a measure of the District's net resources available for spending as of the end of the fiscal year. These funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The District's governmental funds had total revenue of \$2,867,213 and expenditures of \$1,307,454 for the year ended December 31, 2022. As of December 31, 2022 the total unassigned fund balance for the entire District's governmental funds was \$16,436,918.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

During the course of fiscal year 2022, the District amended the general fund revenues and transfers in by increasing \$2,194,220 and amended the District's general fund expenditures and transfers by increasing \$892,945. Actual revenue and transfers in for the year ended December 31, 2022 was over budget by \$210,533 due to an increase in transfers. Actual expenditures and transfers out for the year ended December 31, 2022 was under budget by \$47,951 due to more expenditures for various projects.

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our taxpayers and creditors with a general overview of the Districts' finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. Anyone who has questions about information contained in this report or who is interested in receiving additional information is encouraged to contact Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer, Red River Joint Water Resource District, 1201 Main Avenue West, West Fargo, ND 58078.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2022

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 18,724,659
Intergovernmental Receivable	17,950
Due from County	12,183
Taxes Receivable	<u>35,844</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>\$ 18,790,636</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ 170,116
Benefits Payable	<u>686</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>\$ 170,802</u>
NET POSITION	
Unrestricted	<u><u>\$ 18,619,834</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
Governmental Activities		Governmental Activities	
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 1,307,454	\$ 143,062	\$ (1,164,392)
	General Revenues		
			\$ 2,632,290
			93,831
			1,117
			<u>2,727,238</u>
			\$ 1,562,846
			<u>17,056,989</u>
			<u>\$ 18,619,834</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds

December 31, 2022

	<u>General Fund</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents, and Investments	\$ 18,724,659
Intergovernmental Receivable	17,950
Due from County	12,183
Taxes Receivable	<u>35,844</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>\$ 18,790,636</u>
 LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 170,116
Benefits Payable	<u>686</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>\$ 170,802</u>
 Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Taxes Receivable	<u>\$ 35,844</u>
 Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	 <u>\$ 206,646</u>
 Fund Balances	
Committed	\$ 2,147,073
Unassigned	<u>16,436,918</u>
 Total Fund Balances	 <u>\$ 18,583,990</u>
 Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	 <u>\$ 18,790,636</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2022

Total *Fund Balances* for Governmental Funds \$ 18,583,990

Total *net position* reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:

Property taxes receivable will be collected after year-end, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and therefore are reported as deferred inflows in the funds.

35,844

Total Net Position - Governmental Activities \$ 18,619,834

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	<u>General Fund</u>
REVENUES	
Taxes	\$ 2,629,203
Intergovernmental	143,062
Interest Income	93,831
Miscellaneous	<u>1,117</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 2,867,213</u>
EXPEDITURES	
Current	
Conservation of Natural Resources	<u>\$ 1,307,454</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,307,454</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,559,758</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):	
Transfers In	\$ 2,244,212
Transfers Out	<u>(2,244,212)</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,559,758</u>
Fund Balance - January 1	<u>\$ 17,024,232</u>
Fund Balance - December 31	<u><u>\$ 18,583,990</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds
to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Net Change in *Fund Balances* - Total Governmental Funds \$ 1,559,758

The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:

Some revenues reported on the statement of activities are not reported as revenues in the governmental funds since they do not represent available resources to pay current expenditures. This consists of the change in taxes receivable.

3,087

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 1,562,846

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Red River Joint Water Resource District (District), West Fargo, North Dakota, a joint venture, have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the government's accounting policies are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the District, a joint venture established in 1978. The District has considered all potential component units for which the District is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the district such that exclusion would cause the District's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the District to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the District.

Based on these criteria, there are no component units to be included within the District as a reporting entity.

Membership in the board is voluntary. Each member county elects one board member, having one vote, to serve on the District.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double-counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes and intergovernmental revenues.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes and interest, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements: The fund financial statements provide information about the District's funds.

The District reports the following major governmental fund:

General Fund - This is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Nonexchange transactions, in which the District gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year in which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year when all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The District considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected sixty days after year-end. All revenues are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on government long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are reported as expenditures to the extent they have matured. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the District funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the District's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, and then by general revenues.

D. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits, money market accounts and highly liquid short-term investments with original maturities of 3 months or less.

Investments consist of certificates of deposits bearing interest with a maturity longer than three months.

E. Fund Balances

Fund Balance Spending Policy. It is the policy of District to spend restricted resources first, followed by unrestricted resources. It is also the policy of the District to spend unrestricted resources of funds in the following order: committed, assigned and then unassigned.

Committed Fund Balances. Committed fund balances exists in the general function and is committed by the highest level of decision making authority (governing board).

Unassigned Fund Balances. Unassigned fund balances are reported in the general fund and for negative fund balances at year-end.

F. Net Position

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Unrestricted net position is primarily unrestricted amounts related to the general fund and negative fund balances.

G. Interfund Transactions

In the governmental fund statements, transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund, are recorded as expenditures in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures in the fund that is reimbursed.

All other transactions, except reimbursements, are reported as transfers.

In the government-wide financial statements, interfund transactions have been eliminated.

NOTE 2: DISTRICT ESTABLISHMENT

The District, a joint venture, was established in 1978. The District provides a coordinated and cooperative approach to the planning and implementation of flood prevention projects in the Red River Valley. Water Management Districts are: Ransom County, Richland County, Sargent County, Walsh County, Pembina County, Grand Forks County, Traill County, Maple River WRD, North Cass WRD, Barnes County, Southeast Cass WRD, Rush River WRD, Nelson County and Steele County.

NOTE 3: DEPOSITS

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk associated with the failure of a depository institution, such that in the event of a depository financial institution's failure, the District would not be able to recover the deposits or collateralized securities that in the possession of the outside parties. The District does not have a formal policy regarding deposits that limits the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

In accordance with North Dakota Statutes, deposits must either be deposited with the Bank of North Dakota or in other financial institution situated and doing business within the state. Deposits, other than with the Bank of North Dakota, must be fully insured or bonded. In lieu of a bond, a financial institution may provide a pledge of securities equal to 110% of the deposits not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes, or bonds issued by the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, Federal land bank bonds, bonds, notes, warrants, certificates of indebtedness, insured certificates of deposit, shares of investment companies registered under the Investment Companies Act of 1940, and all other forms of securities issued by the State of North Dakota, its boards, agencies or instrumentalities or by any county, city, township, school district, park district, or other political subdivision of the state of North Dakota. Whether payable from special revenues or supported by the full faith and credit of the issuing body and bonds issued by any other state of the United States or such other securities approved by the banking board.

At year ended December 31, 2022, the District's carrying amount of deposits and bank balance was \$18,724,659. Of the bank balances, \$1,947,828 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. Of the deposits, a total of \$1,947,828 was covered under Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining bank balances, besides \$236,109 of the bank balances which were uninsured and uncollateralized, were collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

NOTE 4: PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied as of January 1. The property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property on January 1. The tax levy may be paid in two installments: the first installment includes one-half of the real estate taxes and all of the special assessments; the second installment is the balance of the real estate taxes. The first installment is due by March 1 and the second installment is due by October 15. A 5% discount is allowed if all taxes are paid by February 15. After the due dates, the bill becomes delinquent and penalties are assessed.

NOTE 5: RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

In 1986, state agencies and political subdivisions of the state of North Dakota joined together to form the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDRIF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. The District carries commercial insurance for risks of loss considered necessary. The Districts property and liability insurance is provided through the NDRIF.

The State Bonding Fund currently provides the District with blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 for its employees. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

NOTE 6: COMMITTED FUND BALANCE

The District officials have committed the fund balance as follows:

Rush River Watershed Detention Study Phase II	\$ 46,031
Upper Maple River Watershed Comp Det Study Ph II	87,230
Lower Red Basin Regional Detention Study	38,268
Shortfoot Creek Watershed Study	18,759
Tongue River NRCS Watershed Study	5,716
Tower Township Improvement District No 77	12,464
Forest River Dam No. 1 (Matejcek Dam) Rehab	11,484
Middle S Br Forest River Dam No 4 (Fordville) Rehab	15,928
N Br Forest River Dam #1 (Bylin Dam) Rehabilitation	3,022
Tongue River Dam No M-3 (Senator Young Dam) Rehab	7,743
Upper Turtle River Dam No 9 (Larimore Dam) Rehab	20,578
Elm River Watershed Study	16,088
Upper Turtle River Dam No. 10 Watershed Study	18,669
IWI - LiDAR Update	20,569
Elm River Dam #1 and Elm River Dam #2 Rep & Imp Proj	1,247,259
IWI - River Watch/River of Dreams (2022-2025)	161,559
Elm River Dam No 3 Improvements	146,512
Sheyenne River Bank Stabilization Study	16,250
Clausen Springs Dam EAP Update	4,875
Bourbanis Dam Partial Decommission Project	223,073
Contingencies	25,000
Total	\$ 2,147,073

NOTE 7: JOINT VENTURES

Red River Retention Authority

Under authorization of state statutes, the Red River Joint Water Resource District, a North Dakota political subdivision joined the Red River Watershed Management Board, a Minnesota political subdivision to establish and operate a joint exercise of powers agreement for retention located within the Red River Valley. Known as the Red River Retention Authority, the agreement was established for the joint, comprehensive and strategic coordination of retention projects in the Red River of the North watershed; facilitating implementation and construction of retention in the Red River Valley.

The following is a summary of financial information on the joint venture as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, which is the most current unaudited information available:

Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 347,846
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	660
Net Position	\$ 347,186
Revenues	97,843
Expenses	100,545
Change in Net Position	\$ (2,703)

Complete financial statements for the Red River Retention Authority may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer's office at Red River Joint Water Resource District, 1201 Main Avenue West, West Fargo, ND 58078.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 2,631,372	\$ 2,631,372	\$ 2,629,203	\$ (2,169)
Intergovernmental	-	6,405	143,062	136,657
Interest Income	75,000	75,000	93,831	18,831
Miscellaneous	300	300	1,117	817
Total Revenues	\$ 2,706,672	\$ 2,713,077	\$ 2,867,213	\$ 154,136
EXPEDITURES				
Current				
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 2,706,672	\$ 3,599,617	\$ 1,307,454	\$ 2,292,163
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues				
Over Expenditures	\$ -	\$ (886,540)	\$ 1,559,758	\$ 2,446,298
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ 2,187,815	\$ 2,244,212	\$ 56,397
Transfers Out	-	-	(2,244,212)	(2,244,212)
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$ -	\$ 2,187,815	\$ -	\$ (2,187,815)
Net Changes in Fund Balances	\$ -	\$ 1,301,275	\$ 1,559,758	\$ 258,483
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 17,024,232	\$ 17,024,232	\$ 17,024,232	\$ -
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 17,024,232	\$ 18,325,507	\$ 18,583,990	\$ 258,483

The accompanying required supplementary information notes are an integral part of this schedule.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

NOTE 1: STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Budget

- The District adopts an “appropriated budget” on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) for the general fund, each special revenue fund and debt service fund of the district.
- The budget includes proposed expenditures and means of financing them.
- The District, on or before the October meeting shall determine the amount of taxes that shall be levied for member county purposes and shall levy all such taxes in specific amounts. NDCC 11-23-05
- Each budget is controlled by the District secretary/treasurer at the revenue and expenditure function/object level.
- The current budget, except for property taxes, may be amended during the year for any revenues and appropriations not anticipated at the time the budget was prepared. NDCC 57-15-31.1
- All appropriations lapse at year-end.

NOTE 2: LEGAL COMPLIANCE - BUDGETS

Budget Amendments

The District managers amended the district budget for 2022 as follows.

Fund	REVENUES & TRANSFERS IN		
	Original Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
General Fund	\$ 2,706,672	\$ 2,194,220	\$ 4,900,892

Fund	EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS OUT		
	Original Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
General Fund	\$ 2,706,672	\$ 892,945	\$ 3,599,617

STATE AUDITOR
Joshua C. Gallion



PHONE
701-328-2241

FAX
701-328-2345

www.nd.gov/auditor

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STATE CAPITOL
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 117
Bismarck, North Dakota, 58505

ndsao@nd.gov

**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON
COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of District Commissioners
Red River Joint Water Resource District
West Fargo, North Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, and the major fund of Red River Joint Water Resource District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Red River Joint Water Resource District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 6, 2023.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Red River Joint Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Red River Joint Water Resource District's internal control.

Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Red River Joint Water Resource District's internal control. A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings as items 2022-001 and 2022-002 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* - Continued

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Red River Joint Water Resource District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings as item 2022-001.

Red River Joint Water Resource District's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Red River Joint Water Resource District's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying *schedule of audit findings*. Red River Joint Water Resource District's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota
July 6, 2023

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Summary of Auditor's Results
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Financial Statements

Type of Report Issued:	
Governmental Activities	Unmodified
Major Fund	Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting

Material weaknesses identified?	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> None Noted
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> None Noted
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> None Noted

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Schedule of Audit Findings

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

2022-001 LACK OF PLEDGED ASSETS – MATERIAL NON-COMPLIANCE AND MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

Red River Joint Water Resource District did not obtain adequate pledge of assets at Bell State Bank as of December 31, 2022. The District was under pledged by \$259,721.

Effect

Red River Joint Water Resource District is not in compliance with N.D.C.C. §21-04-09.

Cause

Red River Joint Water Resource District did not have a process to ensure the entity is adequately pledged.

Criteria

N.D.C.C. §21-04-09 states “When securities are pledged to the board of any public corporation, the treasurer or other individual legally charged with the custody of public funds shall require security in the amount of one hundred ten dollars for every one hundred dollars of public deposits.”

Additionally, the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) model defines internal control as a process designed to provide reasonable assurance of the achievement of objectives that involve the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, reliability of financial reporting, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Pertaining to the pledging of assets, management is responsible for adequate internal controls surrounding pledging of assets.

Prior Recommendation

No.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Red River Joint Water Resource District ensure that it maintains adequate pledges of securities at any bank where the bank balances could exceed FDIC Insurance.

Red River Joint Water Resource District’s Response

Agree. The Red River Joint Water Resource District will make sure that we maintain the proper level of pledged assets. Furthermore, the district was able to secure an additional \$800,000 in pledging as of May 2023.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Schedule of Audit Findings – Continued

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

2022-002 LACK OF SEGREGATION OF DUTIES – MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

Red River Joint Water Resource District has limited staff responsible for the primary accounting functions. A lack of segregation of duties exists as one employee is responsible to collect monies, deposit monies, issue checks, send checks to vendors, record receipts and disbursements in the check register, maintain the general ledger, and perform bank reconciliations.

Effect

The lack of segregation of duties increases the risk of material misstatement to Red River Joint Water Resource District's financial statements, whether due to error or fraud.

Cause

Management has chosen to allocate its economic resources to other functions of Red River Joint Water Resource District.

Criteria

According to the COSO framework, proper internal control surrounding custody of assets, the recording of transactions, reconciling bank accounts and preparation of financial statements dictates that there should be sufficient accounting personnel so duties of employees are properly segregated. The segregation of duties would provide better control over the assets of the Red River Joint Water Resource District.

Prior Recommendation

Yes

Recommendation

To mitigate the risk associated with this lack of segregation of duties, we recommend the following:

- Financial statements and credit memos should be reviewed by a responsible official.
- Where possible, segregate the functions of approval, posting, custody of assets, and reconciliation as they relate to any amounts which impact the financial statements.
- Include the board in reviewing bank reconciliations, credit memos, manual adjustments, etc.

Red River Joint Water Resource District's Response

We Agree. Red River Joint Water Resource District will segregate duties when it becomes feasible.

STATE AUDITOR
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GOVERNANCE COMMUNICATION

July 6, 2023

Board of District Commissioners
Red River Joint Water Resource District
West Fargo, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, and the major fund information of the Red River Joint Water Resource District, North Dakota, for the year ended December 31, 2022. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated March 28, 2023. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you with the following information related to our audit.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Red River Joint Water Resource District are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted, and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2022. We noted no transactions entered into by the Red River Joint Water Resource District during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements presented by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the governmental activities financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the useful lives of capital assets is based on past history of each classification of capital assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the useful lives of capital assets in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Governance Communication – Continued

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and report them to the appropriate level of management. The schedule below lists all adjustments detected as a result of audit procedures that were corrected by management.

	<u>Audit Adjustments</u>	
	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
General Fund		
<u>To accrue Interest</u>		
Cash	6,330	-
Revenue	-	6,330

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, or reporting matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated July 6, 2023.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the district's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the *management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, and notes to the required supplementary information* which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Governance Communication – Continued

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Commissioners and management of Red River Joint Water Resource District, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used for any other purpose. We would be happy to meet with you and any member of your staff to discuss any of the items in this letter in more detail if you so desire.

Thank you and the employees of Red River Joint Water Resource District for the courteous and friendly assistance we received during the course of our audit. It is a pleasure for us to be able to serve Red River Joint Water Resource District.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota
July 6, 2023



Office of the
State Auditor

NORTH DAKOTA STATE AUDITOR
JOSHUA C. GALLION

NORTH DAKOTA STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 117 | Bismarck, North Dakota 58505