



NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

State Auditor Joshua C. Gallion

North Cass Water Resource District

West Fargo, North Dakota

Audit Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Client Code: PS9013



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Office of the
State Auditor

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

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NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

District Officials and Audit Personnel

December 31, 2024

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

At December 31, 2024

Ken Lougheed
Robert Thompson
Jay Colwell

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Manager

Melissa Hinkemeyer

Director-Secretary

Sean M. Fredricks

Attorney

STATE AUDITOR
Joshua C. Gallion



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of District Commissioners
North Cass 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 each major fund of North Cass Water Resource District, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise North Cass 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 each major fund of North Cass Water Resource District, North Dakota, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

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 (Government Auditing Standards)*, 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 North Cass Water Resource District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. 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 these 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 North Cass 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 *Government Auditing Standards* 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 our audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, 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 North Cass 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 North Cass 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 *budgetary comparison schedules, schedule of employer's share of net pension liability and employer contributions, schedule of employer's share of net OPEB liability and employer contributions, and notes to the required supplementary information* 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.

Management has omitted the *management's discussion and analysis* that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, 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. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the North Cass Water Resource District's basic financial statements. *The combining balance sheet - maintenance fund*, and *combining statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - maintenance fund* are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, *the combining balance sheet - maintenance fund*, and *combining statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - maintenance fund* is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 23, 2025 on our consideration of North Cass 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 internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of North Cass Water Resource District's 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 North Cass Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota
June 23, 2025

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2024

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,993,097
Due from County	916
Taxes Receivable	3,852
Capital Assets, Net	<u>5,624,287</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>\$ 7,622,152</u>
 DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Derived from Pension and OPEB	<u>\$ 7,605</u>
 Total Assets & Deferred Outflows of Resources	 <u>\$ 7,629,756</u>
 LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ 17,625
Benefits Payable	3,805
Long-Term Liabilities	
Due After One Year	
Net Pension Liability	20,755
Net OPEB Liability	<u>428</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>\$ 42,613</u>
 DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Derived from Pension and OPEB	<u>\$ 18,300</u>
 Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	 <u>\$ 60,913</u>
 NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 5,624,287
Restricted	
Conservation of Natural Resources	1,688,761
Unrestricted	<u>255,796</u>
 Total Net Position	 <u><u>\$ 7,568,844</u></u>

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

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense)
		Charges for	Capital	Revenue and
		Services	Grants and	Changes in
			Contributions	Net Position
				Governmental
				Activities
Governmental Activities				
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 455,298	\$ 320,025	\$ 9,221	\$ (126,052)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 455,298	\$ 320,025	\$ 9,221	\$ (126,052)
General Revenues				
Property Taxes				\$ 71,487
Non-restricted Grants and Contributions				9,200
Interest Earnings				92,794
Miscellaneous Revenues				1,500
Total General Revenues				\$ 174,981
Change in Net Position				\$ 48,929
Net Position - January 1				\$ 7,519,915
Net Position - December 31				\$ 7,568,844

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

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds

December 31, 2024

	General Fund	Maintenance Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 360,807	\$ 1,632,290	\$ 1,993,097
Due from County	915	-	916
Due from Other Funds	-	88,314	88,314
Taxes Receivable	1,258	2,594	3,852
Total Assets	<u>\$ 362,980</u>	<u>\$ 1,723,199</u>	<u>\$ 2,086,179</u>
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES			
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$ 14,579	\$ 3,046	\$ 17,625
Benefits Payable	3,805	-	3,805
Due to Other Funds	-	88,314	88,314
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 18,384</u>	<u>\$ 91,360</u>	<u>\$ 109,744</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Taxes Receivable	<u>\$ 1,258</u>	<u>\$ 2,594</u>	<u>\$ 3,852</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 1,258</u>	<u>\$ 2,594</u>	<u>\$ 3,852</u>
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 19,642</u>	<u>\$ 93,954</u>	<u>\$ 113,596</u>
Fund Balances			
Restricted	\$ -	\$ 1,718,045	\$ 1,718,045
Committed	352,283	-	352,283
Unassigned	(8,945)	(88,800)	(97,744)
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 343,338</u>	<u>\$ 1,629,245</u>	<u>\$ 1,972,583</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 362,980</u>	<u>\$ 1,723,199</u>	<u>\$ 2,086,179</u>

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

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2024

Total <i>Fund Balances</i> for Governmental Funds	\$ 1,972,583
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Total *net position* reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds.	5,624,287
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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 revenues in the funds.	3,852
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Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.

Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions and OPEB	\$ 7,605	
Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions and OPEB	<u>(18,300)</u>	(10,695)

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. Interest on long-term debt and retainage payable is not accrued in governmental funds, but rather is recognized as an expense when due. All liabilities, both current and long-term, are reported in the statement of net position.

Net Pension Liability	\$ (20,755)	
Net OPEB Liability	<u>(428)</u>	<u>(21,183)</u>

Total Net Position - Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ 7,568,844</u></u>
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The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	General Fund	Maintenance Fund	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES			
Property Taxes	\$ 74,198	\$ -	\$ 74,198
Drain Maintenance Assessments	-	320,025	320,025
Intergovernmental	9,200	9,221	18,421
Interest Income	15,639	77,155	92,794
Miscellaneous	1,000	500	1,500
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 100,037</u>	<u>\$ 406,901</u>	<u>\$ 506,938</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 90,486	\$ 251,493	\$ 341,979
Capital Outlay	-	225,413	225,413
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 90,486</u>	<u>\$ 476,906</u>	<u>\$ 567,392</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>\$ 9,550</u>	<u>\$ (70,005)</u>	<u>\$ (60,454)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Transfers In	\$ 17,815	\$ -	\$ 17,815
Transfers Out	(17,815)	-	(17,815)
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>\$ 9,550</u>	<u>\$ (70,005)</u>	<u>\$ (60,454)</u>
Fund Balance - January 1	<u>\$ 333,788</u>	<u>\$ 1,699,250</u>	<u>\$ 2,033,037</u>
Fund Balance - December 31	<u>\$ 343,338</u>	<u>\$ 1,629,245</u>	<u>\$ 1,972,583</u>

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

NORTH CASS 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, 2024**

Net Change in *Fund Balances* - Total Governmental Funds \$ (60,454)

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

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.

Capital Asset Additions	\$ 286,473	
Current Year Depreciation Expense	<u>(179,187)</u>	107,285

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Net Decrease in Compensated Absences		516
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The net pension and OPEB liability, and related deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources are reported in the government wide statements; however, activity related to these pension and OPEB items do not involve current financial resources, and are not reported in the funds.

Decrease in Net Pension Liability	\$ 9,617	
Decrease in Net OPEB Liability	1,488	
Decrease in Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions and OPEB	(12,854)	
Decrease in Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions and OPEB	<u>6,042</u>	4,293

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 and special assessments receivable.

	<u>(2,711)</u>
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Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 48,929</u>
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The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the North Cass Water Resource District (District), West Fargo, North Dakota, a component unit of Cass County, 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 component of Cass County, North Dakota. 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. The District is a component unit within Cass County, North Dakota reporting entity.

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, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions.

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, interest, and non-restricted grants and contributions, 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 funds:

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. Obligated funds are used to account for the accumulation of resources to help finance a portion of costs of the Maple River Dam capital project. Most of the joint project costs are being paid by the Southeast Cass Water Resource District.

Maintenance Fund - this fund is used to account for yearly drain maintenance and improvements. Special assessments are levied to tax payers in the applicable drain district and used for maintaining drains and improvement projects when necessary. The major source of revenue is a restricted tax levy.

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.

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 governmental 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 general 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 assets 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.

E. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land, equipment and infrastructure assets (drains, dams, channel improvements, etc.), are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial, individual cost of \$5,000 or more. Such assets are recorded at cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets in governmental funds is not capitalized.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method of the following estimated useful lives:

Asset Type	Years
Facilities	50 years
Major Projects	50 years

F. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net position.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums, discounts, and issuance costs in the current period. The face amount of the debt is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

G. Pension

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) and additions to/deductions from NDPERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NDPERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

H. Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) and additions to/deductions from NDPERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NDPERS. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

I. Fund Balances

Fund Balance Spending Policy. It is the policy of the 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.

Restricted Fund Balances. Restricted fund balances are shown by primary function on the balance sheet. Restricted fund balances are restricted by tax levies (enabling legislation) and by outside 3rd parties (state and federal governments for various grants and reimbursements).

Committed Fund Balances. Committed fund balances exist 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.

J. 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.

Net investment in capital assets is reported for capital assets less accumulated depreciation, as well as net of any related debt, to purchase or finance the capital assets. These assets are not available for future spending.

Restrictions of net position in the statement of net position are due to restricted tax levies and restricted federal and state grants/reimbursements.

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

K. 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 interfund transactions, except reimbursements, are reported as transfers.

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

NOTE 2: DISTRICT ESTABLISHMENT

The legislature of the State of North Dakota abolished, effective July 1, 1981, the Cass County Drain Board that had authority over the legal drains in the county. The administrative and financial responsibilities were transferred to individual water resource districts. Since there were special assessment districts established and legal drains constructed in and through more than one water resource district, it was determined that it would be too cumbersome and expensive to administer and account for the finances of the legal drains based on the portion or part of tracts of land contained in the individual districts. An agreement was entered into dated May 27, 1982 between the North Cass, Southeast Cass, Rush River, and 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. Obligated funds are used to account for the accumulation of resources to help finance a portion of costs of the Maple River Dam capital project. Most of the joint project costs are being paid by the Southeast Cass Water Resource District.

Maintenance Fund - this fund is used to account for yearly drain maintenance and improvements. Special assessments are levied to tax payers in the applicable drain district and used for maintaining drains and improvement projects when necessary. The major source of revenue is a restricted tax levy.

Water Resource Districts to set out the administrative and financial responsibilities that each of the water resource districts shall exercise over certain overlapping legal drains as follows:

- Maple River shall have administrative and financial control over legal drains #14, 35 and 36.
- Rush River shall have administrative and financial control over legal drains #29 and 52.
- North Cass shall have administrative and financial control over legal drain #13 with the following exceptions:
 - (a) Any maintenance expenditure for a sum of \$5,000 or more shall not be undertaken except with the consultation and expressed consent of the Rush River Water Resource District.
 - (b) Any extension or additions to the drain shall not be undertaken except with the consultation and expressed consent of the Rush River Water Resource District.
 - (c) No change in the legal status of the drain shall be undertaken except with the consultation and expressed consent of the Rush River Water Resource District.

In the event of a termination, all funds deposited with the water resource district having administrative and financial control over legal drains shall be divided with respect to such legal drain among the water resource districts in whose district the special assessment district is located and shall be divided in such proportion as the physical area of the special assessment district located in each water resource district bears to the total area of such special assessment district.

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, the District 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.

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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, 2024, the District's carrying amount of deposits was \$1,983,692 and bank balance was \$1,995,557. Of the bank balance, \$259,405 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining bank balance was 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 and special assessments are paid by February 15. After the due dates, the bill becomes delinquent and penalties are assessed.

NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2024:

	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Transfer	Balance Dec 31
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated					
Land	\$ 1,321,877	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,321,877
Easements	8,950	-	-	-	8,950
Construction in Progress	25,580	31,859	-	-	57,440
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	\$ 1,356,407	\$ 31,859	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,388,267
Capital Assets Being Depreciated					
Facilities	\$ 3,768,900	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,768,900
Projects	5,187,359	254,613	-	-	5,441,972
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$ 8,956,259	\$ 254,613	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,210,872
Less Accumulated Depreciation					
Facilities	\$ 3,230,942	\$ 75,378	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,306,320
Projects	1,564,723	103,810	-	-	1,668,532
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 4,795,665	\$ 179,188	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,974,852
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 4,160,594	\$ 75,426	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,236,020
Total Capital Assets, Net	\$ 5,517,002	\$ 107,285	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,624,287

Depreciation expense was charged to the conservation of natural resources function.

NOTE 6: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term liabilities:

	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance Dec 31	Due Within One Year
Net Pension Liability*	30,372	-	9,617	20,755	-
Net OPEB Liability*	1,916	-	1,488	428	-
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 32,288	\$ -	\$ 11,105	\$ 21,183	\$ -

* The change in Net Pension & OPEB Liability is shown as a net change.

NOTE 7: PENSION PLAN

General Information about the NDPERS Pension Plan

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (Main System)

The following brief description of NDPERS is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDCC Chapter 54-52 for more complete information.

NDPERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all employees of the State of North Dakota, its agencies, and various participating political subdivisions. NDPERS provides for pension, death, and disability benefits. The cost to administer the plan is financed through the contributions and investment earnings of the plan.

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit pension plan is assigned to a Board comprised of nine members. The Board consists of a Chairman, who is appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Attorney General; one member appointed by the State Health Officer; three members elected by the active membership of the NDPERS system; one member elected by the retired public employees and two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management.

Pension Benefits

Benefits are set by statute. NDPERS has no provision or policies with respect to automatic and ad hoc post-retirement benefit increases. Members of the Main System are entitled to unreduced monthly pension benefits beginning when the sum of age and years of credited service equal or exceed 85 (Rule of 85), or at normal retirement age (65). For members hired on or after January 1, 2016 the Rule of 85 will be replaced with the Rule of 90 with a minimum age of 60. The monthly pension benefit is equal to 2.00% of their average monthly salary, using the highest 36 months out of the last 180 months of service, for each year of service. For members hired on or after January 1, 2020 the 2.00% multiplier was replaced with a 1.75% multiplier. The plan permits early retirement at ages 55-64 with three or more years of service.

Members may elect to receive the pension benefits in the form of a single life, joint and survivor, term-certain annuity, or partial lump sum with ongoing annuity. Members may elect to receive the value of their accumulated contributions, plus interest, as a lump sum distribution upon retirement or termination, or they may elect to receive their benefits in the form of an annuity. For each member electing an annuity, total payment will not be less than the members' accumulated contributions plus interest.

Death and Disability Benefits

Death and disability benefits are set by statute. If an active member dies with less than three years of service for the Main System, a death benefit equal to the value of the member's accumulated contributions, plus interest, is paid to the member's beneficiary. If the member has earned more than three years of credited service for the Main System, the surviving spouse will be entitled to a single payment refund, life-time monthly payments in an amount equal to 50% of the member's accrued normal retirement benefit, or monthly payments in an amount equal to the member's accrued 100% Joint and Survivor retirement benefit if the member had reached normal retirement age prior to date of death. If

the surviving spouse dies before the member's accumulated pension benefits are paid, the balance will be payable to the surviving spouse's designated beneficiary.

Eligible members who become totally disabled after a minimum of 180 days of service, receive monthly disability equal to 25% of their final average salary with a minimum benefit of \$100. To qualify under this section, the member has to become disabled during the period of eligible employment and apply for benefits within one year of termination. The definition for disabled is set by the NDPERS in the North Dakota Administrative Code.

Refunds of Member Account Balance

Upon termination, if a member of the Main System is not vested (is not 65 or does not have three years of service), they will receive the accumulated member contributions and vested employer contributions, plus interest, or may elect to receive this amount at a later date. If the member has vested, they have the option of applying for a refund or can remain as a terminated vested participant. If a member terminated and withdrew their accumulated member contribution and is subsequently reemployed, they have the option of repurchasing their previous service.

Member and Employer Contributions

Member and employer contributions paid to NDPERS are set by statute and are established as a percent of salaries and wages. Member contribution rates are 7% and employer contributions rates are 7.12% of covered compensation. For members hired on or after January 1, 2020 member contribution rates are 7% and employer contribution rates are 8.26% of covered compensation.

The member's account balance includes the vested employer contributions equal to the member's contributions to an eligible deferred compensation plan. The minimum member contribution is \$25 and the maximum may not exceed the following:

1 to 12 months of service	Greater of one percent of monthly salary or \$25
13 to 24 months of service	Greater of two percent of monthly salary or \$25
25 to 36 months of service	Greater of three percent of monthly salary or \$25
Longer than 36 months of service	Greater of four percent of monthly salary or \$25

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At December 31, 2024, the District reported a liability of \$20,755 for its proportionate share of net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Districts' share of covered payroll in the main system pension plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating main system employers. At June 30, 2024, the District's proportion was .001110 percent, which was a decrease of .000465 percent from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the District recognized pension expense of (\$2,210). At December 31, 2024, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources.

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 985	\$ -
Changes of Assumptions	5,002	9,418
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	-	190
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	222	7,831
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	695	-
Total	\$ 6,904	\$ 17,439

\$695 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2024.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows.

2025	\$ (4,741)
2026	(1,948)
2027	(3,595)
2028	(945)
2029	-
Thereafter	-

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the July 1, 2024 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.25%
Salary increases	3.50% to 17.75% including inflation
Investment rate of return	6.50%, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-living adjustments	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the Sex-distinct Pub-2010 table for General Employees, with scaling based on actual experience. Respective corresponding tables were used for healthy retirees, disabled retirees, and active members. Mortality rates are projected from 2010 using the MP-2019 scale.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the Fund's target asset allocation are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	31.9%	5.40%
International Equity	19.1%	7.00%
Private Equity	7%	8.50%
Domestic Fixed Income	23%	2.88%
International Fixed Income	0%	0.00%
Global Real Assets	19%	6.10%
Cash Equivalents	0%	0.00%

Discount Rate

For PERS, GASB Statement No. 67 includes a specific requirement for the discount rate that is used for the purpose of the measurement of the Total Pension Liability. This rate considers the ability of the System to meet benefit obligations in the future. To make this determination, employer contributions, employee contributions, benefit payments, expenses and investment returns are projected into the future. The current employer and employee fixed rate contributions are assumed to be made in each future year. The Plan Net Position (assets) in future years can then be determined and compared to its obligation to make benefit payments in those years. In years where assets are not projected to be sufficient to meet benefit payments, which is the case for the PERS plan, the use of a municipal bond rate is required.

The Single Discount Rate (SDR) is equivalent to applying these two rates to the benefits that are projected to be paid during the different time periods. The SDR reflects (1) the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments (during the period in which the fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits) and (2) a tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date (to the extent that the contributions for use with the long-term expected rate of return are not met).

For the purpose of this valuation, the expected rate of return on pension plan investments is 6.50%; the municipal bond rate is 3.97%; and the resulting Single Discount Rate is 6.50%.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount rate.

The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.50 percent, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.50 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.50 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Current Discount Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 29,332	\$ 20,755	\$ 13,642

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in a separately issued NDPERS financial report.

NOTE 8: OPEB PLAN

General Information about the OPEB Plan

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System

The following brief description of NDPERS is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDAC Chapter 71-06 for more complete information.

NDPERS OPEB plan is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan that covers members receiving retirement benefits from the PERS, the HPRS, and Judges retired under Chapter 27-17 of the North Dakota Century Code a credit toward their monthly health insurance premium under the state health plan based upon the member's years of credited service. Effective July 1, 2015, the credit is also available to apply towards monthly premiums under the state dental, vision and long-term care plan and any other health insurance plan. Effective August 1, 2019, the benefit may be used for any eligible health, prescription drug plan, dental, vision, or long term care plan premium expense. The Retiree Health Insurance Credit Fund is advance-funded on an actuarially determined basis.

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit OPEB plan is assigned to a Board comprised of nine members. The Board consists of a Chairman, who is appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Attorney General; one member appointed by the State Health Officer; three members elected by the active membership of the NDPERS system, one member elected by the retired public employees and two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management.

OPEB Benefits

The employer contribution for the PERS, the HPRS and the Defined Contribution Plan is set by statute at 1.14% of covered compensation. Employees participating in the retirement plan as part-time/temporary members are required to contribute 1.14% of their covered compensation to the Retiree Health Insurance Credit Fund. Employees purchasing previous service credit are also required to make an employee contribution to the Fund. The benefit amount applied each year is shown as "*prefunded credit applied*" on the Statement of Changes in Plan Net Position for the OPEB trust

funds. Beginning January 1, 2020, members first enrolled in the NDPERS Main System and the Defined Contribution Plan on or after that date will not be eligible to participate in RHIC. Therefore, RHIC will become for the most part a closed plan. There were no other benefit changes during the year.

Retiree health insurance credit benefits and death and disability benefits are set by statute. There are no provisions or policies with respect to automatic and ad hoc post-retirement benefit increases. Employees who are receiving monthly retirement benefits from the PERS, the HPRS, the Defined Contribution Plan, the Chapter 27-17 judges or an employee receiving disability benefits, or the spouse of a deceased annuitant receiving a surviving spouse benefit or if the member selected a joint and survivor option are eligible to receive a credit toward their monthly health insurance premium under the state health plan.

Effective July 1, 2015, the credit is also available to apply towards monthly premiums under the state dental, vision and long-term care plan and any other health insurance plan. Effective August 1, 2019, the benefit may be used for any eligible health, prescription drug plan, dental, vision, or long term care plan premium expense. The benefits are equal to \$5.00 for each of the employee's, or deceased employee's years of credited service not to exceed the premium in effect for selected coverage. The retiree health insurance credit is also available for early retirement with reduced benefits.

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At December 31, 2024, the District reported a liability of \$428 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2024 and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the Employer's share of covered payroll in the OPEB plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating OPEB employers. At June 30, 2024, the District's proportion was .000495 percent, which was a decrease of .001421 percent from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2023.

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the District recognized OPEB expense of (\$158). At December 31, 2024, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 5	\$ 3
Changes of Assumptions	65	29
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment		
Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	-	16
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between District		
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	110	813
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	520	-
Total	\$ 701	\$ 861

\$520 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended December 31, 2024.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEBs will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

2025	\$ (198)
2026	(168)
2027	(260)
2028	(55)
2029	-
Thereafter	-

Actuarial assumptions

The total OPEB liability in the July 1, 2024 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.25%
Salary increases	Not applicable
Investment rate of return	5.75%, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-living adjustments	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the Mortality Pub-2010 Healthy Retiree Mortality Table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 103% for males and 101% for females. Pub-2010 Disabled Retiree Mortality table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 117% for males and 112% for females. Pub-2010 Employee Mortality table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 92% for both males and females. Mortality rates are projected from 2010 using the MP-2019 scale.

The long-term expected investment rate of return assumption for the RHIC fund was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of RHIC investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Estimates of arithmetic real rates of return, for each major asset class included in the RHIC's target asset allocation as of July 1, 2024 are summarized in the following table:

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Large Cap Domestic Equities	33%	4.00%
Small Cap Domestic Equities	6%	6.00%
Domestic Fixed Income	35%	3.29%
International Equities	26%	7.00%

Discount rate

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 5.75%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed plan member and statutory rates described in this report. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current RHIC members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries are not included. Based on those assumptions, the RHIC fiduciary net position was projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on RHIC investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability.

Sensitivity of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the Plans as of June 30, 2024, calculated using the discount rate of 5.75%, as well as what the RHIC net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (4.75 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (6.75 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (4.75%)	Current Discount Rate (5.75%)	1% Increase (6.75%)
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 585	\$ 428	\$ 296

NOTE 9: JOINT VENTURES

Under authorization of state statutes, the North Cass Water Resource District joined Southeast Cass Water Resource District, Rush River Water Resource District, Maple River Water Resource District, and the water resource districts of Richland County, Grand Forks County, Pembina County, Traill County, Steele County, Walsh County, Nelson County, Ransom County, and Sargent County to establish and operate a joint exercise of powers agreement for the water management districts located within the Red River Valley. Known as the Red River Joint Water Resource Board, the agreement was established for the mutual advantage of the governments. Each government appoints one member of the board of directors for the joint venture. The operating and capital expenses are funded by contributions from each government. Each government's share of assets, liabilities, and fund equity cannot be determined as no provision is made for this in the joint venture agreement and each government's contribution each year depends on where Red River Joint Water Resource Board projects are being undertaken.

The following is a summary of financial information on the joint venture as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, which is the most current audited information available:

Total Assets	\$ 22,998,993
Total Liabilities	847,454
Net Position	\$ 22,151,539
Revenues	\$ 4,064,393
Expenses	2,651,816
Change in Net Position	\$ 1,412,577

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

NOTE 10: 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 (NDIRF), 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 is covered under Cass County's insurance policies and pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability, auto, and inland marine insurance coverage. The coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of three million dollars per occurrence.

The State Bonding Fund currently provides the District with blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$548,545 for its employees. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

The District has workers compensation with the Workforce, Safety and Insurance and purchases commercial insurance for employee health and accident insurance.

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

NOTE 11: CONSTRUCTION COMMITMENTS

The District did not have any open construction contracts with balances owing at December 31, 2024

NOTE 12: FUND BALANCES

The District classified fund balances within the governmental funds as follows at December 31, 2024:

	General Fund	Maintenance Fund	Total
Fund Balances:			
Restricted for:			
Drain NC#1	\$ -	\$ 154,494.06	\$ 154,494.06
Drain #13	-	1,142,260	1,142,260
Drain #24C	-	98,581	98,581
Drain #24	-	104,017	104,017
Drain #25	-	5,069	5,069
Drain #26	-	68,247	68,247
Drain #55	-	145,377	145,377
Total Restricted	-	1,718,045	1,718,045
Committed to:			
North Cass WRD Obligated Funds	352,283	-	352,283
Unassigned:			
Drain #41	-	(22,357)	(22,357)
Drain NC#2	-	(66,443)	(66,443)
General Fund	(8,945)	-	(8,945)
Total Unassigned	(8,945)	(88,800)	(97,744)
Total Fund Balances	\$ 343,338	\$ 1,629,245	\$ 1,972,583

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	\$ 71,115	\$ 71,115	\$ 74,198	\$ 3,083
Intergovernmental	9,325	9,325	9,200	(125)
Interest	5,000	16,000	15,639	(361)
Miscellaneous	2,400	2,400	1,000	(1,400)
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 87,840</u>	<u>\$ 98,840</u>	<u>\$ 100,037</u>	<u>\$ 1,197</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Conservation of Natural Resources	<u>\$ 87,840</u>	<u>\$ 108,840</u>	<u>\$ 90,486</u>	<u>\$ 18,354</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 87,840</u>	<u>\$ 108,840</u>	<u>\$ 90,486</u>	<u>\$ 18,354</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (10,000)</u>	<u>\$ 9,550</u>	<u>\$ 19,550</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ 18,000	\$ 17,815	\$ (185)
Transfers Out	-	-	(17,815)	(17,815)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 18,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (18,000)</u>
Net Changes in Fund Balances	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 8,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,550</u>	<u>\$ 1,550</u>
Fund Balance - January 1	<u>\$ 333,788</u>	<u>\$ 333,788</u>	<u>\$ 333,788</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Fund Balance - December 31	<u><u>\$ 333,788</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 341,788</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 343,338</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,550</u></u>

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

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Budgetary Comparison Schedule – Maintenance Fund

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Drain Maintenance Assessments	\$ 348,150	\$ 409,250	\$ 320,025	\$ (89,225)
Intergovernmental	-	-	9,221	9,221
Interest Income	-	-	77,155	77,155
Miscellaneous	-	1,000	500	(500)
Total Revenues	\$ 348,150	\$ 410,250	\$ 406,901	\$ (3,349)
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 460,000	\$ 527,000	\$ 251,493	\$ 275,507
Capital Outlay	-	-	225,413	(225,413)
Total Expenditures	\$ 460,000	\$ 527,000	\$ 476,906	\$ 50,094
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (111,850)	\$ (116,750)	\$ (70,005)	\$ 46,745
Net Changes in Fund Balances	\$ (111,850)	\$ (116,750)	\$ (70,005)	\$ 46,745
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 1,699,250	\$ 1,699,250	\$ 1,699,250	\$ -
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 1,587,400	\$ 1,582,500	\$ 1,629,245	\$ 46,745

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

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT**Schedule of District's Share of Net Pension Liability and District Contributions**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

**Schedule of District's Share of Net Pension Liability
ND Public Employees Retirement System
Last 10 Fiscal Years***

	District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	District's Covered- Employee Payroll	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2024	0.001110%	\$ 20,755	\$ 14,557	142.58%	68.02%
2023	0.011813%	227,792	144,463	157.68%	65.31%
2022	0.011701%	337,003	135,832	248.10%	54.47%
2021	0.001545%	16,100	17,492	92.04%	78.26%
2020	0.002189%	48,507	17,008	285.19%	48.91%
2019	0.001901%	22,279	19,771	112.68%	71.66%
2018	0.001887%	31,850	19,388	164.27%	62.80%
2017	0.001904%	30,602	19,436	157.45%	61.98%
2016	0.001568%	15,280	15,800	96.71%	70.46%
2015	0.001804%	12,269	16,074	76.33%	77.15%
2014	0.001791%	11,365	15,083	75.35%	77.70%

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

**Schedule of District Contributions
ND Public Employees Retirement System
Last 10 Fiscal Years***

	Statutory Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered- Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2024	\$ 1,078	\$ 1,422	\$ (343)	\$ 15,144	9.39%
2023	1,635	1,422	213	22,965	6.19%
2022	1,364	1,290	75	18,557	6.95%
2021	1,290	1,348	(58)	17,665	7.63%
2020	1,204	1,127	77	17,008	6.63%
2019	1,440	1,408	32	19,771	7.12%
2018	1,428	1,367	61	19,388	7.05%
2017	1,409	1,486	(76)	19,436	7.64%
2016	1,144	1,225	(81)	15,800	7.75%
2015	1,221	1,199	22	16,074	7.46%
2014	1,074	1,074	-	15,083	7.12%

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Schedule of District's Share of Net OPEB Liability and District Contributions

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

**Schedule of District's Share of Net OPEB Liability
ND Public Employees Retirement System
Last 10 Fiscal Years***

	District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	District's Covered- Employee Payroll	District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability
2024	0.000495%	\$ 428	\$ 5,131	8.33%	68.35%
2023	0.001916%	1,916	19,262	9.95%	62.74%
2022	0.001754%	2,106	18,111	11.63%	56.28%
2021	0.001604%	892	17,492	5.10%	76.63%
2020	0.001492%	1,255	17,008	7.38%	63.38%
2019	0.001772%	1,423	19,771	7.20%	63.13%
2018	0.001772%	1,396	19,388	7.20%	61.89%
2017	0.001797%	1,421	19,436	7.31%	59.78%

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

**Schedule of District Contributions
ND Public Employees Retirement System
Last 10 Fiscal Years***

	Statutory Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered- Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2024	\$ 73	\$ 73	\$ -	\$ 6,400	1.14%
2023	262	228	34	22,965	0.99%
2022	220	206	14	18,557	1.11%
2021	210	216	(6)	17,665	1.22%
2020	200	180	19	17,008	1.06%
2019	230	225	5	19,771	1.14%
2018	227	219	9	19,388	1.13%
2017	226	238	(12)	19,436	1.22%

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

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 maintenance fund and debt service fund of the district.
- The budget includes proposed expenditures and means of financing them.
- The District holds a public hearing where any taxpayer may appear and shall be heard in favor of or against any proposed disbursements or tax levies. When the hearing shall have been concluded, the District shall adopt such estimate as finally is determined upon. All taxes shall be levied in specific amounts and shall not exceed the amount specified in the published estimates. NDCC 11-23-04
- The District, on or before the October meeting shall determine the amount of taxes that shall be levied for county purposes and shall levy all such taxes in specific amounts. NDCC 11-23-05
- The District must file the budget with the county auditor by October 10th.
- 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 2024 as follows:

Fund	REVENUES & TRANSFERS IN		
	Original Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
General Fund	\$ 87,840	\$ 11,000	\$ 98,840
Maintenance Fund	348,150	62,100	410,250

Fund	EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS OUT		
	Original Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
General Fund	\$ 87,840	\$ 21,000	\$ 108,840
Maintenance Fund	\$ 460,000	\$ 67,000	\$ 527,000

NOTE 3: SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT PENSION AND OPEB LIABILITY AND CONTRIBUTIONS

GASB Statements No. 68 and 75 require ten years of information to be presented in these tables. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the District will present information for those years for which information is available.

NOTE 4: CHANGES OF BENEFIT TERMS - PENSIONS AND OPEB

Pension

In 2023, House Bill 1040 was passed, which closes the Main System to employees newly enrolled into the system on January 1, 2025 and later. The state employer contribution for 2026 and later was changed to be the amount sufficient to fund the Main System on actuarial basis, with the amortization of the unfunded liability determined on a level percent of payroll basis over a closed period beginning on January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2056.

OPEB

Beginning January 1, 2020, members first enrolled in the NDPERS Main System and the Defined Contribution Plan on or after that date will not be eligible to participate in RHIC. Therefore, RHIC will become for the most part a closed plan. There have been no other changes in plan provisions since the previous actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022.

NOTE 5: CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS - PENSIONS AND OPEB

All actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022 were based on an experience review for the period from July 1, 2014 to July 1, 2019, and were adopted for first use commencing with the actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2020. There have been no changes in actuarial assumptions since the previous actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022.

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Combining Balance Sheet – Maintenance Fund

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Drain #NC-1	Drain #NC-2	Drain #13	Drain #24C	Drain #24	Drain #25	Drain #26	Drain #41	Drain #55	Total Maintenance Fund
ASSETS										
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 90,800	\$ -	\$ 1,142,557	\$ 98,581	\$ 104,017	\$ 5,069	\$ 68,247	\$ -	\$ 123,020	\$ 1,632,290
Due from County	-	-	0	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Taxes Receivable	1,081	921	117	-	-	-	359	-	116	2,594
Due from Other Funds	65,957	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,357	88,314
Total Assets	\$ 157,838	\$ 921	\$ 1,142,674	\$ 98,581	\$ 104,017	\$ 5,069	\$ 68,606	\$ -	\$ 145,492	\$ 1,723,199
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES										
Liabilities										
Accounts Payable	\$ 2,263	\$ 486	\$ 298	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,046
Due to Other Funds	-	65,957	-	-	-	-	-	22,357	-	88,314
Total Liabilities	\$ 2,263	\$ 66,443	\$ 298	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,357	\$ -	\$ 91,360
Deferred Inflows of Resources										
Taxes Receivable	1,081	921	117	-	-	-	359	-	116	2,594
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 3,344	\$ 67,364	\$ 414	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 359	\$ 22,357	\$ 116	\$ 93,954
Fund Balances										
Restricted	\$ 154,494	\$ -	\$ 1,142,260	\$ 98,581	\$ 104,017	\$ 5,069	\$ 68,247	\$ -	\$ 145,377	\$ 1,718,045
Unassigned		(66,443)						(22,357)		(88,800)
Total Fund Balances	\$ 154,494	\$ (66,443)	\$ 1,142,260	\$ 98,581	\$ 104,017	\$ 5,069	\$ 68,247	\$ (22,357)	\$ 145,377	\$ 1,629,245
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	\$ 157,838	\$ 921	\$ 1,142,674	\$ 98,581	\$ 104,017	\$ 5,069	\$ 68,606	\$ -	\$ 145,492	\$ 1,723,199

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT**Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Maintenance Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024**

	Drain #NC-1	Drain #NC-2	Drain #13	Drain #24C	Drain #24	Drain #25	Drain #26	Drain #41	Drain #55	Total Maintenance Fund
REVENUES										
Drain Maintenance Assessments	\$ 101,315	\$ 113,694	\$ 30,390	\$ 32	\$ 2,386	\$ 14,025	\$ 24,729	\$ 8,560	\$ 24,894	\$ 320,025
Intergovernmental	706	-	-	-	-	-	8,515	-	-	9,221
Interest Income	7,697	6,398	46,845	3,955	4,284	654	2,560	(867)	5,630	77,155
Total Revenues	\$ 109,718	\$ 120,592	\$ 77,235	\$ 3,987	\$ 6,670	\$ 14,678	\$ 35,803	\$ 7,693	\$ 30,524	\$ 406,901
EXPENDITURES										
Current										
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 42,353	\$ 132,570	\$ 50,096	\$ 763	\$ 4,204	\$ 9,196	\$ 9,251	\$ 2,503	\$ 556	\$ 251,493
Capital Outlay	40,863	184,551	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	225,413
Total Expenditures	\$ 83,216	\$ 317,121	\$ 50,096	\$ 763	\$ 4,204	\$ 9,196	\$ 9,251	\$ 2,503	\$ 556	\$ 476,906
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 26,502	\$ (196,528)	\$ 27,139	\$ 3,224	\$ 2,466	\$ 5,482	\$ 26,552	\$ 5,190	\$ 29,968	\$ (70,005)
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 26,502	\$ (196,528)	\$ 27,139	\$ 3,224	\$ 2,466	\$ 5,482	\$ 26,552	\$ 5,190	\$ 29,968	\$ (70,005)
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 127,992	\$ 130,085	\$ 1,115,121	\$ 95,357	\$ 101,551	\$ (413)	\$ 41,694	\$ (27,547)	\$ 115,409	\$ 1,699,250
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 154,494	\$ (66,443)	\$ 1,142,260	\$ 98,581	\$ 104,017	\$ 5,069	\$ 68,247	\$ (22,357)	\$ 145,377	\$ 1,629,245

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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
North Cass Water Resource District
West Fargo, North Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 each major fund of North Cass Water Resource District as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise North Cass Water Resource District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 23, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered North Cass Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing 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 North Cass Water Resource District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of North Cass 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 identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying *schedule of audit findings* as items 2024-001 and 2024-002 to be material weaknesses.

NORTH CASS 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 North Cass 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

North Cass Water Resource District's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on North Cass Water Resource District's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying *schedule of audit findings and questions costs*. North Cass Water Resource District's response was not subjected to the other 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
June 23, 2025

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Summary of Auditor's Results
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Financial Statements

Type of Report Issued:	
Governmental Activities	Unmodified
Major Funds	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> </u>	Yes	<u> X </u>	None Noted

NORTH CASS WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Schedule of Audit Findings

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

2024-001 – LACK OF SEGREGATION OF DUTIES – MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

The North Cass Water Resource District has limited personnel responsible for most accounting functions. A lack of segregation of duties exists as limited personnel are responsible to collect and deposit monies, issue checks, send checks to vendors, record receipts and disbursements in journals, maintain the general ledger, create credit memos, and perform bank reconciliations.

Effect

The lack of segregation of duties increases the risk of material misstatement to the North Cass Water Resource District's financial condition, whether due to error or fraud.

Cause

Management has chosen to allocate economic resources to other functions of the North Cass 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 district.

Repeat Finding

Yes.

Recommendation

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

- Financial statements, credit memos, and payroll registers should be reviewed, analyzed, and spot-checked 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.

North Cass Water Resource District's Response

We Agree. North Cass Water Resource District will segregate duties when it becomes feasible.

2024-002 – AUDIT ADJUSTMENTS – MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

During the audit of North Cass Water Resource District, we proposed adjusting entries to the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The adjustments were approved by management and are reflected in the financial statements.

Effect

There is an increased risk of material misstatement to North Cass Water Resource District's financial statements even though the errors were corrected by management during the audit.

Cause

North Cass Water Resource District may not have a proper review process in place to ensure the financial statements are complete and accurate.

Criteria

North Cass Water Resource District is responsible to ensure the financial statements are reliable, free of material misstatements, and in accordance with GAAP.

Repeat Finding

Yes.

Recommendation

We recommend North Cass Water Resource District review its procedures for the preparation of the financial statements to ensure the financial statements are complete and accurate in accordance with GAAP.

North Cass Water Resource District's Response

We Agree. North Cass Water Resource District will review the adjustments needed for presentation in the financial statements.



NORTH DAKOTA STATE AUDITOR
JOSHUA C. GALLION

NORTH DAKOTA STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

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