



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, 2024

Client Code: PS9014



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Office of the
State Auditor

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

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RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

District Officials and Audit Personnel

December 31, 2024

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

At December 31, 2024

Josh Ihry
Keith Weston
Don Kemp
Tom Perdue
Arv Burvee

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Manager
Manager
Manager

Melissa Hinkemeyer

Director-Secretary

Sean M. Fredricks

Attorney

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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 Red River Joint 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 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 Red River Joint 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 Red River Joint 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 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 *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 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 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 *budgetary comparison schedules, 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.

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 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 internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Red River Joint 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 Red River Joint Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota
June 23, 2025

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2024

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 22,931,444
Due from County	12,236
Taxes Receivable	54,954
Other Assets	<u>359</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>\$ 22,998,993</u>
 LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 847,454</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>\$ 847,454</u>
 NET POSITION	
Unrestricted	<u><u>\$ 22,151,539</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, 2024

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense)
		Operating	Grants and	Revenue and
		Contributions		Changes in
				Net Position
				Governmental
				Activities
Governmental Activities				
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 2,651,816	\$ -		\$ (2,651,816)
General Revenues				
Taxes				\$ 3,180,087
Interest Earnings				884,306
Total General Revenues				\$ 4,064,393
Change in Net Position				\$ 1,412,577
Net Position - January 1				\$ 20,738,962
Net Position - December 31				\$ 22,151,539

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, 2024

	<u>General Fund</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents, and Investments	\$ 22,931,444
Due from County	12,236
Other Assets	359
Taxes Receivable	<u>54,954</u>
 Total Assets	 <u><u>\$ 22,998,993</u></u>
 LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 847,454</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>\$ 847,454</u>
 Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Taxes Receivable	<u>\$ 54,954</u>
 Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	 <u>\$ 902,408</u>
 Fund Balances	
Committed	\$ 1,384,011
Unassigned	<u>20,712,574</u>
 Total Fund Balances	 <u>\$ 22,096,585</u>
 Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	 <u><u>\$ 22,998,993</u></u>

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

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICTReconciliation of the Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2024

Total *Fund Balances* for Governmental Funds \$ 22,096,585

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.

54,954

Total Net Position - Governmental Activities \$ 22,151,539

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, 2024

	<u>General Fund</u>
REVENUES	
Taxes	\$ 3,159,476
Interest Income	<u>884,306</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 4,043,783</u>
EXPEDITURES	
Current	
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 2,651,816
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 2,651,816</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,391,966</u>
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>	
Transfers In	\$ 1,744,886
Transfers Out	<u>(1,744,886)</u>
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	<u>\$ -</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,391,966</u>
Fund Balance - January 1	<u>\$ 20,704,619</u>
Fund Balance - December 31	<u><u>\$ 22,096,585</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, 2024

Net Change in *Fund Balances* - Total Governmental Funds \$ 1,391,966

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.

20,611

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 1,412,577

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, 2024

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 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. 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.

RED RIVER JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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, 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.

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 \$23,020,507 and bank balance was \$23,020,617. Of the bank balance, \$4,846,349 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.

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

NOTE 5: COMMITTED FUND BALANCE

The District officials have committed the fund balance as follows:

Lower Red Basin Regional Detention Study	\$ 58,179
Shortfoot Creek Watershed Study	5,438
Tongue River NRCS Watershed Study	5,716
Obligation	4,049
Forest River Dam No. 1 (Matejcek Dam) Rehab	11,484
Middle S Br Forest River Dam No 4 (Fordville) Rehab	137
N Br Forest River Dam #1 (Bylin Dam) Rehabilitation	3,022
Tongue River Dam No M-3 (Senator Young Dam) Rehab	4,622
Upper Turtle River Dam No 9 (Larimore Dam) Rehab	4,473
Upper River Turtle Dam Obligation	1,781
Upper Turtle River Dam No. 10 Watershed Study	10,054
IWI - LiDAR Update and Hydro-conditioning	2,232
Elm River Dam #1 and Elm River Dam #2 Rep & Imp Proj	319,038
IWI - River Watch/River of Dreams (2022-2025)	40,356
Elm River Dam No 3 Improvements	113,429
Sheyenne River Bank Stabilization Study	8,041
Obligation Tongue River NRCS	596,385
Bourbanis Dam Partial Decommission Project	161,247
Obligation IWI Improved Crop	(9,375)
Upper Turtle River Dam No 2. Bank Stabilization	18,704
Contingencies	25,000
Total	\$ 1,384,011

NOTE 6: 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, 2024, which is the most current unaudited information available:

Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ 281,421
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	-
Net Position	\$ 281,421
Revenues	\$ 154,283
Expenses	160,233
Change in Net Position	\$ (5,950)

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.

NOTE 7: 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 two million dollars per occurrence.

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.

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.

RED RIVER JOINT 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				
Taxes	\$ 2,939,770	\$ 2,939,770	\$ 3,159,476	\$ 219,706
Interest Income	100,500	884,000	884,306	306
Miscellaneous	300	3,000,300	-	(3,000,300)
Total Revenues	\$ 3,040,570	\$ 6,824,070	\$ 4,043,783	\$ (2,780,287)
EXPEDITURES				
Current				
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 3,040,570	\$ 7,183,070	\$ 2,651,816	\$ 4,531,254
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ -	\$ (359,000)	\$ 1,391,966	\$ 1,750,966
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>				
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ 1,129,000	\$ 1,744,886	\$ 615,886
Transfers Out	-	-	(1,744,886)	(1,744,886)
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$ -	\$ 1,129,000	\$ -	\$ (1,129,000)
Net Changes in Fund Balances	\$ -	\$ 770,000	\$ 1,391,966	\$ 621,966
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 20,704,619	\$ 20,704,619	\$ 20,704,619	\$ -
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 20,704,619	\$ 21,474,619	\$ 22,096,585	\$ 621,966

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, 2024

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 2024 as follows:

Fund	REVENUES & TRANSFERS IN		
	Original Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
General Fund	\$ 3,040,570	\$ 4,912,500	\$ 7,953,070

Fund	EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS OUT		
	Original Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
General Fund	\$ 3,040,570	\$ 4,142,500	\$ 7,183,070

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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
Red River Joint 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 Red River Joint Water Resource District as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024, 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 June 23, 2025.

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 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 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.

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

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 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

RED RIVER JOINT 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 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> </u>	Yes	<u> X </u>	None Noted

RED RIVER JOINT 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 Red River Joint 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 disbursement 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 Red River Joint 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 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 districts.

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.

Red River Joint Water Resource District's Response

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

2024-002 – AUDIT ADJUSTMENTS – MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

During the audit of Red River Joint 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 Red River Joint Water Resource District's financial statements even though the errors were corrected by management during the audit.

Cause

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

Criteria

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

Repeat Finding

No.

Recommendation

We recommend Red River Joint 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.

Red River Joint Water Resource District's Response

We Agree. Red River Joint 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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