

NEWS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | August 8, 2024

Water Commission Approves \$6.1 Million in Cost-Share for Water Projects

BISMARCK, ND – The North Dakota State Water Commission (SWC) approved \$6.1 million in cost-share requests for water projects across the state today. During the meeting chaired by Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, 12 projects were approved for cost-share funding, including rural and regional water supply, municipal water supply, flood protection and general water projects.

The largest cost-share request approved was \$1,926,688 for Mandan's Collins Reservoir replacement project. The purpose of the project is to replace Mandan's existing 2-million-gallon reservoir located along Collins Avenue with a new reservoir of the same size. Construction is expected to begin this fall.

"These cost-share projects underscore our state's commitment to providing reliable water supplies and flood protection and meeting the other water needs of our citizens," Miller said. "Helping local sponsors pay for these critical infrastructure projects will make North Dakota more resilient and a more attractive place to live, work and raise a family."

In another action, the SWC approved a Department of Water Resources' (DWR) request to proceed with preliminary design of the Southwest Pipeline Project, West Zone Expansion project. The purpose of this project is to increase water transmission capacity to current and future water users along the Old Highway 10 corridor as far west as the City of Beach, including future development in the Medora area.

Leading up to this request, Southwest Water Authority (SWA) completed an outreach effort with communities and current contract users to determine future water needs. In addition, DWR and the SWA have worked closely with representatives of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, the City of Medora, Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, and Billings County to determine needs around the Medora area.

Since the beginning of the 2023-2025 biennium funding cycle, the State Water Commission has approved cost-share totaling approximately \$409 million for water supply, flood protection, and other general water management projects across the state.

"By approving funds for water resource projects across North Dakota, the State Water Commission is ensuring the sustainable management and development of our state's water resources," Andrea Travnicek, Director of the North Dakota Department of Water Resources said. "These cost-share investments are vital to support and safeguard water supplies as well as proactively address flood protection in rural and urban areas alike."

The primary purpose of the Cost-Share Program is to assist local project sponsors with financial support for water development projects – making them more affordable to local constituents. The 10-member SWC consists of Gov. Doug Burgum as chairman, Ag. Commissioner Doug Goehring, and eight members appointed by the governor to serve six-year terms. For additional information, please visit www.dwr.nd.gov.

For More Information Contact:

Cam Wright, Communications Manager

camwright@nd.gov

| (701) 328-2782

Doug Burgum, Governor

Andrea Travnicek, Ph.D., Water Resources Director

1200 Memorial Highway

| Bismarck, ND 58504

PHONE: (701) 328-2750

| FAX: (701) 328-3696

| E-MAIL: dwr@nd.gov

www.dwr.nd.gov