

For more information:
Kimberly Cook
701-652-3194
kimberlyc@gcded.org

For Immediate Release:

New Leadership for the Garrison Diversion Board of Directors



CARRINGTON, ND (May 5, 2017) - The Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (Garrison Diversion) board of directors recently held elections for the Executive Committee, resulting in new board leadership. In addition, three board members were elected to Executive Committee positions.

Ken Royse, Burleigh County Director, was elected to lead the board for the next two years. He replaces Ken Vein, Grand Forks County Director, who completed two two-year terms as Chairman of the board. Royse has been a board member since 2005 and served his past two years as first vice chairman of the board. Ken and his wife, Kay, reside in Bismarck and have three children.

“As we move forward, we will continue to be a leader in assisting with recreation projects within our member counties and providing reliable and affordable water across North Dakota through the Municipal, Rural and Industrial water supply program. I anticipate the irrigation program continuing to expand, as we have the framework established to efficiently develop the McClusky Canal Irrigation Project. And, we will continue the momentum built for the Red River Valley Water Supply Project within the last biennium as Garrison Diversion pushes the project forward in anticipation of providing a supplemental water supply to central and eastern North Dakota,” says Royse.

The first vice chair position was filled by Alan Walter, Ward County director since 2002. He is a civil engineer and the former public works director for the City of Minot. He currently works at the Ackerman-Estvold engineering firm in Minot. Alan is a retired member of the North Dakota National Guard. He lives in Minot with his wife, Judy.

Ken Vein, Grand Forks County Director, turned over his seat as board chairman and stepped into the second vice chair position. Ken was elected as the Grand Forks County Director to the Garrison Diversion board in 2005. Ken is employed by Altru Health System as the division administrator for plant and facilities. Ken and his wife, Debra, live in Grand Forks and have two sons.

In addition to the election of new officers, three positions were open on the Executive Committee, of which were also elected at the April board meeting. Elected into the Executive Committee were Mike Tweed, Eddy County; Cliff Hanretty, McHenry County; and Jay Anderson, Ransom County.

Mike Tweed began his service to the Garrison Diversion board in 2013 as the Eddy County Director. He lives in Tolna with his wife, Kathy. They have four children and two grandchildren.

Cliff Hanretty has been dedicated to supporting Garrison Diversion's efforts as the McHenry County Director since 1999. Cliff is a veteran, serving two years in the U.S. Army. He and his wife, Mary, live in Towner. They have three daughters and six grandchildren.

Jay Anderson represents Ransom County and began his service to the board of directors in 2013. He works as the Senior Vice President of the First State Bank of North Dakota in Lisbon and is extensively involved in his community. Jay and his wife, Terese, live on a farm near Lisbon. They have two grown children.

Garrison Diversion encompasses 28 counties; each member county elects a citizen to serve on the board of directors and levies one mill to support the activities of Garrison Diversion. As a multi-purpose project, Garrison Diversion aims to provide opportunities for industry, water supply, agriculture, recreation, and development of our natural resources. Our mission is to provide a reliable, high quality and affordable water supply to benefit the people of North Dakota.

###