

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

THE FUTURE OF WATER IN NORTH DAKOTA



OUR COMMITMENT

Garrison Diversion is unwavering in our commitment to provide a reliable, high quality and affordable water supply for the benefit of North Dakota.

We are proud to play a vital role in the future of our state.

EXECUTIVE LETTER

Thank you for your interest in the 2023 Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (Garrison Diversion) Annual Report. The creation of the Annual Report each year allows us to share what Garrison Diversion accomplished across our 28-county district.

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Providing funding for agriculture initiatives and irrigation development continues to be of major importance. Garrison Diversion provided nearly \$200,000 for irrigation trials, irrigation development, and the North Dakota Irrigation Association (NDIA).

We also continued to uphold our commitment to North Dakota's natural resources through maintenance and mitigation at wildlife refuges and a wildlife management area.

MUNICIPAL, RURAL, AND INDUSTRIAL (MR&I)

The federal MR&I water supply program is jointly administered by Garrison Diversion and the North Dakota Department of Water Resources (DWR) to address current and future water demands on systems across the state. In 2023, more than \$31 million was distributed and awarded to MR&I projects in the state.

In our third year of providing Water Supply Assistance Grants, Garrison Diversion provided \$314,688 to 10 systems to offset the costs of 40 new customer hookups! The grant program also provides funding for extraordinary operations, maintenance or repair projects that will impact the water delivery, introduce health and safety issues or potentially harm other infrastructure if not repaired.

RED RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT (RRVWSP)

The RRVWSP is an emergency and supplemental water supply for central and eastern North Dakota that will protect nearly 50 percent of North Dakota's population during moderate and severe droughts. Garrison Diversion and the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) are the Project co-sponsors.

During the 2023 legislative session, lawmakers approved \$953 million in legislative intent for the Project. The approval provided assurance to the future users of the RRVWSP that the state of North Dakota is committed to the success and completion of the Project. Legislators also approved long-term affordable financing terms through the water infrastructure revolving loan fund for cities and rural water systems participating in the RRVWSP.

Throughout the year, Garrison Diversion awarded bids for two construction contracts to install 18 miles of buried pipe in Foster and Wells Counties, oversaw continued construction of the Missouri River Intake and pipe installation, and acquired easements along the pipeline corridor. Garrison Diversion and LAWA representatives devoted a lot of time to addressing project costs and financing options, and meeting with cities and rural water systems to provide information about the RRVWSP.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O&M)

Garrison Diversion's O&M employees made major progress in 2023 on the reconstruction of the McClusky Canal sideslopes, completed regular maintenance of 13 irrigation systems within the McClusky Canal Irrigation Project, and performed maintenance at the RRVWSP Sheyenne River Discharge Structure. The Garrison Diversion O&M team also assisted the state's Game and Fish Department and the DWR. Finally, the federal Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) lauded our O&M team for managing their "exceptional" efforts operating and managing the 50-year-old Snake Creek Pumping Plant.

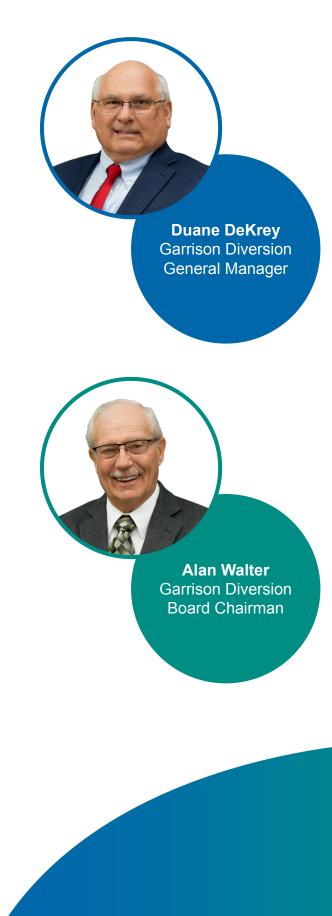
RECREATION

The Garrison Diversion Matching Recreation Grant Program offers a 25% matching grant to eligible recreation projects within the 28-county district. In 2023, Garrison Diversion provided more than \$1.8 million to new and previously approved projects. In all, 45 new projects received grant awards.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Garrison Diversion's financial statements are included in each Annual Report to provide readers with an overview of our financial health and annual expenditures. As a public entity, we are happy to share this information because we believe transparency is important.

Thank you for looking through the Garrison Diversion 2023 Annual Report. We are blessed to have the opportunity to make a difference in North Dakota through our various initiatives.



GARRISON DIVERSION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BACK ROW L-R

Jay Anderson, Ransom County; Larry Kassian, Burleigh County; Dave Johnson, Benson County; Bruce Klein, LaMoure County; Jason Siegert, Traill County; Mike Tweed, Eddy County; Kyle Blanchfield, Ramsey County; Mark Cook, Renville County

MIDDLE ROW L-R

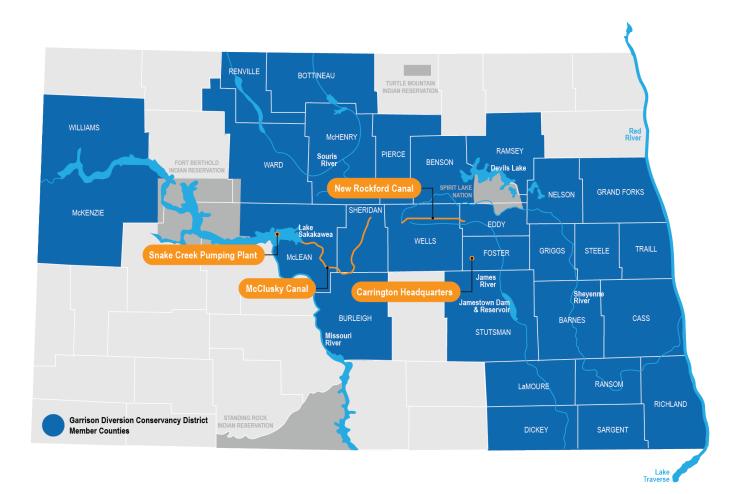
Greg Bischoff, Barnes County; Ward Koeser, Williams County; Kelly Klosterman, Richland County; Jeff LeDoux, Cass County; Don Zimbleman, Sargent County; Ken Vein, Grand Forks County; Dave Anderson, Pierce County; Jim Pellman, Sheridan County; Steve Metzger, Foster County

FRONT ROW L-R

Bill Ongstad, Wells County; Steve Forde, Nelson County; Brian Orn, Sargent County; Geneva Kaiser, Stutsman County; Margo Knorr, McLean County; Alan Walter, Ward County; Kenny Rogers, Bottineau County; Cliff Hanretty, McHenry County

Not Pictured: Nikki Boote, Griggs County; Richard Cayko, McKenzie County; Brandon Krueger, Steele County







OUR MISSION

To Provide a Reliable, High Quality and Affordable Water Supply to Benefit the People of North Dakota



AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

As agriculture is a vital economic force in North Dakota, Garrison Diversion is proud to invest in agriculture initiatives and irrigation development to support the future success of the state.

In 2023, Garrison Diversion provided \$167,865 for irrigation trials and over \$3,000 was dedicated to irrigation development. In addition, the NDIA received \$25,000 to support their initiatives.

While Garrison Diversion has been a long-time supporter of the Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS), a long-range funding and phase-out plan was finalized in 2021, and Garrison Diversion will be phasing out of funding the OIRS operations. A 2023 budget of \$167,865 was approved for the OIRS, with an additional \$653,800 approved for the construction of a new building to fulfill their obligations/promise during the OIRS phase-out process.

In August, board members and staff attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new building to be constructed at the OIRS in Oakes. In 2023, \$358,891 was expended on the OIRS building.

Garrison Diversion bolsters efforts of the NDIA, and in 2023 supported their efforts to secure a more affordable cost-share for irrigation development. The NDIA also worked with the State Water Commission (SWC), DWR and Bank of North Dakota (BND) to make updates to the cost share. The previous 50 percent cost share for irrigation districts to develop 'off farm' works was successfully increased to a 75 percent cost share. Additionally, individual irrigators can now access an interest rate buydown of up to \$60,000 via the Ag PACE program at BND, due to an increase in the SWC's portion contributed to Ag PACE.

"The increase in cost share is beneficial to irrigators wishing to start up or expand operations along the McClusky Canal," says Duane DeKrey, Garrison Diversion General Manager. "We hope this will entice additional growers to explore irrigation development in the McClusky Canal service area."

Garrison Diversion also works to maintain, enhance and protect North Dakota's natural resources by assisting with maintenance at the Audubon and Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuges and the Lonetree Wildlife Management Area, as well as with mitigation features as requested by Reclamation.

2023 IRRIGATION FUNDING OVERVIEW



MUNICIPAL, RURAL & INDUSTRIAL (MR&I)

The federal MR&I water supply program provides one source of funding to water projects in North Dakota. Garrison Diversion's MR&I program is jointly administered by Garrison Diversion and the DWR to provide funding to deliver quality water throughout the state.

Water systems across North Dakota depend on the MR&I program for funding to address current and future water demands on their systems. Dozens of municipal and rural water systems have received funding through the MR&I program.

In 2023, Garrison Diversion distributed \$17.6 million from the federal MR&I program to help water systems deliver water to homes, businesses and farms. An additional \$14.58 million was awarded to MR&I projects across the state.

Garrison Diversion's Water Supply Assistance Grant Program, in its second year of development, provides funding assistance to offset the costs of new customer hookups to a rural water system or district. The grant program also aids municipal water systems or districts with extraordinary operations, maintenance and replacement (OM&R) projects that will impact the delivery of water to users, introduce health and safety issues or bring potential harm to other infrastructure if not repaired.

"One of Garrison Diversion's key priorities is to support rural water in North Dakota. Through the Water Supply Assistance Grant Program, we are helping to provide a better quality of life for our citizens and strengthen our rural communities," says Geneva Kaiser, Chair of Garrison Diversion's MR&I Committee. "This program is an excellent example of giving back to our district."

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The following systems were awarded a total of \$314,688 from the Water Supply Assistance Grant Program:

- All Seasons Water Users District \$10,000 for one customer hookup
- Barnes Rural Water District \$23,775 for three customer hookups
- Cass Rural Water District \$57,438 for six customer hookups
- Central Plains Water District \$30,000 for three customer hookups
- East Central Regional Water District \$10,000 for one customer hookup
- Greater Ramsey Water District \$42,125 for six customer hookups
- McKenzie County Water Resource District \$10,000 for one customer hookup
- North Prairie Regional Water District \$18,463 for two customer hookups
- Southeast Water Users District \$33,497 for four customer hookups and to connect the City of Ludden
- Stutsman Rural Water District \$59,390 for 13 customer hookups

Garrison Diversion worked to secure \$1.5 million for the Eastern North Dakota Alternate Water Supply Project and signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Cooperative Agreement with Reclamation. Garrison Diversion continued to work closely with the DWR, N.D. Department of Health, N.D. Rural Water Systems Association and the N.D. League of Cities to ensure a strong MR&I program was in place.

2023 MR&I FUNDING





\$14.58 M Awarded to Other MR&I Projects

Across the State

\$17.6 M Distributed To Help Systems Deliver Water To:





Businesses

Farms



RED RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT (RRVWSP)

The RRVWSP is a critical drought mitigation project and economic development initiative designed to utilize the Missouri River for the people of North Dakota.

The emergency and supplemental water supply will protect communities and economies in central and eastern North Dakota from devastating effects of drought. Garrison Diversion and the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) are the Project co-sponsors, and in 2023, together supported project development, working with several state, local and federal agencies throughout the year to move the RRVWSP forward.

It was a big legislative year for the RRVWSP. North Dakota lawmakers approved legislative intent for the RRVWSP totaling \$953 million in future funding, including \$180 million in the DWR Budget, SB 2020, for the 2023-2025 biennium.

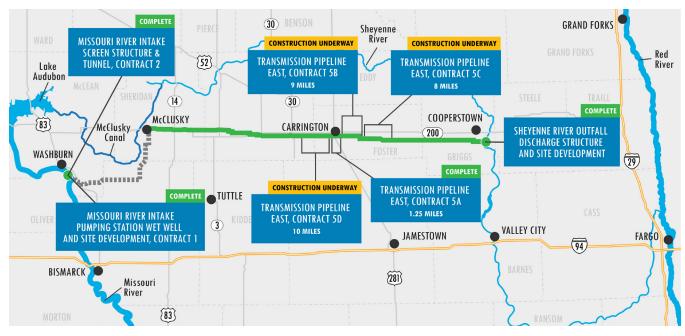
In addition, long-term, affordable financing was approved for cities and rural water systems participating in the RRVWSP that utilize the state's water infrastructure revolving loan fund (WIRLF). "Access to long-term, low-interest loans means cities and water systems will better be able to afford to participate in the Project. They will reap the drought resiliency and economic development rewards that having a plentiful water source provides," says Merri Mooridian, Garrison Diversion Administrative Officer and Deputy Program Manager for RRVWSP Administration. The RRVWSP 2023-2025 Biennium Work Plan and Budget was approved for \$244 million, allowing bids to be awarded for RRVWSP Transmission Pipeline Contract 5C, an eight-mile contract in Foster County, and Contract 5D, a tenmile contract in Foster and Wells Counties.

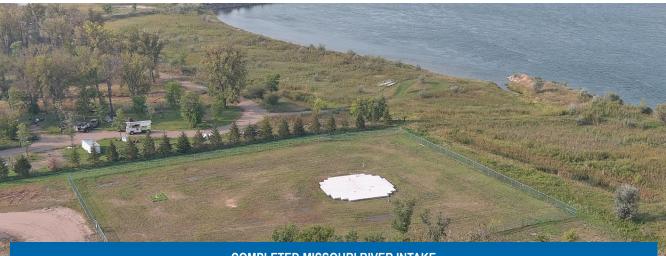
Additionally, a total of \$30.925 million was invested in the RRVWSP in 2023, supporting the progression of design and construction. The Missouri River Intake Contract 2 was finalized. Four miles of buried pipeline was installed on Transmission Pipeline Contract 5B to extend the pipeline southeast of Carrington and east through Foster County.

Project costs, as well as financing options, are an important aspect of the project, and the RRVWSP team dedicated significant time and resources to updating financial modeling options. Regular meetings were held with the BND regarding project financials; and, ultimately, a financing resolution pertaining to Garrison Diversion's \$48,697,560 Water Revenue Bond, Series 2023, was approved.

Securing the right-of-way ahead of construction contracts is important for project advancement. In 2023, Garrison Diversion staff continued the right-of-way effort in Griggs, Foster, Wells and Sheridan Counties.

Multiple meetings were held with potential users of the RRVWSP to provide information about the project's status, including the project timeline, construction schedule and the projected cost to end users.









MAIN TRANSMISSION PIPELINE INSTALLATION

and the



COMPLETED SHEYENNE RIVER OUTFALL



OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE (O&M)

Garrison Diversion was created by the N.D. Legislature to establish, construct, develop, maintain and operate the Garrison Diversion Unit (GDU) and all its parts and is able to assist federal and state government agencies in diverse ways because of their expertise in canal maintenance, earth moving and other construction areas.

Our highly skilled O&M team includes a professional engineer, master electricians, certified diesel mechanic, painting and coating specialists, vegetative management specialists and multiple heavy equipment operators. The majority of full-time O&M employees have their CDL (commercial driver's license). A safety coordinator promotes safety procedures and implements a comprehensive safety program to ensure a safe work environment for all employees.

The GDU principal supply works, which include the McClusky Canal, New Rockford Canal and Snake Creek Pumping Plant (SCPP), are owned by Reclamation; however, Garrison Diversion works under an OM&R contract with Reclamation to complete a work plan each year that includes routine maintenance of the facilities. In addition, many special projects are included.

Because the McClusky Canal is a major feature of the Garrison Diversion Unit, it requires a significant amount of attention to keep it in excellent working condition. In 2023, employees continued the major reconstruction of the McClusky Canal sideslopes. Overall, a total of 2.4 million cubic yards is estimated to be moved over the course of five to six years. Approximately 110,000 cubic yards of spoil material were removed from the McClusky Canal major slide area (between Mile Markers 20 and 22) to stabilize the slope in 2023. O&M employees then installed silt fence and seeded completed slopes to help with erosion control and establish vegetation. Two trenchless crossings were also completed within the slide area.

Water is delivered through the McClusky Canal each year to be used for livestock watering, water for wildlife mitigation areas, water quality improvements, irrigation, recreation, and fish and wildlife. In 2023, approximately 17,000 acre-feet of water was delivered through the McClusky Canal.

Garrison Diversion completed the regular maintenance of 13 irrigation systems within the McClusky Canal Irrigation Project. The pumps were installed in the spring, the system dewatered in the fall, and the pumps stored for the winter. O&M also assisted with operating problems that presented themselves during the growing season.

The O&M team also assisted with the RRVWSP, performing maintenance at the Sheyenne River Discharge Structure that lies six miles south of Cooperstown, ND.

Partnerships with outside agencies such as the DWR, Reclamation, N.D. Game and Fish, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, benefit everybody involved. "Our O&M team is very talented and capable of tackling any task we throw at them," says Garrison Diversion Engineer Ryan Anderson. "We get a lot of compliments on the quality work they do." In a partnership with the state Game and Fish Department, Garrison Diversion built up and repaired the access road to Engel's Point Wildlife Management Area (WMA), near Stump Lake, to make it suitable for safe public access. The road project included rebuilding the flooded base of the road and construction of a new road segment from the point where the existing county road enters the lake to the south boundary of the property. Rip rap shoring was also placed along the road to prevent wave action erosion.

The DWR enlisted Garrison Diversion's assistance with cleaning out the east and west end outlet channels at Devils Lake. In coordination with the Department of Environmental Quality, Garrison Diversion also completed a Voluntary Response Action Plan and removed bituminous material from the New Rockford shop location. Reclamation completed a facilities review of the SCPP in accordance with the Reclamation Manual, Review of Operation and Maintenance (RO&M) Program and the Examination of Associated Facilities. In conclusion, it was noted the "management of the pumping plant facilities and the operation and maintenance requirements are extensive. Garrison Diversion's plant operator and staff should be recognized for the exceptional efforts put towards operating and maintaining the nearly 50-year-old pumping plant, which continues to provide its benefits to the State of North Dakota."

Garrison Diversion staff takes pride in what they do and they consistently hit the mark, successfully completing routine O&M work and special projects vital to maintaining the GDU features.





RECREATION

The enhancement of one of North Dakota's most treasured resources, our recreational opportunities, is a key initiative for Garrison Diversion. Investing in the promotion, development and enhancement of recreational facilities within North Dakota is important to ensure the continued and future utilization of these areas.

The Matching Recreation Grant Program has been in place since 1990, offering 25 percent matching grants to eligible projects within the 28-county district.

Forty-five new projects were awarded a total of \$1,152,007 from Garrison Diversion's grant program in 2023. Additionally, \$708,685 was expended to previously approved projects.

"Matching Recreation Grant funds have made positive impacts on large and small communities across our district. We enjoy assisting communities with bringing their projects to life and adding to their activity opportunities," says committee Chairman Bruce Klein. "I encourage state residents to recognize all the projects Garrison Diversion has helped with as they travel this summer."

Garrison Diversion's recreation impact is not just limited to the Matching Recreation Grant Program, however. Garrison Diversion also assisted with the continued maintenance of recreation facilities within the Chain of Lakes Recreation Area, which hosts abundant recreation opportunities in central North Dakota.





2023 MATCHING RECREATION GRANT RECIPIENTS

BARNES COUNTY

- Upgrades to the Wimbledon City Park
- Construction of the Hi-Line Park pickleball courts in Valley City

BOTTINEAU COUNTY

- Development of the Turtle Mountain pickleball court
- · Installation of a vault toilet at the Landa City Park

CASS COUNTY

- Construct the Governor's Drive shared-use path in Casselton
- Splash pad installation at North Acres Park in Harwood
- North Elmwood Park shelter restoration project in Fargo
- Update playground equipment at the Pepsi Soccer Complex in Fargo
- Installation of pickleball and 4-square courts at the community park in Tower City

DICKEY COUNTY

- Ice-skating rink expansion at Ellendale South Park
- Park development in downtown Oakes

FOSTER COUNTY

 Ballpark improvements at the Carrington baseball diamonds

GRAND FORKS COUNTY

- · Development of the Lincoln Drive Park family games area
- Infield turf resurfacing at Kraft Field in Grand Forks

LAMOURE COUNTY

 Development of the Sunset Park Swim Center in LaMoure

MCHENRY COUNTY

- · Renovations at the Towner baseball field
- Construct a restroom facility at the city park in Upham

MCKENVIE COUNTY

 Construct a shower and bathroom facility at the Tobacco Gardens Recreation Area

MCLEAN COUNTY

- · Install a public stairway at Dynamite Bay
- · City Park updates in Butte
- Construct a facility housing the arena announcer office and concessions at the McLean County Fairgrounds
- Develop the Nelson Park & Community Garden in Washburn
- Replace the boat ramp at the Sportsmen's Centennial Park

PIERCE COUNTY

• Development of the Jaycee's splash pad in Rugby

RAMSEY COUNTY

- Installation of an indoor playground at the Devils Lake Family Entertainment Center
- Construct a multi-purpose event center at the Ramsey
 County Fairgrounds

RENVILLE COUNTY

Completion of Phase II of the Mohall splash pad project

RICHLAND COUNTY

New playground equipment at the Fairmount Park

SARGENT COUNTY

- · Improvements to the Main Street Pocket Park in Forman
- Expansion and improvements at the Central Park Community Gardens in Forman

SHERIDAN COUNTY

• Picnic table replacement and installation of a courtesy dock at the Hoffer Lake Recreation Area

STEELE COUNTY

 Update playground equipment at the city park in Finley

STUTSMAN COUNTY

- Improvements to the 4-H horse arena at the Stutsman County Fairgrounds
- Replacement of pedestrian bridges within several city parks in the City of Jamestown
- · Updates at the Lakeside Campground
- Installation of lighting and fencing updates at the Lawrence Trapper Softball complex

TRAILL COUNTY

- Basketball court improvements at Waterpark and Southside Parks in Mayville
- Landscaping, signage and parking improvements at Cometville Park in Mayville
- · Purchase of Funbrella shades for Waterpark in Mayville

WARD COUNTY

- Installation of full-service camping hook-ups at the ND State Fairgrounds
- Create the Talbott Court Disc Golf Course and for additional improvements at Talbott Court Park
- · Improvements within several of the county's parks
- Development of the Minot Pump Track

WELLS COUNTY

Installation of a splash pad at the Fessenden Park

WILLIAMS COUNTY

Development of Williston Water World



OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements provide readers with a broad overview of Garrison Diversion's finances, in a manner similar to a privatesector business.

The financial report provides a general overview of Garrison Diversion's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Garrison Diversion Conservancy District P.O. Box 140 Carrington, ND 58421

The Statement of Net Position (to the right) presents information on all of Garrison Diversion's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in the net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of Garrison Diversion is improving or deteriorating.

* NET OF ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION

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ASSETS	2023	2022
Cash	\$8,951,907	\$9,569,886
Investments	\$14,878,455	\$12,875,093
Land	\$341,176	\$341,176
Land improvements*	\$446,626	\$158,202
Construction in progress	\$87,683,712	\$68,441,706
Buildings*	\$1,046,551	\$1,041,666
Equipment*	\$1,030,172	\$2,825,562
Pumping Equipment	\$1,623,639	\$-
Intake Equipment	\$55,735.00	\$-
Pipeline*	\$11,679,056	\$2,456,854
Discharge Structure	\$2,878,852	\$-
TOTAL ASSETS	\$130,615,881	\$97,710,145
IABILITIES		
Bond payable	\$13,086,556	\$6,640,279
Note payable	\$22,205	\$33,053
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$13,108,761	\$6,673,332
IET ASSETS		
Net investment in capital assets	\$93,676,758	\$68,591,834
O&M emergency fund	\$750,000	\$750,000
Deficiency fund	\$750,000	\$750,000
Project development fund	\$915,593	\$915,593
Operations, Maint. & Replacement	\$473,268	\$208,802
Red River Valley Water Supply	\$-	\$-
Irrigation Fund	\$-	\$251,382
Unrestricted fund	\$20,941,501	\$19,569,202
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$117,507,120	\$91,036,813
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$130,615,881	\$97,710,145

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUES	2023	2022	2021
Taxes	\$4,583,060	\$4,338,295	\$4,246,291
Interest on Investments	\$343,120	\$66,318	\$181,325
Non-Project Income	\$692,617	\$267,092	\$398,564
Program Income	\$-	\$-	\$-
Contract Revenue	\$48,562,199	\$53,537,468	\$38,447,038
Leases	\$-	\$2,303	\$2,303
Miscellaneous	\$178,063	\$6,588	\$19,731
TOTAL REVENUE	\$54,359,059	\$58,218,064	\$43,295,252
EXPENDITURES			
CURRENT			
Directors	\$271,960	\$235,482	\$164,738
Personnel	\$3,554,357	\$3,350,364	\$3,383,775
Contractual Services	\$20,060,077	\$28,194,891	\$15,401,821
Irrigation Development	\$230,780	\$881,347	\$269,756
Maintenance	\$1,262,306	\$1,187,208	\$1,231,556
Recreation Grant Program	\$811,968	\$546,502	\$786,061
Water Supply Projects	\$224,683	\$98,614	\$41,531
Other Charges	\$461,410	\$453,517	\$407,427
Irrigation District Expense	\$-	\$-	\$-
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$32,364,961	\$28,941,082	\$20,325,110
DEBT SERVICE			
Principal	\$713,148	\$480,484	\$164,193
Interest and Fiscal Charges	\$166,603	\$68,657	\$51,314
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$60,122,253	\$64,438,148	\$42,227,282
REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	\$(5,763,194)	\$(6,220,084)	\$1,067,970
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Debt Issuance	\$7,148,577	\$5,670,240	\$-
Transfers In	\$2,127,712	\$2,276,011	\$1,018,239
Transfers Out	\$(2,127,712)	\$(2,276,011)	\$(1,018,239
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$7,148,577	\$5,670,240	\$-
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	\$1,385,383	\$(549,844)	\$1,067,970
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$22,444,979	\$22,994,823	\$21,926,853
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	\$23,830,362	\$22,444,979	\$22,994,823

The Statement of Activities (above) presents information on all of Garrison Diversion's direct expenses and program revenues for the activities of Garrison Diversion. It shows how the fund balances changed during the year.