

NORTH GARLAND COUNTY REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT
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Hot Springs, AR 71909
(501) 620-4118 FAX (501) 318-0304

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING
APRIL 28TH 2026
6:00 P.M.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Joe Turner, Todd Graves, David Harper, Jerry Vaughn, Eddie Livingston and Jack Fields

STAFF PRESENT: Stephen McEarl and Nicole Noles

GUEST PRESENT: Darrell Eckard – North Garland County Regional Water District Consultant, Michael Bolin – Engineer, Bob Wright – Crews & Associates, Micheal McBryde – Stevens & Inc.

Meeting to Order – Director Turner called the board meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Adoption of the Agenda – The agenda was adopted as presented.

Public Comments - Mr. Bob Wright of Crews & Associates and Mr. Michael McBryde of Stevens & Associates presented bond proposals to the Board. Directors Vaughn, Graves, and Harper expressed concerns regarding the associated costs. Following discussion, Director Vaughn made a motion to accept the proposal from Crews & Associates, seconded by Director Fields. Motion unanimously approved.

Comments by Board President – Director Turner inquired whether the other Board members and Mr. McEarl had received any phone calls regarding the Crystal Mine. Discussion ensued. Mr. McEarl was directed to advise customers to contact the local Forest Ranger or their State Representative for additional information and further assistance.

Approval of February 3, 2026, Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes – Director Graves made a motion the minutes be approved as presented; seconded by Director Fields. Motion unanimously approved.

New Business –

2026 New Connection Special - Director Vaughn made a motion to continue the annual New Connection Special, with the month of the promotion to be changed each year. The motion was seconded by Director Graves. Motion unanimously approved.

New Truck – Mr. McEarl informed the Board of the need to purchase a truck and presented information on both a GMC and a Chevrolet model for consideration. Following discussion, Director Vaughn made a motion to approve the purchase of the GMC truck, with a second by Director Fields. The motion was unanimously approved.

Board Members up for Re-Election for 2026 – Director Vaughn informed Board members whose terms are up for re-election that required paperwork must be obtained from Sarah Smith after May 15, 2026 and submitted by July 2026.

Board members up for Re-Election. Term ends 12/31/2026.

- Director Joe Turner – Position Sub-District Division #4
- Director David Harper - Position Sub-District Division #1
- Director Jerry Vaughn – Position at Large #1
- Director Velton Lacy – Position at Large #2
- Director Jack Fields - Position Sub-District Division #2

Old Business –

Land for New Water Tank – Mr. Bolin reported that all matters were proceeding as planned. He advised that he would be able to present actual figures, rather than estimated figures, at the next Board meeting. Mr. Bolin will communicate with Mr. McEarl via email regarding this matter. The Board requested that Attorney Lance Garner review the bond submitted by Crews & Associates to ensure compliance with all legal requirements.

Manager's Report –

Mr. McEarl reported that the two Certificates of Deposit (CDs) approved at the previous Board meeting had been established in the amount of \$100,000.00 each. He stated that the investment strategy would be formally reevaluated at the end of the term. Director Vaughn expressed concern regarding the investment of additional funds into further CDs.

Mr. McEarl updated the Board on the Fire Hydrant Project involving the North Garland County Regional Water District and the City of Fountain Lake. He advised that the District continued to hold the \$25,000.00 previously received from the City of Fountain Lake and requested Board approval to transfer those funds into the Repairs – Line Distribution account to cover the cost of the fire hydrant project. Director Graves made a motion to waive any charges to Mr. Jack Fields and the City of Fountain Lake and to transfer the \$25,000.00 into the Repairs – Line Distribution account for the fire hydrant expense. The motion was seconded by Director Vaughn and unanimously approved.

Mr. McEarl also informed the Board of revisions to certain amounts within the approved 2025 Budget. In addition, he advised that Attorney Lance Garner had completed the easement renewal with the Corps of Engineers and that the North Garland County Regional Water District was awaiting final documentation.

Director Harper made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Director Livingston. Director Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Harper", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Harper, Secretary/Treasurer

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