

Sixty-second
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1206

Introduced by

Representatives Skarphol, Keiser, Kreun

Senators Fischer, Lyson, O'Connell

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact chapter 61-40 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating
2 to a western area water supply authority; to provide ~~grant repayment by the authority~~an
3 appropriation; to provide for loan and grant repayment; and to declare an emergency.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 61-40 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as
6 follows:

7 **61-40-01. Legislative declarations - Authority of western area water supply authority.**

8 The legislative assembly declares that many areas and localities in western North Dakota
9 do not enjoy adequate quantities of high-quality drinking water; that other areas and localities in
10 western North Dakota do not have sufficient quantities of water to ensure a dependable,
11 long-term domestic or industrial water supply; that greater economic security and the protection
12 of health and property benefits the land, natural resources, and water resources of this state;
13 and that the promotion of the prosperity and general welfare of all of the people of this state
14 depend on the effective development and utilization of the land and water resources of this
15 state and necessitates and requires the exercise of the sovereign powers of this state and
16 concern a public purpose. To accomplish this public purpose, it is declared necessary that a
17 water authority to treat, store, and distribute water to western North Dakota be established to
18 provide for the supply and distribution of water to the people of western North Dakota for
19 purposes, including domestic, rural water, municipal, livestock, industrial, oil and gas
20 development, and other uses, and provide for the future economic welfare and prosperity of the
21 people of this state, and particularly the people of western North Dakota, by the creation and
22 development of a western area water supply project for beneficial and public uses. The western
23 area water supply authority may acquire, construct, improve, develop, and own water supply
24 infrastructure and may enter water supply contracts with member cities, water districts, and

1 private users, such as oil and gas producers, for the sale of water for use within or outside the
2 authority boundaries or the state. ~~The western area water supply authority shall consider in the~~
3 ~~process of locating industrial water depots the location of private water sellers so as to minimize~~
4 ~~the impact on private water sellers.~~

5 **61-40-02. Western area water supply authority.**

6 The western area water supply authority consists of participating political subdivisions
7 located within McKenzie, Williams, Burke, Divide, and Mountrail Counties which enter a water
8 supply contract with the authority. Other cities and water systems, within or outside the authority
9 counties' boundaries, including cities or water systems in Montana, may contract with the
10 authority for a bulk water supply. The authority is a political subdivision of the state, a
11 governmental agency, body politic and corporate, with the authority to exercise the powers
12 specified in this chapter, or which may be reasonably implied. Participating member entities
13 may be required to pay dues, water sale income, or bond revenue to the authority, as
14 determined by the bylaws and future resolutions of the authority. Participating member entities
15 may not withdraw from the authority or fail or refuse to pay any water sale income or bond
16 revenue to the authority, if ~~any bonds or refunding bonds issued under this chapter remain~~
17 ~~outstanding or~~ a grant of up to thirty million dollars from the state water commission has not
18 been repaid.

19 **61-40-03. Western area water supply authority - Board of directors.**

20 1. The initial board of directors of the western area water supply authority consists of
21 ~~two~~ ~~representatives~~ ~~representative~~ from each of the following entities: Williams
22 rural water district, McKenzie County water resource district, the city of Williston, ~~BDW~~
23 ~~water system association~~, and R&T water supply association, ~~and one county~~
24 ~~commissioner each from Burke County, Divide County, McKenzie County, Mountrail~~
25 ~~County, and Williams County. Each~~ ~~The governing body of each~~ member entity shall
26 select ~~two representatives~~ ~~the representative~~ to the authority board. If a vacancy arises
27 for a member entity, ~~that~~ ~~the governing body of the~~ member entity shall select a new
28 representative to act on its behalf on the authority board. ~~Directors have a term of one~~
29 ~~year and may be reappointed. In addition, the governor shall select one member of the~~
30 ~~state water commission as a voting member on the authority's board of directors. The~~
31 ~~commission member serves on the board at the pleasure of the governor.~~

- 1 2. Additional political subdivisions or water systems may be given membership on the
2 board upon two-thirds majority vote of the existing board. To be eligible for
3 membership on the board, the member entity must first contract with the authority for
4 financial participation in the project.
- 5 3. A member entity may designate an alternate representative to attend meetings and to
6 act on the member's behalf. The board may designate associate members who are
7 nonvoting members of the board. Notwithstanding this section, **except for the state**
8 **water commission member and the county commissioners on the board,** initial board
9 members must be removed if they have not entered a contract with the authority,
10 before August 1, 2013, for financial participation in the project.

11 **61-40-04. Board of directors - Officers - Meetings.**

- 12 1. The board of directors shall adopt such rules and bylaws for the conduct of the
13 business affairs of the authority as it determines necessary, including the time and
14 place of regular meetings of the board, financial participation structure for membership
15 in the authority, and membership appointment and changes. Bylaws need to be
16 approved by member entity boards.
- 17 2. The board shall elect from its members a chairman and a vice chairman. The board
18 shall elect a secretary and a treasurer, which offices may be held by the same
19 individual, and either or both offices may be held by an individual who is not a member
20 of the board. Special meetings of the board may be called by the secretary on order of
21 the chairman or upon written request of a majority of the qualified members of the
22 board. Notice of a special meeting must be mailed to each member of the board at
23 least six days before the meeting, provided that a special meeting may be held at any
24 time when all members of the board are present or consent in writing.
- 25 3. Board members are entitled to receive as compensation an amount determined by the
26 board not to exceed the amount per day provided members of the legislative
27 management under section 54-35-10 and must be reimbursed for their mileage and
28 expenses in the amount provided for by sections 44-08-04 and 54-06-09.
- 29 4. The initial board bylaws must direct board voting protocol. A weighted voting structure
30 for board members is acceptable if the voting is based upon the volume of water

1 purchased, the financial contributions of the stakeholder entities, or any other formula
2 agreed by a majority of the board.

3 5. Before the bylaws become effective, the bylaws must be reviewed and approved by
4 the attorney general.

5 **61-40-05. Authority of the western area water supply authority.**

6 In addition to authority declared under section 61-40-01, the board of directors of the
7 western area water supply authority may:

8 1. Sue and be sued in the name of the authority.

9 2. Exercise the power of eminent domain in the manner provided by title 32 or as
10 described in this chapter for the purpose of acquiring and securing any right, title,
11 interest, estate, or easement necessary or proper to carry out the duties imposed by
12 this chapter, and particularly to acquire the necessary rights in land for the
13 construction of an entire part of any pipeline, reservoir, connection, valve, pumping
14 installation, or other facility for the storage, transportation, or utilization of water and all
15 other appurtenant facilities used in connection with the authority. However, if the
16 interest sought to be acquired is a right of way for any project authorized in this
17 chapter, the authority, after making a written offer to purchase the right of way and
18 depositing the amount of the offer with the clerk of the district court of the county in
19 which the right of way is located, may take immediate possession of the right of way,
20 as authorized by section 16 of article I of the Constitution of North Dakota. Within thirty
21 days after notice has been given in writing to the landowner by the clerk of the district
22 court that a deposit has been made for the taking of a right of way as authorized in this
23 subsection, the owner of the property taken may appeal to the district court by serving
24 a notice of appeal upon the acquiring agency, and the matter must be tried at the next
25 regular or special term of court with a jury unless a jury be waived, in the manner
26 prescribed for trials under chapter 32-15.

27 3. Accept funds, property, services, pledges of security, or other assistance, financial or
28 otherwise, from federal, state, and other public or private sources for the purpose of
29 aiding and promoting the construction, maintenance, and operation of the authority.
30 The authority may cooperate and contract with the state or federal government, or any
31 department or agency of state or federal government, or any city, water district, or

- 1 water system within the authority, in furnishing assurances and meeting local
2 cooperation requirements of any project involving treatment, control, conservation,
3 distribution, and use of water.
- 4 4. Cooperate and contract with the agencies or political subdivisions of this state or other
5 states, in research and investigation or other activities promoting the establishment,
6 construction, development, or operation of the authority.
- 7 5. Appoint and fix the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of employees as
8 the board determines necessary to conduct the business and affairs of the authority
9 and to procure the services of engineers and other technical experts, and to retain
10 attorneys to assist, advise, and act for the authority in its proceedings.
- 11 6. Operate and manage the authority to distribute water to authority members and others
12 within or outside the territorial boundaries of the authority and this state.
- 13 7. Hold, own, sell, or exchange any and all property purchased or acquired by the
14 authority. All money received from any sale or exchange of property must be deposited
15 to the credit of the authority and may be used to pay expenses of the authority.
- 16 8. Enter contracts to obtain a supply of bulk water through the purchase of infrastructure,
17 bulk water sale or lease, which contracts may provide for payments to fund some or all
18 of the authority's costs of acquiring, constructing, or reconstructing one or more water
19 supply or infrastructure.
- 20 9. Acquire, construct, improve, and own water supply infrastructure, office and
21 maintenance space in phases, in any location, and at any time.
- 22 10. Enter contracts to provide for a bulk sale, lease, or other supply of water for beneficial
23 use to persons within or outside the authority. The contracts may provide for payments
24 to fund some or all of the authority's costs of acquiring, constructing, or reconstructing
25 one or more water system projects, as well as the authority's costs of operating and
26 maintaining one or more projects, whether the acquisition, construction, or
27 reconstruction of any water supply project actually is completed and whether water
28 actually is delivered pursuant to the contracts. The contracts the cities, water districts,
29 and other entities that are members of the western area water supply authority are
30 authorized to execute are without limitation on the term of years.
- 31 11. Borrow money as provided in this chapter.

- 1 12. Issue and sell revenue bonds, including notes, certificates, leases, or other evidences
2 of indebtedness, for the authority's benefit in an amount or amounts determined by the
3 board, including an amount or amounts for costs of issuance and financing, capitalized
4 interest, and any necessary reserve funds, for the purpose of financing the cost of a
5 project, purchasing bulk water, or otherwise making capital payments required under a
6 water purchase contract.
- 7 ~~13. Refund and refinance its bonds from time to time as often as it is advantageous and in~~
8 ~~the interest of the authority.~~
- 9 ~~14. Pledge any and all income, profits, and revenues received by the authority with the~~
10 ~~operation, lease, sale, or other disposition of all or any part of a project to secure the~~
11 ~~payment of bonds issued and sold to finance the project or otherwise.~~
- 12 ~~15. Prescribe, revise, and collect rates, fees, tolls, or charges for the services, facilities, or~~
13 ~~commodities furnished by the authority, and in anticipation of the collection of the~~
14 ~~revenues of the authority, issue revenue bonds to finance all or part of the costs of the~~
15 ~~acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement, betterment, or extension of a~~
16 ~~project.~~
- 17 ~~16. Pledge revenues of the authority to the punctual payment of principal and interest on~~
18 ~~bonds or water purchase contract obligations. A pledge under this subsection applies~~
19 ~~to the revenues of improvements, betterments, or extensions of the authority which~~
20 ~~may be constructed or acquired after the issuance of bonds, the revenues of existing~~
21 ~~systems, plants, works, instrumentalities, and properties of any part of the authority~~
22 ~~improved, bettered, or extended, and the revenues received from payments made~~
23 ~~under a water sale contract between the authority and persons that contract to~~
24 ~~purchase water from the authority.~~
- 25 ~~17. Make all contracts, execute all instruments, and do all things necessary or convenient~~
26 ~~in the exercise of its powers or in the performance of its covenants or duties or in order~~
27 ~~to secure the payment of its bonds, but an encumbrance, mortgage, or other pledge of~~
28 ~~property of the authority may not be created by any contract or instrument.~~
- 29 18.13. Accept from any authorized state or federal agency loans or grants for the planning,
30 construction, acquisition, lease, or other provision of a project, and enter agreements
31 with the agency respecting the loans or grants.

- 1 19.14. Contract debts and borrow money, pledge property of the authority for repayment of
2 indebtedness other than bonded indebtedness, and provide for payment of debts and
3 expenses of the authority.
- 4 20.15. Operate and manage the authority to distribute water to any out-of-state cities or water
5 systems that contract with the authority.
- 6 ~~21.~~ ~~Property of the authority may not be liable to be forfeited or taken in payment of any~~
7 ~~bonds issued under this chapter, and debt on the general credit of the authority may~~
8 ~~not be incurred in any manner for payment of bonds under this chapter. However, if~~
9 ~~bonds issued by the authority utilize section 61-40-17, this subsection does not apply.~~
- 10 22.16. Accept, apply for, and hold water allocation permits.
- 11 23.17. Adopt rules concerning the planning, management, operation, maintenance, sale, and
12 ratesetting regarding water sold by the authority. The authority may adopt a rate
13 structure with elevated rates set for project industrial water supplies in recognition that
14 a large component of the project expense is being incurred to meet the demands of
15 industrial users.
- 16 24.18. Develop water supply systems; store and transport water; and provide, contract for,
17 and furnish water service for domestic, municipal, and rural water purposes; milling,
18 manufacturing, mining, industrial, metallurgical, and any and all other beneficial uses;
19 and fix the terms and rates therefore. The authority may acquire, construct, operate,
20 and maintain dams, reservoirs, ground water storage areas, canals, conduits,
21 pipelines, tunnels, and any and all treatment plants, works, facilities, improvements,
22 and property necessary the same without any required public vote before taking
23 action.
- 24 25.19. Contract to purchase or improve water supply infrastructure or to obtain bulk water
25 supplies without requiring any vote of the public on the projects or contracts. In relation
26 to the initial construction of the system and for the purposes of entering a contract with
27 the authority, municipalities are exempt from the public voting requirements or water
28 contract duration limitations otherwise imposed by section 40-33-16.
- 29 26.20. Accept assignment by member entities of contracts that obligate member entities to
30 provide a water supply, contracts that relate to construction of water system.

1 infrastructure, or other member entity contracts that relate to authorities transferred to
2 the authority under this chapter.

3 **61-40-06. Oversight of authority projects.**

4 The authority shall ~~report to~~ ~~comply with the policy on cost-sharing of~~ the state water
5 commission ~~on the~~ ~~as the policy relates to~~ bidding, planning, and construction, of the project.
6 The authority shall report to and consult with the state water commission regarding the
7 operation, and financial status of the project, as requested by the state water commission. In
8 relation to ~~initial construction of the system and~~ debt repayment, the authority shall present the
9 overall plan ~~and contract plans and specifications~~ for the project to the state water commission
10 for concurrence. The attorney general shall assist the authority at the request of the state water
11 commission. If ~~bonds issued by the authority utilize section 61-40-17 or~~ a grant of up to thirty
12 million dollars from the state water commission has not been repaid, without the written consent
13 of the state water commission the authority may not sell, lease, abandon, encumber, or
14 otherwise dispose of any part of property used in a water system of the authority if the property
15 is used to provide revenue.

16 ~~**61-40-07. Resolution authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds.**~~

17 ~~The issuance of revenue bonds or refunding bonds must be authorized by a resolution of~~
18 ~~the board adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the board. Unless otherwise provided~~
19 ~~in the resolution, the resolution under this section takes effect immediately and need not be laid~~
20 ~~over, published, or posted. Each resolution providing for the issuance of bonds provided for in~~
21 ~~this chapter must set forth the purpose or purposes for which the bonds are to be issued, the~~
22 ~~provisions for payment of the bonds, and the revenues or other funds pledged to secure the~~
23 ~~payment of the bonds.~~

24 ~~**61-40-08. Sale of bonds.**~~

25 ~~Revenue bonds or refunding bonds may be sold at public or private sale on the terms,~~
26 ~~conditions, and payment provisions as the board deems appropriate.~~

27 ~~**61-40-09. Bonds or certificates issued pending preparation of bonds.**~~

28 ~~Pending the issuance of bonds, bond anticipation notes may be issued and sold in the form~~
29 ~~and with the provisions determined by the board.~~

1 — ~~**61-40-10. Validity of bonds.**~~

2 — ~~Revenue bonds or refunding bonds bearing the manual or facsimile signatures of the~~
3 ~~appropriate officers who are in office on the date of signing are valid and binding obligations~~
4 ~~notwithstanding that before the delivery and payment any or all of the persons whose~~
5 ~~signatures appear on the bonds have ceased to be officers of the issuing authority. The~~
6 ~~resolution authorizing the bonds may provide that the bonds must contain a recital that they are~~
7 ~~issued under this chapter and the recital is conclusive evidence of their validity and of the~~
8 ~~regularity of their issuance.~~

9 — ~~**61-40-11. Bonds exempt from taxation.**~~

10 — ~~Notwithstanding any restriction contained in any other law, the state and all public officers,~~
11 ~~boards, and agencies, and political subdivisions and agencies of the state, all national banking~~
12 ~~associations, state banks, trust companies, savings banks and institutions, credit unions,~~
13 ~~savings and loan associations, investment companies, and other persons carrying on a banking~~
14 ~~business, and executors, administrators, guardians, trustees, and other fiduciaries, may legally~~
15 ~~invest any sinking funds, moneys, or other funds belonging to them or within their control in any~~
16 ~~bonds issued by the authority under this chapter, and the bonds are authorized security for~~
17 ~~public deposits. Bonds, including refunding bonds, issued under this chapter and their income~~
18 ~~are exempt from all taxation by the state or by any political subdivision except inheritance,~~
19 ~~estate, and transfer taxes.~~

20 — ~~**61-40-12. Liability of authority for bonds.**~~

21 — ~~Revenue bonds and refunding bonds issued under this chapter may not be payable from or~~
22 ~~charged upon any funds other than the revenue pledged to payment of the bonds and the~~
23 ~~authority issuing the bonds may not be subject to any pecuniary liability. The holder of these~~
24 ~~bonds may not enforce payment of the bonds against any property of the authority. Bonds~~
25 ~~issued under this chapter do not constitute a charge, lien, or encumbrance upon any property of~~
26 ~~the authority, other than the revenues pledged to their payments. Each bond issued under this~~
27 ~~chapter must recite in substance that the bond and interest on the bond is payable solely from~~
28 ~~the revenue pledged to the payment and that the bond does not constitute a debt of the~~
29 ~~authority within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory limitation. However, this section~~
30 ~~does not apply to any bonds issued which utilize section 61-40-17.~~

61-40-13. Duties of authority and officers relative to the issuance of bonds.

~~To adequately secure the payment of bonds and interest on the bonds, the authority and its officers, agents, and employees shall:~~

~~1. Pay or cause to be paid, punctually, the principal and interest of every bond on the dates, at the places, in the manner, and out of the funds provided in the resolution authorizing its issuance.~~

~~2. Make certain any project financed by the authority is operated in an efficient and economical manner, enforce all water purchase and water sales contracts, and establish, levy, maintain, and collect related necessary or proper fees, tolls, rentals, rates, and other charges. The fees, tolls, rentals, rates, and other charges must be sufficient, after making due and reasonable allowances for contingencies and for a margin of error in the estimates, at least:~~

~~a. To pay all current expenses of operation and maintenance of any project;~~

~~b. To make all payments required under any water purchase contract the authority may execute;~~

~~c. To pay the interest and principal on the authority's bonds as they become due;~~

~~d. To comply with the terms of the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds or any other contract or agreement with the holders of the bonds; and~~

~~e. To meet any other obligations of the authority that are charges, liens, or encumbrances upon the revenues of the authority.~~

~~3. Operate, maintain, preserve, and keep every part of any tangible project financed and owned or operated by the authority in good repair, working order, and condition.~~

~~4. Enforce the provisions of all water purchase and sale contracts that produce revenues pledged to payment of bonds.~~

~~5. Preserve and protect the security of the bonds and the rights of the bondholders and warrant and defend such rights against all claims and demands.~~

~~6. Pay and discharge all lawful claims for labor, materials, and supplies which, if unpaid, might become by law a lien or charge on all or part of the revenues superior to the lien of the bonds or which might impair the security of the bonds.~~

~~7. Hold in trust the revenues pledged to the payment of the bonds for the benefit of the holders of the bonds and apply the revenues only as provided by the resolution~~

1 ~~authorizing the issuance of the bonds or, if the resolution is modified, as provided in~~
2 ~~the modified resolution.~~

3 ~~8. Keep proper separate books of record and accounts of the project in which complete~~
4 ~~and correct entries must be made of all transactions relating to any part of the project.~~
5 ~~All books and papers of the authority are subject to inspection by the holders of ten~~
6 ~~percent or more of the outstanding bonds or by representatives authorized in writing.~~
7 ~~The duties contained in this section may not require any expenditure by the authority~~
8 ~~of any funds other than revenue received from a project or water sale contract. The~~
9 ~~performance of the duties enumerated in this section is of the essence of the contract~~
10 ~~of the authority with the bondholders.~~

11 ~~**61-40-14. Remedies of bondholders in general.**~~

12 ~~1. Subject to any contractual limitations binding upon the holders of any issue of bonds,~~
13 ~~or a trustee for the holders, including the restriction of the exercise of any remedy to a~~
14 ~~specified proportion or percentage of the holders, any holder of bonds or trustee, for~~
15 ~~the equal benefit and protection of all bondholders similarly situated, may:~~

16 ~~a. By mandamus or other civil action, enforce the holder's rights against the~~
17 ~~authority and its board and any of its officers, agents, or employees and may~~
18 ~~require the authority or the board or any officers, agents, or employees of the~~
19 ~~authority or board to perform their duties and obligations under this chapter and~~
20 ~~their covenants and agreements with bondholders.~~

21 ~~b. By civil action, require the authority and the board to account as if they were the~~
22 ~~trustees of an express trust.~~

23 ~~c. By civil action, enjoin any acts or things that may be unlawful or in violation of the~~
24 ~~rights of the bondholders.~~

25 ~~d. Bring suit upon the bond.~~

26 ~~2. A right or remedy conferred by this chapter upon any bondholder, or upon any trustee~~
27 ~~for a bondholder, is not intended to be exclusive of any other right or remedy, but each~~
28 ~~right or remedy is cumulative and in addition to every other right or remedy and may~~
29 ~~be exercised without exhausting and without regard to any other remedy conferred by~~
30 ~~this chapter or by any other law of this state.~~

1 **61-40-15.61-40-07. Easement granted for ditches, canals, tramways, and transmission**
2 **lines on any public lands.**

3 In connection with the construction and development of the project, there is granted over all
4 the lands belonging to the state, including lands owned or acquired for highway right-of-way
5 purposes, a right of way for pipelines, connections, valves, and all other appurtenant facilities
6 constructed as part of the project. However, the director of the department of transportation and
7 the state engineer must approve the plans of the authority with respect to the use of right of way
8 of roads before the grant becomes effective.

9 **61-40-16.61-40-08. Proceedings to confirm judicially contracts and other acts.**

10 The authority, before making any contract, issuing bonds, or taking any special action, may
11 commence a special proceeding in district court by which the proceeding leading up to the
12 making of such contract or leading up to any other special action must be examined, approved,
13 and confirmed. The judicial proceedings must comply substantially with the procedure required
14 in the case of judicial confirmation of proceedings, acts, and contracts of an irrigation district.

15 **61-40-17. Debt service reserve – Legislative appropriation requirement.**

16 ~~1. In order to assure the maintenance of any required debt service reserve, including a~~
17 ~~letter of credit or similar instrument, for bonds issued under this chapter, the legislative~~
18 ~~assembly shall appropriate to the state water commission for deposit in the reserve~~
19 ~~fund or funds for the bonds, such sums if any, as are certified by the authority to the~~
20 ~~state water commission as necessary to restore the reserve fund or funds to an~~
21 ~~amount equal to the required debt service reserve. The state water commission shall~~
22 ~~include in its submission to the governor for inclusion by the governor in the biennial~~
23 ~~executive budget of the state any amount as is certified to the commission by the~~
24 ~~authority. If the governor does not include in the executive budget the amount certified,~~
25 ~~the state water commission shall request independently an appropriation from the~~
26 ~~legislative assembly for the certified amount. This section is applicable to any required~~
27 ~~debt service reserve for bonds issued under this chapter in an aggregate amount not~~
28 ~~to exceed one hundred fifty million dollars plus costs of issuance, capitalized interest,~~
29 ~~credit enhancement, and any reserve funds required by agreements with or for the~~
30 ~~benefit of holders of the bonds for the purposes for which the authority is created~~
31 ~~under this chapter. However, the amount of any refinancing may not be counted~~

~~toward the one hundred fifty million dollar limitation to the extent the amount does not exceed the outstanding amount of the obligations being refinanced plus costs of issuance.~~

~~2. To the extent any reserve fund is replenished under this section, the authority shall reimburse the state from any revenues, funds, or any other property of the authority as dictated by the budget section.~~

~~3. Any bond financing planned by the authority utilizing this section must undergo due diligence examination by the public finance authority and the Bank of North Dakota, and must receive approval of the budget section.~~

60-40-18.61-40-09. Default.

If the authority is in default in the payment of the principal of or interest on any of the obligations of the authority under this chapter, ~~if the legislative assembly has appropriated moneys to restore the reserve fund for the obligation in default under this chapter,~~ and if the budget section determines that the authority is unable to reimburse the state in the time period required by the budget section, the budget section may give written notice to the governing board of the authority that the state has taken possession and ownership of the water system of the authority. Upon written notice, the members of the governing board of the authority are immediately removed, and the state water commission is the governing board from the date of notice. If the state water commission determines that governance, possession, and ownership of the water system is not necessary for the authority to be able to reimburse the state in the necessary time period, the state water commission may develop a plan to return governance, possession, and ownership to the authority, subject to approval of the plan by the budget section.

61-40-10. Taxing authority.

~~If projected or actual revenues are insufficient to prevent default, each board of county commissioners of Burke County, Divide County, McKenzie County, Mountrail County, and Williams County shall levy property tax in equal mills as is necessary to prevent default within a maximum of five mills for each county.~~

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the permanent oil tax trust fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$75,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state water commission for the purpose of

1 providing a loan to the western area water authority for a maximum term of twenty years at five
2 percent interest per year, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2013.

3 **SECTION 3. ~~STATE WATER COMMISSION~~ LOAN AND GRANT REPAYMENT**

4 **OBLIGATION.** ~~After any bonds or refunding bonds have been paid in full by the authority and~~
5 ~~after the provision of adequate funds for capital reserves and operation and maintenance~~
6 ~~reserves, the authority shall~~The western area water authority shall make payments on the loan
7 provided in section 2 of this Act to the state water commission. The state water commission
8 shall transfer the funds to the state treasurer for deposit of the principal in the permanent oil tax
9 trust fund and deposit of the interest in the resources trust fund. Upon the repayment of the
10 principal, the authority shall make payments in at least the amount of the principal payments to
11 repay any state water commission grant made to the authority in an amount not to exceed thirty
12 million dollars. In addition, upon repayment of the state water commission grant, the authority
13 shall provide five percent of the net profits to the state water commission for deposit by the state
14 treasurer in the resources trust fund until June 30, 2040.

15 **SECTION 4. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.