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## WATER TOPICS OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 10, 2026  
Roughrider Room, State Capitol  
Bismarck, North Dakota

9:00 a.m. Call to order  
Roll call  
Consideration of the [minutes of the March 26, 2026, meeting](#)  
Comments by the Chairman

### WATERSHED MANAGEMENT STUDY

9:05 a.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a [memorandum](#) summarizing the testimony provided to the committee on the committee's study regarding the feasibility and desirability of assigning management authority for the waters of the state to the area located in the naturally occurring watershed, rather than assigning management authority based on political subdivision boundaries

9:10 a.m. Committee discussion

### STORMWATER AND WASTEWATER STUDIES

9:20 a.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a [memorandum](#) summarizing the testimony provided to the committee regarding the committee's studies of funding for stormwater projects and the feasibility and desirability of establishing a wastewater project fund

9:25 a.m. Committee discussion

### REQUIRED REPORTS AND UPDATES

9:35 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Reice Haase, Director, Department of Water Resources, regarding the:

- Department's studies relating to the state's cost-share policies and governance and finance of regional water systems
- State Water Commission's project prioritization methodology
- Projects the State Water Commission has designated as a project receiving carry-over funding, the total amount obligated to a project receiving carry-over funding, and the total amount of funds not yet obligated to a project receiving carry-over funding
- Department's recent activities
- Committee's statutory duties

11:05 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Miranda Kleven, Senior Consultant, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, and Mr. Eric Volk, Executive Director, North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association, regarding municipal and water usage and user rates across the state

11:25 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Shannon Fisher, Program Manager, Division of Municipal Facilities, Department of Environmental Quality, and Ms. DeAnn Ament, Executive Director, Public Finance Authority, regarding the federal affordability index applied to water supply systems

- 11:45 a.m. Recess
- 12:30 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Gene Veeder, Commissioner, Upper Missouri River Basin, State Water Commission, regarding the recent activities of the State Water Commission and the feasibility and desirability of regionalizing water infrastructure around the state
- 12:50 p.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative from the Walsh County Water Resource District regarding an anticipated request for which the state cost-share is estimated to be \$10 million or more for the district's water supply project
- 1:10 p.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative from the Crystal Springs Watershed Initiative regarding an anticipated request for which the state cost-share is estimated to be \$10 million or more for watershed planning and management
- 1:30 p.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative from the Lower Heart River Water Resource District regarding an anticipated request for which the state cost-share is estimated to be \$10 million or more for a flood risk reduction project
- 1:50 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives
- 2:00 p.m. Adjourn

**A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.**

#### **Committee Members**

Representatives: Steve Swiontek (Chairman), Mike Beltz, Mike Berg, Jay Fisher, Karla Rose Hanson, Jon O. Nelson, Todd Porter, Dan Ruby, Matthew Ruby, Daniel R. Vollmer

Senators: Randy A. Burckhard, Michael Dwyer, Justin Gerhardt, Larry Luick, Ronald Sorvaag, Paul J. Thomas, Mark F. Weber

Staff Contacts: Dustin A. Richard, Counsel  
Levi Kinnischtzke, Senior Fiscal Analyst