There is hereby created within the State of Oklahoma a conservation and reclamation district to be known as "Grand River Dam Authority", hereinafter called the district, and consisting of that part of the State of Oklahoma which is included within the boundaries of the Counties of Adair, Cherokee, Craig, Delaware, Mayes, Muskogee, Ottawa, Osage, Pawnee, Payne, Lincoln, Logan, Tulsa, Wagoner, Sequoyah, Haskell, Latimer, Pittsburg, McIntosh, Creek, Okmulgee, Nowata, Washington and Rogers. Such district shall be, and is hereby declared to be, a governmental agency of the State of Oklahoma, body politic and corporate, with powers of government and with the authority to exercise the rights, privileges and functions hereinafter specified, including the control, storing, preservation and distribution of the waters of the Grand River and its tributaries, for irrigation, power and other useful purposes and reclamation and irrigation of arid, semiarid and other lands needing irrigation, and the conservation and development of the forests, minerals, land, water and other resources and the conservation and development of hydroelectric power and other electrical energy, from whatever source derived, of the State of Oklahoma.

Nothing in this act or in any other act or law contained, however, shall be construed as authorizing the district to levy or collect taxes or assessments, or to create any indebtedness payable out of the taxes or assessments, or in any manner to pledge the credit of the State of Oklahoma, or any subdivision thereof.

All that body of land and the water impounded above the Pensacola Dam, Pensacola Project, shall be hereafter designated and known as "Grand Lake O'The Cherokees". All that body of land and the water impounded above Robert S. Kerr Dam, Markham Ferry Project, shall be hereafter designated and known as "Lake Hudson". All that body of land and the water impounded above Chimney Rock Dam, Salina Pumped-Storage Project, shall be designated and known as "W. R. Holway Reservoir".

**Historical Data**

A. The Grand River Dam Authority, created pursuant to the provisions of the Grand River Dam Authority Act, Section 861 et seq. of this title, is a nonappropriated agency of the State of Oklahoma. The Grand River Dam Authority herein referred to as the "district" is subject to the laws of the state as they apply to state agencies except as specifically exempted by statute. All funds generated, received and expended by the district are public funds and subject to state laws and regulations governing the receipt and expenditure of public funds in the same manner as all other state agencies except as otherwise provided by statute. The employees of the district are both classified and unclassified state employees subject to the same benefits and restrictions applicable to all state agencies except as otherwise provided by statute.

B. Recognizing that the district is a unique agency of this state, whose mission requires the ability of the district to function in competition with private industry within the competitive power market, the Legislature hereby requires the Grand River Dam Authority Board of Directors as the rulemaking authority for the district to:

1. Promulgate appropriate rules governing operations of the district pursuant to the provisions of Article I of the Administrative Procedures Act, with the exception of rules dealing with the waters of the Grand River and its tributaries; and

2. Set fees for services performed by the district; provided that such fees shall not exceed the cost to the district of providing such services;

3. Develop written policies and procedures governing the district's activities including purchasing, procurement and bidding, purchase and disposition of real and personal property, fleet management marketing, consumer education, community relations and customer service functions performed by the district to the extent it deems necessary; and

4. Develop written hiring and compensation policies of employees of the district, subject to the provisions of Section 864 of this title.

C. The district is required to document business expenses necessary to carry out the business of the district. Expenses shall meet current State of Oklahoma and Internal Revenue Service guidelines for business expense deductibility.

D. If necessary to comply with the provisions of this act, the Board may, by majority vote, employ an independent audit firm to assist it in its duties. Funds required for this purpose shall be borne by the district with approval by the Board.

E. The Board of Directors or the management of the district may seek advice from the State Treasurer or the
State Bond Advisor as it deems necessary.

F. After the effective date of this act, the district shall not provide retail electric power or retail electric service to electric consuming facilities except to:

1. An existing electric consuming facility if such electric power was being provided by the district on the effective date of August 29, 2003; and

2. Any entity located within the boundary of the Oklahoma Ordnance Works Authority/Mid-America Industrial Park or within a two-mile radius of the boundary.

Retail distribution of electric power shall be defined as any sale not for resale.

**Historical Data**

Laws 2003, SB 408, c. 459, § 1; Amended by Laws 2019, SB 985, c. 507, § 1, emerg. eff. July 1, 2019 (superseded document available).
The district shall have and is hereby authorized to exercise the following powers, rights and privileges:

1. To control, store and preserve, within the boundaries of the district, the waters of Grand River and its tributaries, for any useful purpose, and to use, distribute and sell the same within the boundaries of the district; provided, however, that any municipal corporation within the area included within the jurisdiction of the Grand River Dam Authority shall be entitled to take water from the Grand River and any of its tributaries in any quantities that may be needed by such municipal corporation;

2. To develop and generate water power, electric power and electric energy, from whatever source, within the boundaries of the district; to acquire coal or other minerals to be used for the purposes of providing energy sources for electrical generating plants; to acquire or lease any and all railroad connections, equipment, rolling stock, trackage and otherwise, necessary to the transporting of coal and other minerals to generating plant sites within the district; and to buy, sell, resell, interchange and distribute electric power and energy in order to carry forward the business and functions of the district now or hereafter authorized by law and may enter into contracts for such purposes, such contracts to run for a period of not to exceed fifty (50) years except those contracts provided for in paragraphs 6 and 7 of this section. All contracts may contain such reasonable provisions, limitations, qualifications, protective clauses and rights and obligations of purchase and sale, and such provisions for the dedication of the use of facilities and the construction of additional facilities to serve the load requirements of all the parties as may be deemed advisable by the district to safeguard the business and properties of all the parties to such contracts, all within the limits of sound business judgment and practice, good conscience, and not contrary to the public policy of the state. The district is further authorized to participate in the Southwest Power Pool Integrated Marketplace or any other program established by a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission authorized Regional Transmission Organization in which the district is a member and to engage in the buying and selling of electricity products, fuel commodities, and financial instruments as deemed necessary and prudent by the district and specifically excludes any expansion of retail activities of the district. The Board of Directors shall adopt a hedging policy to enable the district to take advantage of standard market products to reduce risk while preventing speculative trading and potential abuses;

3. To prevent or aid in the prevention of damage to person or property from the waters of the Grand River and its tributaries;

4. To forest and reforest and to aid in the foresting and reforesting of the watershed area of the Grand River and its tributaries and to prevent and to aid in the prevention of soil erosion and floods within the watershed area;
5. To acquire by purchase, lease, gift, or in any other manner, and to maintain, use and operate or to contract for the maintenance, use and operation of any and all property of any kind, real, personal, or mixed, or any interest therein, including trucks of any size or weight and passenger vehicles and to own, construct, operate and maintain any project or works in conjunction or jointly with, as tenants in common, any public or private corporation duly authorized and qualified to do business within this state including, but not limited to, rural electric cooperatives of the State of Oklahoma or the United States of America, or any department, subdivision or agency of the State of Oklahoma or the United States of America, or with any "public agency" as defined under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, within or without the boundaries of the district, necessary, incidental or convenient to the exercise of the powers, rights, privileges and functions conferred upon it by the Grand River Dam Authority Act;

6. In addition to any other powers conferred, the district shall have power and authority to participate and enter into agreements with any public or private corporation duly authorized and qualified to do business within the State of Oklahoma including, but not limited to, rural electric cooperatives, the state or the United States of America or any department, subdivision or agency of the state or the United States of America, or with any "public agency" as defined under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, for the purpose of planning, acquiring, financing, owning, operating and maintaining an undivided ownership of any electric generating plant or plants or any facilities of every kind necessary, incidental or convenient for the production, generation and transmission of electric power and energy including, but not limited to, any and all related transmission facilities, which shall be used as common facilities. The agreements shall provide that the district and any participants therein shall have the incidents of tenant in common to any plant or facility. It shall also be provided in the agreements that the district and any participant in the project shall own a percentage of any common facility equal to the percentage of the money furnished or the value of property supplied by it for the acquisition and construction thereof and shall own a like percentage of the electrical output thereof.

Each participant shall defray its own interest payments and other payments required to be made or deposited in connection with any financing undertaken by it to pay its percentage of the money furnished or value of property supplied by it for the planning, acquisition and construction of any common facility, or any additions or betterments thereto. The agreement shall further provide a uniform method of determining and allocating operation and maintenance expenses of the common facility.

In carrying out the powers granted in this section, the district and each participant shall be severally liable only for its own acts and not jointly or severally liable for the acts, omissions or obligations of others. No money or property supplied by the district or any participant for the planning, financing, acquiring, constructing, operating or maintaining of any common plant or facility shall be credited or otherwise applied to the account of any other participant therein, nor shall the undivided share of the district or any participant therein be charged, directly or indirectly, with any debt or obligation of any other participant or be subject to any lien as a result thereof. No action in connection with a common facility shall be binding upon the district except as expressly authorized and provided for in the participation agreement;

7. In addition to the powers conferred in paragraph 6 of this section, the district shall have power and authority to participate and enter into agreements with any public or private corporation duly authorized and qualified to do business within this state including, but not limited to, rural electric cooperatives, the State of Oklahoma or the United States of America or any department, subdivision or agency of the State of Oklahoma or the United States of America, or with any "public agency" as defined under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, for the purpose of planning, acquiring, financing, owning, operating and maintaining undivided ownership interests in any electric generating plant or plants or any other facilities of every kind necessary, incidental or convenient for the production, generation and transmission of electric power and energy including, but not limited to, any and all
related transmission or other facilities which are to be used as common facilities and to cooperate with other state agencies and public trusts to promote economic development in the state and to assist in attracting industry to the state. Such undivided ownership interests may be created by an agreement entered into with respect to property to be acquired by the district. Any such agreement may be a sale agreement, with the purchase price payable at one time or in installments at such time and over such period as shall be agreed to by the parties thereto, a lease agreement, with a nominal purchase option, or any other type of agreement. In addition to the purchase price, the district shall be fully indemnified as to operation, maintenance, administrative and other expenses incurred with respect to such undivided interest. The district is hereby authorized to enter into any such agreement in order to sell, lease or otherwise convey undivided ownership interests in any such property. Any such agreement shall specify the undivided interest to be owned or acquired by each of the participants, provide for a waiver of partition, prescribe the time of vesting of such interest and the amount of electrical output to be owned and controlled by any participant.

Each participant shall defray its own interest and other payments required to be made or deposited in connection with any financing undertaken by it to pay its percentage of the money furnished or value of property supplied by it for the planning, acquisition and construction of any common facility, or any additions or betterments thereto. The agreement shall provide a uniform method of determining and allocating operation and maintenance expenses of the common facility.

In carrying out the powers granted in this section, the district and each participant shall be severally liable only for its own acts and not jointly or severally liable for the acts, omissions or obligations of others. No money or property supplied by the district or any participant for the planning, financing, acquiring, constructing, operating or maintaining of any common plant or facility shall be credited or otherwise applied to the account of any other participant therein, nor shall the undivided share of the district or any participant therein be charged, directly or indirectly, with any debt or obligation of any other participant or be subject to any lien as a result thereof. No action in connection with a common facility shall be binding upon the district except as expressly authorized and provided for in the participation agreement;

8. To acquire by condemnation any and all property of any kind, real, personal, or mixed, or any interest therein, within or without the boundaries of the district, necessary, incidental or convenient to the exercise of the powers, rights, privileges and functions conferred upon it by the Grand River Dam Authority Act, in the manner provided by general law with respect to condemnation; provided that nothing in the Grand River Dam Authority Act shall ever be construed to authorize the district to acquire by condemnation any privately, municipally or publicly owned electric public utility system or any part thereof outside of the high-water mark of a reservoir area or outside a properly located damsite, except the districts may require the relocation of transmission lines and substations so owned where such relocation is necessary for the construction and maintenance of dams, reservoirs, levees, spillways and floodways, and in such event just compensation shall be paid. Provided that the Grand River Dam Authority shall have the right to cross transmission lines of other electric utility companies under proper engineering standards of construction as approved by the Corporation Commission;

9. Subject to the provisions of the Grand River Dam Authority Act, from time to time sell, which shall include, but not be limited to, an installment sale agreement, lease with nominal purchase options, or otherwise dispose of any property of any kind, real, personal or mixed, or any interest therein, which shall not be necessary to the carrying on of the business of the district;
10. To overflow and inundate any public lands and public property and to require the relocation of roads and highways in the manner and to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of the Grand River Dam Authority Act; provided, that the district shall be liable in damages to the State of Oklahoma or any subdivision thereof for any injury occasioned or expense incurred by reason thereof;

11. To construct, extend, improve, maintain and reconstruct, to cause to be constructed, extended, improved, maintained and reconstructed, and to use and operate any and all facilities of any kind necessary, incidental or convenient to the exercise of such powers, rights, privileges and functions;

12. To sue and be sued in its corporate name in contracts, reverse condemnation, tort, equity, mandamus and similar actions and in its own name plead and be impleaded, provided, however, that any and all actions of law or in an equity against the district shall be brought in the county in which the principal office of the district shall be located or in the county where the cause of action arose;

13. To adopt, use and alter a corporate seal;

14. To make bylaws for the management and regulation of its affairs;

15. To appoint officers, agents and employees, to prescribe their duties and to fix their compensation; and enter into contracts with labor unions, provided, that contracts with labor unions shall not abrogate the rights of the district to cooperate and carry out Veterans on the Job Training;

16. To make contracts and to execute instruments necessary, incidental or convenient to the exercise of the powers, rights, privileges and functions conferred upon it by the Grand River Dam Authority Act;

17. To borrow money for its corporate purposes and, without limitation of the generality of the foregoing, to borrow money and accept grants from the United States of America, or from any corporation or agency created or designated by the United States of America, and, in connection with any such loan or grant, to enter into such agreements as the United States of America or such corporation or agency may require; and to make and issue its bonds, notes, loans, commercial paper, and credit or liquidity support for money borrowed, in the manner provided in the Grand River Dam Authority Act. Nothing in the Grand River Dam Authority Act shall authorize the issuance of any bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness of the district, except as specifically provided in the Grand River Dam Authority Act;

18. To prescribe and enforce rules for the use for recreational and commercial purposes of the lakes created by the district by impounding the waters of the lakes, and the shorelands of the district bordering thereon, including the use of firearms, the inspection of all boats of every character proposing to operate or operating on the lakes, the issuance of permits for the operation of boats, surfboards, aquaplanes, sea-skis or similar devices on the lakes for hire; the charging and collection of fees for the inspection or operation of such boats, surfboards, aquaplanes, sea-skis or other similar devices on the lakes for hire; preventing the launching or operation of any commercial or for-hire boat, surfboard, aquaplane, sea-ski or similar device for hire, on the waters of the lakes, without a certificate of inspection and a permit for such use; prescribing the type, style, location and equipment of all wharves, docks and anchorages along the shores and upon the water of the lakes; the issuance of permits for wharfage, dock or anchorage privileges and charging fees for such commercial or private permits; and the establishment and maintenance of public wharves, docks or anchorages and the charging and collection of fees for the use thereof by the public; to appoint or employ such persons, including CLEET-certified volunteer reserve officers, as the district may deem proper and suitable for the purpose of enforcing such rules and regulations as may be issued hereunder, or as may be issued pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Boating Safety Regulation Act, and for the enforcing of the provisions of the Grand River Dam Authority Act, and all violations of
criminal laws occurring within the boundaries of the counties where real property owned or leased by the Grand River Dam Authority is located, which employees shall have the power of peace officers during the performance of those duties, except in the serving or execution of civil process.

Any municipal, county or state law enforcement officer employed by the Grand River Dam Authority to serve as a part-time or seasonal commissioned peace officer shall be exempt from the restrictions on dual office holding as provided for in paragraph 16 of subsection A of Section 6 of Title 51 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

19. To do any and all other acts or things necessary, incidental or convenient to the exercise of the powers, rights, privileges or functions conferred upon it by the Grand River Dam Authority Act or any other act or law. Provided the district shall be liable for damage caused by the district, its agents, servants and employees in creating, constructing, maintaining or operating the district to any corporation, partnership, person or individual whose property, either real or personal, within or without said district, has been damaged and the damages may be determined by appropriate action as provided by law. Nothing in the Grand River Dam Authority Act shall be construed as rendering the district liable for damage where it is not liable on general principles of law or statute or Constitutional provision.

Provided, however, that in the course of exercising its powers as herein enumerated, the district shall at all times consider the rights and needs of the people living within and upon the land lying within the watershed of the rivers or streams developed by the district; provided, however, that nothing herein shall prevent the district from selling for irrigation purposes within the boundaries of the district any water impounded by it under authority of law, provided that nothing herein contained shall authorize the state to engage in agriculture except for educational and scientific purposes and for the support of its penal, charitable, and educational institutions;

20. To support and assist the efforts of state, regional and local development organizations, political subdivisions, industrial committees, chambers of commerce, tourism organizations, agricultural organizations, environmental organizations, educational institutions and other similar public and private agencies to obtain new and foster expansion of existing service, industrial and manufacturing facilities, businesses and enterprises to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of the district and the state. Provided, support and assistance shall be limited to an amount not to exceed a total of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) per year for one or more projects or efforts that are for the benefit of or impact the quality of life for each city or community located within the boundaries of the district; and

21. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Chief Executive Officer, department heads and other essential employees of the district, as designated by the Chief Executive Officer, may be permitted to use a district owned vehicle to provide transportation between the employee's residence and the assigned place of employment and between the residence and any location other than the assigned place of employment to which the employee travels in the performance of the employee's official duty.

**Historical Data**

Amended by Laws 2003, SB 408, c. 459, § 2 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2004, SB 377, c. 524, § 1 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2008, SB 1381, c. 301, § 1, emerg. eff. June 2, 2008 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2012, SB 1506, c. 217, § 1 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2016, HB 1717, c. 266, § 1, emerg. eff. May 9, 2016 (repealed by Laws 2017, SB 833, c. 42, § 40) (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2016, SB 1388, c. 297, § 2, emerg. eff. July 1, 2016 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2017, SB 833, c. 42, § 39 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2019, SB 985, c. 507, § 2, emerg. eff. July 1, 2019 (superseded document available).
In addition to the powers, rights and privileges enumerated in Section 862 of this title, the Grand River Dam Authority shall be exempt from the provisions of the:

1. The Oklahoma Open Records Act, exclusively limited to:
   a. customer proprietary information the Authority is contractually obligated to keep confidential, and
   b. security plans and procedures in its role as an electric utility regulated by the federal government;
2. The Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, exclusively limited to authorizing the Grand River Dam Authority Board of Directors to confer on:
   a. coal or gas fuel supply and transportation contracts,
   b. power purchase agreements, and
   c. security plans and procedures in its role as an electric utility regulated by the federal government; and
3. Title 61 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
4. The Information Technology Consolidation and Coordination Act;
5. The State Travel Reimbursement Act; and
6. The Surplus Property Act; provided that the district may, on a transactional basis, elect to make itself subject to the requirements of the Surplus Property Act.

Historical Data

A. The powers, rights and privileges and functions of the Grand River Dam Authority, hereinafter referred to as the "district", shall be exercised by a seven-member Board of Directors, to be appointed according to the provisions of this section.

B. The Board shall have rulemaking authority pursuant to the provisions of the Grand River Dam Authority Act. By majority vote, the Board shall have the authority to grant exemptions from any rules not promulgated pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act which deal with the waters of the Grand River and its tributaries. The Board shall be responsible for approving business expenses of the district necessary to carry out the business of the district. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to oversee the functions of the district and ensure the operations of the district are in compliance with all applicable state laws and that expenses of the district comply with state and federal guidelines for business expense deductibility.

C. Members appointed to the Board or who serve as designees shall be domiciled in the State of Oklahoma and shall have paid state income taxes for a minimum of one (1) year prior to the date of appointment.

D. No person shall be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors if the person, during the three (3) years prior to the appointment, has been employed by an investor-owned utility company, or has held a federal, state or county office, elective or appointive.

E. A member of the Board may be eligible to serve on the Oklahoma Ordnance Works Authority Board of Trustees, if appointed to that position by the Governor.

F. Members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed as follows:

1. The Governor shall appoint a director to represent the industrial and commercial customers of the district;
2. The Governor shall appoint a director to represent economic development interests, lake enthusiasts and property owners;
3. The Governor shall appoint an at-large director;
4. The President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate shall appoint an at-large director;
5. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint an at-large director;
6. The General Manager of the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives, or designee, shall be a voting ex officio director; and
7. The Executive Director of the Municipal Electric Systems of Oklahoma, or designee, shall be a voting ex officio
G. A successor to a director of the Board shall be appointed in the same manner as the original director and shall serve a term of five (5) years. Directors may be eligible to serve more than one term if so reappointed by the original appointing authority or a different or successor appointing authority.

H. Any director appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such term.

I. Each director shall qualify by taking the official oath of office prescribed by general statute.

J. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, any director or designee may be removed by the member's appointing authority only for just cause. Additionally, any member who fails to attend a total of three (3) regularly scheduled board meetings in one (1) calendar year may be removed by the member's appointing authority.

K. Each director shall be allowed actual and necessary expenses incurred by such director for attending meetings of the Board and authorized business of the district pursuant to the provisions of the State Travel Reimbursement Act. No director shall hold any other position of employment within the Grand River Dam Authority at the same time such director is serving on the Board.

L. The time and place of the regular meetings and the manner in which special meetings may be called shall be set forth in the bylaws of the district. Four directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting, and, except as otherwise provided in the Grand River Dam Authority Act or in the bylaws, all action may be taken by the affirmative vote of the majority of the Board present at any such meeting, except that no bonds, notes or other evidence of indebtedness, and no amendment of the bylaws, shall be valid unless authorized or ratified by the affirmative vote of at least four directors.

M. At the first meeting of the Board following July 1, 2003, the members appointed pursuant to this section shall, by majority vote, elect a chair and chair-elect who shall serve as the vice-chair. The chair and the chair-elect shall serve a term of one (1) year. Thereafter, the membership of the Board shall elect a chair-elect, at the first meeting of each year and the previous chair-elect shall assume the position of chair for the ensuing year. A member may serve more than one term as chair or chair-elect during their tenure on the Board, provided, however, they may only serve one term in any three-year period.

N. The Asset Committee shall be chaired by the director appointed to represent economic development interests, lake enthusiasts and property owners. Other members of the Committee may be selected by the Board.

O. The Board may appoint temporary or permanent subcommittees which may include employees of the district or other persons for any purpose it deems necessary or appropriate.

P. The Board is authorized to adopt or amend the bylaws of the district as necessary to comply with the provisions of the Grand River Dam Authority Act.

Q. For the purposes of Section 4254 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, the directors of this board, appointed pursuant to this section, shall not be considered state officers or state employees.

Historical Data
Laws 2003, SB 408, c. 459, § 3; Amended by Laws 2004, SB 377, c. 524, § 3 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2012, SB 1500, c. 27, § 1, emerg. eff. April 9, 2012 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2012, HB 2502, c. 112, § 1 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2019, SB 985, c. 507, § 4, emerg. eff. July 1, 2019 (superseded document available).
A. There is hereby created the Joint Legislative Task Force on the Grand River Dam Authority for the purpose of studying the functions, activities, policies, procedures and expenditures performed by the district and any related issues the task force deems appropriate. Members of the task force shall be appointed in January of each year following a state general election by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Membership shall be made up of five members of the Senate and five members of the House of Representatives whose legislative districts include a portion of the Grand River Dam Authority district to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively. The President Pro Tempore and Speaker shall each designate one of their members to be cochairs of the task force. The task force shall be required to meet at least once biennially during the first session of each new legislature. Additional meetings may be called as the cochairs determine necessary. Meetings of the task force shall be called by the cochairs. A majority of the appointed members shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the task force. Staffing assistance shall be provided by the staff of the Senate and House of Representatives.

B. The members of the task force created herein shall continue to serve until new members are appointed pursuant to the provisions of subsection A of this section. The task force is authorized to adopt any recommendations or issue any report it deems necessary. Any recommendations or reports shall be approved by a majority of the appointed members. Copies of any recommendations or reports issued by the task force shall be distributed to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the members of the Grand River Dam Authority Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer of the Grand River Dam Authority.

C. The Grand River Dam Authority shall annually provide a copy of the district's most recent annual report to the members of the task force in addition to any information requested pursuant to the provisions of this section.

D. Members serving on the task force shall not be entitled to travel reimbursement.

Historical Data

Laws 2007, SB 407, c. 192, § 3; Amended by Laws 2011, SB 80, c. 247, § 1 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2019, SB 985, c. 507, § 5, emerg. eff. July 1, 2019 (superseded document available).
A. 1. The Board of Directors of the Grand River Dam Authority shall select a secretary who shall keep true and complete records of all proceedings of the Board. Until the appointment of a secretary, or in the event of absence or inability to act, a secretary pro tempore shall be selected by the Board.

2. The Board shall also select a chief executive officer of the district, and a treasurer, who may also hold the office of secretary.

3. All such officers shall have the powers and duties, and shall hold office for such term and be subject to removal in such manner as may be provided in the compensation of such officers. The Board may appoint such officers, fix their compensation and term of office and the method by which they may be removed and delegate to them such other powers and duties as it may deem appropriate.

4. Except for the purpose of inquiry, the Board and its members shall deal with the operations of the district solely through the Chief Executive Officer. The Board and its members shall not:
   a. direct or request the Chief Executive Officer or other authority to appoint or remove officers or employees except as herein provided,
   b. participate in any manner in the appointment or removal of officers and employees of the district, except as provided by law, or
   c. give orders or ordinary administrative matters to any subordinate of the Chief Executive Officer either publicly or privately.

B. The Chief Executive Officer may appoint such other officers, agents, and employees, fix their compensation pursuant to the provisions of this section, and term of office and the method by which they may be removed, and delegate to them such of its power and duties as the Chief Executive Officer may deem proper.

Historical Data

1061 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2015, SB 358, c. 88, § 1, eff. November 1, 2015 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2019, SB 985, c. 507, § 6, emerg. eff. July 1, 2019 (superseded document available).
Except as otherwise provided for in this section, for the life of a retired employee, the Grand River Dam Authority shall pay not less than Sixty Dollars ($60.00) of its retired member's, employee only, health insurance premiums as long as the retiree elects to continue participation in one of the plans offered by the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board. Such payment made by the Grand River Dam Authority shall be in addition to any amount contributed by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System pursuant to Section 1316.2 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes. At its discretion, the Board of Directors of the Grand River Dam Authority may elect to pay more than Sixty Dollars ($60.00) toward the health insurance premium of a retired employee.

If the sum of the amount paid by the Grand River Dam Authority plus the medical supplement paid by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System pursuant to Section 1316.2 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes exceeds the amount of the retired member's, employee only, health insurance premium, the Authority may reduce the amount it contributes.

**Historical Data**

The funds of the district shall be deposited in accordance with Section 870 of this title and any bond resolutions or indentures issued thereunder. The Chief Executive Officer, the treasurer and all other officers, agents and employees of the district who shall be charged with the collection, custody or payment of any funds of the district shall give bond conditioned on the faithful performance of their duties and an accounting for all funds and property of the district coming into their respective hands, each of which bonds shall be in form and amount and with a surety, which shall be a surety company authorized to do business in the state, approved by the Board, and the premiums on such bonds shall be paid by the district and charged as an operating expense.

Historical Data

Title 82. Waters and Water Rights
Chapter 8 - Grand River Dam Authority

Section 866 - Domicile of District - Accounts and Records - Contracts - Annual Audit - Filing - Public Inspection

Cite as: 82 O.S. § 866 (OSCN 2019)

The domicile of the district shall be in the City of Vinita, County of Craig, where the district shall maintain its principal office in charge of its Chief Executive Officer, until otherwise designated by the affirmative vote of four directors. The district shall cause to be kept complete and accurate accounts conforming to any generally accepted accounting principles. The accounts and all contracts, documents and records of the district shall be kept at the principal office. The accounts and contracts shall be open to public inspection at all reasonable times. The Board shall cause to be made and completed within ninety (90) days after the end of each calendar year an audit of the books of account and financial records of the district for such calendar year, such audit to be made by an independent certified public accountant or firm of certified public accountants. Electronic copies of the audit report, certified to by the accountant or accountants, shall be placed and kept on file with the Governor, the State Treasurer, Oklahoma Department of Libraries and the State Auditor and Inspector of the State of Oklahoma, and at the principal office, and shall be open to public inspection at all reasonable times. The audit shall also be filed with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, in accordance with the requirements set forth for financial statement audits in Section 212A of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

Historical Data

Section 867 - Officers or Employees - Interest in Contracts Prohibited

No director, officer, agent, or employee of the district shall be directly or indirectly interested in any contract for the purchase of any property or construction of any work by or for the district, and if any such person shall be or become so interested in any such contract, he shall be guilty of a felony and, on conviction thereof shall be subject to a fine in an amount not exceeding Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) or to confinement in the county jail for not less than one (1) year nor more than ten (10) years, or both.

Historical Data

The board shall establish and collect rates and other charges for the sale or use of water, water connections, power, electric energy or other services sold, furnished, or supplied by the district which fees and charges shall be reasonable and nondiscriminatory and sufficient to produce revenue adequate:

(a) To pay all expenses necessary to the operation and maintenance of the properties and facilities of the district;

(b) To pay the interest on and principal of all debt issued under Section 861 et seq. of this title when and as the same shall become due and payable;

(c) To pay all sinking fund and/or reserve fund payments agreed to be made in respect of any such debt, and payable out of such revenues, when and as the same shall become due and payable;

(d) To fulfill the terms of any agreements made with the holders of such bonds and/or with any person in their behalf; and

(e) To pay any other amounts that the district is required to pay by law or contract.

Out of the revenues which may be received in excess of those required for the purposes specified in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) above, the board shall establish a reasonable depreciation and emergency fund, and retire (by purchase and cancellation or redemption) bonds issued under Section 861 et seq. of this title, or apply the same to any corporate purpose. It is the intention of the Grand River Dam Authority Act that the rates and charges of the district shall not be in excess of what may be necessary to fulfill the obligations imposed upon it by the Grand River Dam Authority Act.

Nothing herein shall be construed as depriving the State of Oklahoma of its power to regulate and control fees and/or charges to be collected for the use of water, water connections, power, electric energy, or other services, provided, that the State of Oklahoma does hereby pledge to and agree with the purchasers and successive holders of the bonds issued hereunder that the state will not limit or alter the power hereby vested in the district to establish and collect such fees and charges as will produce revenues sufficient to pay the items specified in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) of this section, or in any way to impair the rights or remedies of the holders of the bonds, or of any person in their behalf, until the bonds, together with the interest thereon, with interest on unpaid installments of interest and all costs and expenses in connection with any action or proceedings by or on behalf of the bondholders and all other obligations of the district in connection with such bonds are fully met and discharged.

Historical Data
A. Any and every indebtedness, liability or obligation of the district, for the payment of money, however entered into or incurred, and whether arising from contract, implied contract or otherwise, shall be payable solely (1) out of the revenues received by the district in respect of its properties, or other accounts held for the payment and security thereof, subject to any prior lien thereon conferred by any resolution or resolutions theretofore adopted as in Section 861 et. seq. of this title provided, authorizing the issuance of bonds or (2), if the Board shall so determine out of the proceeds of sale or issuance by the district of bonds or bond anticipation notes payable solely from such revenues or such other amounts, or such credit or liquidity support as may be obtained by the district for such purposes, repayable solely from such revenues or other amounts.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the district is hereby authorized to accept state appropriations to pay any lease-purchase obligations for property purchased from the sale of bonds as provided by law in Section 301 et. seq. of Title 73 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

**Historical Data**

The district shall have power and is hereby authorized to issue from time to time, as the need therefor arises, revenue bonds for its corporate purposes in such amount or amounts not to exceed One Billion Four Hundred Ten Million Dollars ($1,410,000,000.00) outstanding at any time as are necessary, incidental or convenient to the exercise of the powers, rights, privileges and functions conferred upon it by this act, or any other act or law, and without limitations of the generality of the powers, rights and privileges heretofore granted, for acquiring a steam generating plant or plants and related facilities, and to extend, improve and reconstruct the same; and for constructing, installing and acquiring dams, reservoirs, hydroelectric power plants, or any electrical generating plant or plants or any other electrical power or generating facilities; or any plant or plants for the production of steam for heating and processing purposes; and all and any facilities of every kind necessary, incidental or convenient for the production and generation of electric power and energy; and for acquiring, constructing and installing transmission lines, substations and all facilities necessary, incidental or convenient to the sale, resale, interchange and distribution of electric power and energy; and for carrying on the business and functions of the district, as is now or hereafter may be authorized by law; and for acquiring additions and improvements to and extensions of facilities, at any time existing, of the district; and for the acquisition of lands and rights-of-way for such use as is now, or may be, authorized by law; and for acquiring additions and improvements to and extensions of facilities, at any time existing, of the district; and for the acquisition of lands and rights-of-way for such use as is now, or may be, authorized by law for the construction, replacement and repair of any dams, plants or other facilities of the district; and to enable it to finance, in cooperation with any “public agency”, as defined under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Sections 1001 through 1008 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, any other agency of government, rural electric co-op corporation, or any private or public corporation, the development and utilization of electrical energy or the water resources and rights in waters vested in said district for such purposes as are, or may be, authorized by the laws of Oklahoma, and for financing and refinancing present outstanding obligations of the district, including the payment of any claims, charges or interest on bonds required to be paid. The bonds herein authorized may either be (1) sold for cash, at public or private sale, at such price or prices as the Board shall determine with the advice and assistance of the State Bond Advisor, or (2) may be issued on such terms as the Board shall determine in exchange for property of any kind, real, personal or mixed, or any interest therein which the Board shall deem necessary, incidental or convenient for any such corporate purposes, or (3) may be issued in exchange for like principal amounts of other obligations of the district, matured or unmatured, or (4) may be issued in such principal amounts that when the proceeds thereof are invested in legal and qualified investments, the proceeds together with the resulting proceeds of such investments will be sufficient to retire the outstanding indebtedness or any portion thereof at maturity or at prior redemption or upon purchase or tender for purchase. The proceeds of sale of such bonds shall be deposited in such bank or banks or trust company or trust companies, and shall be paid out pursuant to such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the district and the purchasers of such bonds. All such bonds shall be authorized by resolutions of the Board.
concurred in by at least four of the members thereof, and shall bear such date or dates, mature at such time or
times, bear interest at such rate or rates, at such time or times, be in such denominations, be in such form, either
coupon or registered, carry such registration privileges as to principal only or as to both principal and interest, and
as to exchange of coupon bonds for registered bonds or vice versa, and exchange of bonds of one denomination
for bonds of other denominations, be executed in such manner and be payable at such place or places within or
without the State of Oklahoma as such resolution or resolutions may provide. Any resolution or resolutions,
including any related trust indenture or indentures, authorizing any bonds may contain provisions which shall be
part of the contract between the district and the holders thereof from time to time (a) reserving the right to redeem
such bonds at such time or times, in such amounts and at such prices as may be provided, (b) providing for the
setting aside of sinking funds or reserve funds and the regulation and disposition thereof, (c) pledging to secure
the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds and of the sinking fund or reserve fund payments
agreed to be made in respect of such bonds all or any part of the gross or net revenues thereafter received by the
district in respect of the property, real, personal or mixed, to be acquired or constructed with such bonds or the
proceeds thereof, or all or any part of the gross or net revenues thereafter received by the district from whatever
source derived and monies and securities held under such resolutions or indentures or contract rights with respect
to any of the foreigion, (d) prescribing the purposes to which such bonds or any bonds thereafter to be issued, or
the proceeds thereof, may be applied, (e) agreeing to fix and collect rates and charges sufficient to produce
revenues adequate to pay the items specified in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c) , (d) and (e) of Section 868 of this title
and prescribing the use and disposition of all revenues, and the investment of such revenues and other monies
pending their expenditures in investments authorized or permitted by law, (f) prescribing limitations upon the
issuance of additional bonds and upon the agreements which may be made with the purchasers and successive
holders thereof, (g) with regard to the construction, extension, improvement, reconstruction, operation,
maintenance and repair of the properties of the district, carrying of insurance upon all or any part of said
properties covering loss or damage or loss of use and occupancy resulting from specified risk, (h) fixing the
procedure, if any, by which, if the district shall so desire, the terms of any contract with the holders of such bonds
may be amended or abrogated, the amount of bonds the holders of which must consent thereto, and the manner
in which such consent may be given, (i) for the execution and delivery by the district to a bank or trust company
authorized by law to accept trusts, or to the United States of America or any office or agency thereof, of
indentures and agreements for the benefit of the holders of such bonds setting forth any or all of the agreements
herein authorized to be made with or from the benefit of the holders of such bonds and such other provisions as
may be customary in such indentures or agreements, and (j) such other provisions, not inconsistent with the
provisions of the act, as the Board may approve.

Any such resolution and any indenture or agreement entered into pursuant thereto may provide that in the event
that (a) default shall be made in the payment of the interest on any or all bonds when and as the same shall
become due and payable, or (b) default shall be made in the payment of the principal of any or all bonds when
and as the same shall become due and payable, whether at the maturity thereof, by call for redemption or
otherwise, or (c) default shall be made in the performance for any agreement made with the purchasers or
successive holders of any bonds, and such default shall have continued such period, if any, as may be prescribed
by said resolution in respect thereof, the trustee under the indenture or indentures entered into in respect of the
bonds authorized thereby, or if there shall be no such indenture, a trustee appointed in the manner provided in
such resolution or resolutions by the holders of twenty-five percent (25%) in aggregate principal amount of the
bonds authorized thereby and at the time outstanding may, and, upon the written request of the holders of twenty­
five percent (25%) in aggregate principal amount of the bonds authorized by such resolution or resolutions at the
time outstanding, shall, in his or its own name, but for the equal and proportionate benefit of the holders of all of
such bonds, and with or without possession thereof,
(1) By mandamus or other suit, action or proceeding at law or in equity, enforce all rights of the holders of such bonds,

(2) Bring suit upon such bonds and/or the appurtenant coupons,

(3) By action or suit in equity, require the district to account as if it were the trustee of an express trust for the bondholders,

(4) By action or suit in equity, enjoin any acts or things which may be unlawful or in violation of the rights of the holders of such bonds, and/or

(5) After such notice to the district as such resolution may provide, declare the principal of all of such bonds due and payable, and if all defaults shall have been made good, then with the written consent of the holder or holders of twenty-five percent (25%) in aggregate principal amount of such bonds at the time outstanding annul such declaration and its consequence; provided, however, that the holders of more than a majority in principal amount of the bonds authorized thereby and at the time outstanding by instrument or instruments in writing delivered to such trustee have the right to direct and control any and all action taken or to be taken by such trustee under this paragraph. Any such resolution, indenture or agreement may provide that in any such suit, action or proceeding, any such trustee, whether or not all of such bonds shall have been declared due and payable, and with or without possession of any thereof, shall be entitled as of right to the appointment of a receiver who may enter and take possession of all or any part of the properties of the district and operate and maintain the same, and fix, collect and receive rates and charges sufficient to provide revenues adequate to pay the items set forth in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) of Section 868 of this title and the costs and disbursements of such suit, action or proceeding, and to apply such revenues in conformity with the provisions of Section 861 et seq. of this title and the resolution or resolutions authorizing such bonds. In any suit, action or proceeding by any such trustee, the reasonable fees, counsel fees and expense of such trustee and of the receiver or receivers, if any, shall constitute taxable disbursements and all costs and disbursements, and all costs and disbursements allowed by the court shall be a first charge upon any revenues pledged to secure the payment of such bonds. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, the courts of the County of Craig, or other county wherein the domicile may be situated, shall have jurisdiction of any such suit, action or proceeding by any such trustee on behalf of the bondholders and of all property involved therein. In addition to the powers hereinabove specifically provided for, each such trustee shall have and possess all powers necessary or appropriate for the exercise of any thereof, or incident to the general representation of the bondholders in the enforcement of their right.

Before any bonds shall be sold by the district, a certified copy of the proceedings for the issuance thereof, including the form of such bonds, together with any other information which the Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma may require, shall be submitted to the Attorney General and if he shall find that such bonds have been issued in accordance with law he shall approve such bonds and execute a certificate to that effect which shall be filed in the Office of the State Auditor and Inspector of the State of Oklahoma and be recorded in a record kept for that purpose. No bonds shall be issued until the same shall have been registered by the State Auditor and Inspector, who shall so register the same if the Attorney General shall have filed with the State Auditor and Inspector his certificate approving the bonds and the proceedings for the issuance thereof as hereinafore provided. All bonds approved by the Attorney General as aforesaid, and registered by the State Auditor and Inspector as aforesaid, and issued in accordance with the proceedings so approved shall be valid and binding obligations of the district and shall be incontestable for any cause from and after the time of such registration.

Historical Data
Whenever the board shall have adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of any series of bonds thereunder but prior to the time the bonds can be delivered the board finds it necessary to borrow money for the purpose for which the bonds were authorized, the board may, by appropriate resolutions and subject to all other provisions of Sections 861 through 889 of this title, authorize the borrowing of money in anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, and the issuance of notes of the board to evidence such borrowing. The amount so borrowed shall not exceed the principal amount of the bonds and shall not bear interest at a rate exceeding the allowable interest rate of the bonds. Such notes shall be signed in the manner prescribed by the board and shall be made payable at such times as the board may prescribe not later than five (5) years from their respective dates and may be renewed from time to time by the issuance of new notes hereunder. The proceeds of any loan made under this section shall be devoted exclusively to the purposes for which the bonds shall have been authorized and the notes and the interest thereon shall be paid with the proceeds of the bonds or any legally available funds simultaneously with the delivery of the bonds. If for any reason the bonds shall not be issued, the holder or holders of the notes shall be entitled to all rights which would have been enjoyed by the holders of the bonds had they been issued, and the notes shall be paid from the revenues provided for the payment of the bonds and shall be entitled to the benefit of all covenants, agreements and rights appearing in the resolution authorizing the bonds for the benefit of the bonds.

Historical Data

All bonds issued by the district pursuant to the provisions of this act shall constitute negotiable instruments within the meaning of The Negotiable Instruments Law.

**Historical Data**

The district may, but without intending by this provision to limit any powers of the district as granted to it by this act, enter into and carry out such contract, or establish or comply with such rules and regulations concerning labor and materials and other related matters in connection with any project or projects as the District may deem desirable or as may be requested by the United States of America, or any corporation or agency created, designated or established thereby, which may assist in the financing of any such project or projects. The district shall have the authority to request engineering aid of the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army, the Federal Power Commission, or any other federal agency, in the designing and construction of any project authorized under the terms of this act and to use such aid, if and when offered, and to pay any reasonable cost therefor.

Historical Data

A. The Grand River Dam Authority is hereby authorized to fund and refund any and all lawful obligations and any and all revenue bonds issued, or contracted to be sold, by it by the issuance of new revenue bonds, or from the proceeds of sale of new revenue bonds, or by the exchange of new revenue bonds and to renegotiate any agreement of indenture whereunder said obligations or revenue bonds authorized to be funded and refunded hereby may be outstanding, or contracted, but any new revenue bonds issued, exchanged or sold to fund or refund the outstanding obligations and revenue bonds and all agreements and indentures providing for the payment and securing thereof shall conform to the provisions of the Grand River Dam Authority Act, as amended; provided, that no outstanding obligations or revenue bonds shall be funded or refunded or exchanged on the basis of a price in excess of principal, accrued interest, redemption premium, or charges in excess of those provided by the obligations or revenue bonds or the indenture or agreement whereunder issued or incurred, plus the necessary and reasonable costs of funding, refunding or exchange thereof; provided, further that said Authority shall have the power to purchase any revenue bonds issued, or contracted to be issued, by it at a price not exceeding the redemption price applicable at the time of purchase thereof, or, if no redemption price is fixed, then at principal plus accrued interest, from any funds available and provided for the payment of the revenue bonds.

B. The Authority is further authorized to enter into interest rate swaps and other derivative products, and other financial instruments intended to hedge interest rate risk or manage interest rate costs, including any option to enter into or terminate any of them, that the Authority deems to be necessary or desirable in connection with any bonds issued prior to, at the same time as, or after entering into such arrangement, and containing such terms and provisions, and may be with such parties, as determined by the Authority. Provided, any action taken by the Authority pursuant to this subsection must first be approved by the Office of the State Bond Advisor and the Council of Bond Oversight pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Bond Oversight and Reform Act.

Historical Data

A. Nothing in Sections 861 through 890 of this title shall be construed as authorizing the district and it shall not be authorized to mortgage or otherwise encumber any of its property of any kind, real, personal or mixed, or any interest therein, or to acquire any property or interest subject to a mortgage or conditional sale, provided that this section shall not be construed as preventing the pledging of the revenues of the district as herein authorized. Any pledge of revenues, monies, securities or contract rights made by the district pursuant to the provisions of this title shall be valid and binding from the date the pledge is made. The revenues, monies, securities and contract rights so pledged and then held or thereafter received by the district or any fiduciary shall immediately be subject to the lien of the pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and the lien of the pledge shall be valid and binding against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the district without regard to the provisions of Title 12A of the Oklahoma Statutes, the bond resolution, trust indenture, security agreement or other instrument by which a pledge is created need not be filed or recorded in any manner.

B. Nothing in Sections 861 through 890 of this title shall be construed as authorizing the sale, lease or other disposition of any property or interest of the district by the district or any receiver of any of its properties or through any court proceeding or otherwise.

C. 1. The district may sell for cash, subject to competitive bidding as provided by the Board of Directors of the Grand River Dam Authority, any property or interest in an aggregate value not exceeding the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00) in any one (1) year, except that the district may sell any or all surplus property that the district may have acquired without regard to the limitations herein, if the Board, by the affirmative vote of five or more members, shall have determined that the same is not necessary to the business of the district and shall have approved the terms of any sale.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the district may sell real and personal property directly used for the generation, transmission or distribution of electricity to any corporation, limited liability company, association, cooperative, municipal corporation or a beneficial trust thereof engaged in the furnishing of wholesale or retail electric if the Board approves by a vote of five or more members that the property is not necessary to the business of the district. Sales pursuant to this paragraph shall be exempt from the requirements and limitations of paragraph 1 of this subsection and from the requirements of Section 129.4 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

3. If approved by affirmative vote of five or more members, the Board may authorize the district to enter into agreements to purchase letters of credit or other financial instruments to facilitate the exercise of the powers, rights, and privileges granted it.
D. The district may lease any of its lands if the Board, by the affirmative vote of five or more of the members, shall have determined that the same can be leased without injury to or without interference with the operations of the project, and shall have approved the terms of any lease. Except as otherwise provided, no shorelands (lands lying between the low and high water marks) shall be leased for a term longer than two (2) years and not more than one-fourth (1/4) mile of the lake front shall be leased to any one person, firm or corporation. The district may lease shorelands for a term longer than two (2) years and more than one-fourth (1/4) mile of lake front may be leased to any one person, firm, or corporation without regard to the limitations herein, if the Board, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members, determines that the lease is necessary or beneficial to the business of the district. The district may lease shorelands to political subdivisions, agencies of the State of Oklahoma, or tax-exempt public trusts, for any public purpose, on such terms as are mutually satisfactory to the parties, notwithstanding the limitations herein. No lease shall deprive the owner of any land adjacent to the shorelands or lake front, or abutting thereon, of ingress or egress to and from the water of the lakes and shall not deprive the owner of any wharf, dock or boat anchorage privileges that would belong to the owner if the shorelands or lake front were not leased.

E. It is the intention of Sections 861 through 890 of this title that, except by sale, lease or agreement as expressly authorized in Sections 861 through 890 of this title, no property or interest of the district shall ever come into the ownership or control, directly or indirectly, of any person, firm or corporation other than a public authority created under the laws of the State of Oklahoma.

F. Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the district from contracting with the United States or any agency thereof for the temporary possession, control and use of properties by the United States or any agency thereof for the safety and defense of the United States in time of a national emergency or in anticipation thereof.

G. All property of the district shall be at all times exempted from forced sale, and nothing contained in Sections 861 through 890 of this title shall authorize the sale of any of the property of the district under any judgment rendered in any suit, and such sales are hereby prohibited and forbidden. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any property constructed on a lease or the interest in a lease of shoreland that has been entered into by the district pursuant to subsection B of this section for a term of longer than two (2) years, provided the provisions of the lease authorizing the mortgage and forced sale of the property or lease interest has been approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board.

H. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any sale agreement, lease agreement or other agreement entered into by the district pursuant to paragraphs (f) or (g) of Section 862 of this title, provided that the agreement is in compliance with any applicable provision restricting the sale or leasing of property by the district contained in any resolution of the district providing for the issuance of revenue bonds.

Historical Data

Amended by Laws 2015, SB 797, c. 327, § 1, eff. November 1, 2015 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2016, HB 3201, c. 210, § 48, emerg. eff. April 26, 2016 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2019, SB 985, c. 507, § 14, emerg. eff. July 1, 2019 (superseded document available).
A lease entered into by the Authority shall contain a clause prohibiting the collection of a fee from the public for the use of watercraft landing on said leased land.

Historical Data

The Grand River Dam Authority is hereby authorized in its discretion to issue licenses to encroach upon real property owned by the Authority to adjacent property owners for structures built upon the real property prior to June 1, 2005. The Authority shall receive from the licensee for any license issued pursuant to this section the fair market value of the unimproved land and any administrative costs, including appraisals or surveys, required by the Authority.

Historical Data

A. Except as may be provided in this subsection, the Grand River Dam Authority shall not prevent free public use of its lands and lakes for recreation purposes and for hunting and fishing, except at such points where, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, such use would be dangerous or would interfere with the proper conduct of its business. The Authority may, in the interest of public health and safety, make reasonable regulations governing such use and, in the interest of defraying costs associated with the maintenance and policing of public lands administered by the Authority, prescribe reasonable fees for camping and the use of Authority facilities and for the use of off-road and all-terrain vehicles on Authority lands.

B. All existing public rights-of-way to the areas to be flooded by the impounded waters shall remain open as a way of free public passage to and from the lakes created, and no charge shall ever be made to the public for right to engage in hunting, fishing, boating or swimming in the lakes, and no charges shall ever be made for a permit to operate or use or for the inspection of boats and equipment, except that the Authority may prescribe an annual fee for the issuance or renewal of a permit for a private anchorage, wharf, dock or boathouse. Such fee shall be used to defray the expenses of operating and equipping the Authority's Lake Patrol. The public shall have free use of and access to the waters of the lakes for private use, and shall have the right to anchorage, wharf, dock, boat dock, houseboat and landing privileges free of charge when used for private boating, but such anchorage, wharf, dock, boat dock, houseboat and landing privileges shall only be allowed after a permit therefor has been issued. Provided that no permit for any anchorage, wharf, dock, boat dock, houseboat and landing privileges shall be issued which would deprive the owner of land adjacent to the shoreland or lake front or abutting thereon of any anchorage, wharf, dock, boat dock, houseboat and landing privileges. The Authority may designate areas closed to such use, where in its opinion such use would interfere with the health or safety of the public, or with the proper conduct of the business of the Authority. The Authority shall prescribe suitable rules for the use of firearms on its lands and lakes and suitable rules and regulations and rules of travel, in the interest of public safety, for the use of the waters of the lakes.

C. The Authority shall prescribe, in the interest of public safety, suitable rules and regulations governing the keeping for hire or operations of a boat or boats, surfboards, aquaplanes, sea-skis or similar devices for pecuniary profit or gain on the waters of the lakes. The keeping for hire or operation of a boat or boats, surfboards, aquaplanes, sea-skis or similar devices, for pecuniary profit or gain, on the waters of the lake, shall only be allowed after a permit therefor has been issued by the Authority. Applications for such permits are to be in writing, upon a form prescribed and furnished by the Authority, and containing such information as is required by the Authority. For the issuance of such a permit the Authority shall charge a fee in an amount as specified by the Authority, and shall have the power to prescribe the size and type of boat or boats allowed to operate under such
permit and the equipment necessary to such operation. A permit shall be procured for the construction of wharves, docks, landings and anchorages when constructed for commercial or rental purposes. For the issuance of such a permit the Authority shall charge a fee in an amount as specified by the Authority. The Authority shall prescribe the type, style and location and equipment of wharves, docks, anchorages and landings from which such boats operate and their rules of travel. Issuance of permits is to be deferred and withheld unless and until the applicant therefor has paid the permit fee and procured and deposited with the Authority a good and sufficient bond, either in cash, or by a surety company licensed to do business in this state, or public liability and property damage insurance, written by a company licensed to do business in Oklahoma, in an amount and in such form as the Authority shall specify, so as to assure compensation for injuries to or death of persons, and loss or damage to property for which the holder of such permit may be legally liable. Upon it being called to the attention of the Attorney General of Oklahoma by any citizen of Oklahoma that this section has not been complied with, it shall be the duty of the Attorney General of Oklahoma to institute the proper legal proceedings to require the Authority, or its successor, to comply with the provisions of this section.

D. The Authority may acquire, by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, lands suitable for park purposes or roadways along the shores of the lakes. After acquiring such lands the Authority may, but shall not be required to, assign or lease the lands to the State of Oklahoma for park or road purposes and if such assignment is made the lands shall be under the supervision and control of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Commission or the Department of Wildlife Conservation, which shall keep the lands so assigned open to the public so that the public in general may have free access to the lakes.

Historical Data

All bonds and the interest thereon issued pursuant to the provisions of this act shall be exempt from taxation, except inheritance taxes, by the State of Oklahoma or by any municipal corporation, county or other political subdivision or taxing district of the state.

Bonds issued under the provisions of this act are hereby made securities in which all public officers and public bodies, agencies and instrumentalities of the state and its political subdivisions, all banks, trust companies, trust and loan associations, investment companies, and others carrying on a banking business, and all insurance companies and insurance associations, and others carrying on an insurance business, may legally and properly invest funds including capital in their control or belonging to them. Such bonds are also approved as collateral security for the deposit of any public funds and for the investment of trust funds.

Historical Data

This act without reference to other statutes of the State of Oklahoma shall constitute full authority for the authorization and issuance of bonds, hereunder, and no other act or law with regard to the authorization or issuance of obligations or the deposit of the proceeds thereof, or in any way impeding or restricting the carrying out of the acts herein authorized to be done shall be construed as applying to any proceedings taken hereunder or acts done pursuant hereto.

_Historical Data_

This act and all of the terms and provisions hereof shall be liberally construed to effectuate the purposes set forth herein.

Historical Data

If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held to be invalid, the
remainer of the act, and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be
affected thereby.

Historical Data

This act may be cited as the Grand River Dam Authority Act.

**Historical Data**

The district is authorized in its discretion to file an application with the Supreme Court of Oklahoma for approval by said court of any bonds to be issued under this act, or to file a petition for a judgment determining the validity of any proposed contract or action arising from the exercise of any of the powers, rights, privileges and functions conferred upon the district under this act; and exclusive original jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon the Supreme Court to hear and determine each such application or petition. It shall be the duty of the Court to give such applications and petitions precedence over the other civil business of the Court except habeas corpus proceedings, and to consider and pass upon the applications and petitions and any protests which may be filed thereto as speedily as possible. Notice of the hearing on each application and petition shall be given by a notice published in a newspaper of general circulation in the state that on a day named the district will ask the Court to hear its application and approve the bonds, or hear its petition and enter a declaratory judgment. Such notice shall inform property owners, taxpayers, ratepayers, citizens, and all persons having or claiming any right, title, or interest in such matter or properties or funds to be affected by the issuance of such bonds, or proposed contract or action, or affected in any way thereby, that they may file protests against the issuance of the bonds, or declaratory judgment, and be present at the hearings and contest the legality thereof. Such notice shall be published one time not less than ten (10) days prior to the date named for the hearing and the hearing may be adjourned from time to time in the discretion of the Court. If the Court shall be satisfied that the bonds have been properly authorized in accordance with this act and that, when issued, they will constitute valid obligations in accordance with their terms, the Court shall render its written opinion approving the bonds, and shall, upon application of the district, also issue an order permanently enjoining all persons described in the aforesaid notice from thereafter instituting any action or proceeding contesting the validity of such bonds, or of the rates, fees or charges authorized to be charged for the payment thereof, or the pledge of revenues to secure such payment, and shall fix the time within which a petition for rehearing may be filed. If the Court shall be satisfied that the proposed contract or action is in accordance with this act, the Court shall enter a judgment approving and declaring such contract or action to be valid, and shall, upon application of the district, also issue an order permanently enjoining all persons described in the aforesaid notice from thereafter instituting any action or proceeding contesting the validity of such contract or action, and shall fix the time within which the petition for rehearing may be filed. The decision of the Court shall be a judicial determination of the validity of the bonds, shall be conclusive as to the district, its officers and agents, and thereafter the bonds so approved and the revenues pledged to their payment shall be incontestable in any court in the State of Oklahoma, and any declaratory judgment on any contract or action of the district entered pursuant to this section shall have the force and effect of a final judgment or decree.
Historical Data

That the waters of Grand River in Oklahoma and the Pensacola and Markham Ferry Reservoirs, located thereon, be and are hereby determined and declared to be non-navigable and waters of the State of Oklahoma.

**Historical Data**

That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the United States Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the United States, and to each member of Congress, from the State of Oklahoma and to the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, Washington, D.C.

**Historical Data**

The Grand River Dam Authority shall issue no permit for any dock, wharf, landing, boathouse or for any houseboat, vessel or other floating structure of a stationary or semistationary nature and no permit heretofore issued shall be valid unless said dock, wharf, landing, boathouse or such stationary or semistationary houseboat, vessel or other floating structure of any nature shall be securely attached to the shorelands adjacent to the water’s edge by means of suitable cables or metal stiff-arms as approved by the Authority. Said cables or stiff-arms and any walkway extending to the shorelands shall conform to the rules promulgated by the Authority.

Historical Data

The Grand River Dam Authority shall have no control over that portion of the Grand River downstream from Fort Gibson Dam to the point of confluence of the waters of the Grand River with those of the Arkansas River.

**Historical Data**

Municipalities are prohibited from annexing property which is covered by any body of water subject to the control of the Grand River Dam Authority or from annexing any property located within one thousand (1,000) feet of the high water mark of such body of water, without prior approval of the Grand River Dam Authority Board of Directors. Provided, however, municipalities may annex property by crossing a body of water if the property has been improved with a bridge or similar permanent structure.

Historical Data

A. Effective July 1, 2016, the Scenic Rivers Commission created pursuant to Section 1461 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be terminated. Effective July 1, 2016, the rights and authorities of the Scenic Rivers Commission shall be transferred to the Grand River Dam Authority. Effective July 1, 2016, all assets, funds, liabilities, allotments, purchase orders, outstanding financial obligations, encumbrances, records, equipment and property of the Scenic Rivers Commission are hereby transferred to and placed under the supervision and control of the Grand River Dam Authority. Monies collected or accruing to the credit of the Scenic Rivers Commission in the State Treasury or under the management of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services pursuant to the provisions of Section 1462A, 1462B or 1462C of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes as of the effective date of this act and after shall be transferred to the Grand River Dam Authority to assist in implementing this act or as otherwise directed to support the activities previously conducted by the Scenic Rivers Commission or the employees of the Commission. Any other monies from appropriations, fees, licenses, fines, penalties or other similar types of monies that accrue in any funds or accounts after the effective date of this act in the name of the Scenic Rivers Commission or maintained for the benefit of the Commission are transferred to the Grand River Dam Authority.

B. Personnel employed by the Scenic Rivers Commission on the effective date of this act shall be transferred to the Grand River Dam Authority subject to the following provisions:

1. Classified employees transferred shall remain subject to the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration, as provided in the Oklahoma Personnel Act;

2. Unclassified employees transferred shall remain in the unclassified service and shall serve at the pleasure of the Grand River Dam Authority;

3. All employees transferred pursuant to this act shall retain leave, sick and annual time earned and any retirement and longevity benefits which have accrued during their employment with the state. The salaries of employees who are transferred shall not be reduced as a direct and immediate result of the transfer;

4. Should the Grand River Dam Authority implement a reduction in force, all employees transferred pursuant to this act shall be credited for the time they were employed by the Scenic Rivers Commission; and

5. The transfer of personnel shall be coordinated with the Office of Management and Enterprise Services.
C. The Scenic Rivers Commission shall cease operating as a Commission no later than July 1, 2016. The Grand River Dam Authority Board of Directors may create an advisory board relating to the management of the property and area previously under the authority of the Scenic Rivers Commission with consideration of and adherence to the provisions of the Scenic Rivers Act. Members currently serving on the Commission may be eligible to serve in an advisory capacity if so appointed by the Grand River Dam Authority Board of Directors and may serve for terms as authorized by the Board of Directors of the Authority.

D. The Administrator and Chief Ranger of the Scenic Rivers Commission employed by the Commission on the effective date of this act may maintain possession of the badge and assigned firearm issued by the Commission.

Historical Data

A. Effective January 1, 2017, the Grand River Dam Authority is authorized to set a daily, multiday or annual fee for the use of a commercially or privately owned flotation device to float upon designated scenic rivers. Landowners located immediately adjacent to the designated scenic river shall not be required to pay any fee for private use as authorized by this section or otherwise by law.

B. The Grand River Dam Authority is authorized to promulgate rules establishing an online payment system or any other means by which the public may conveniently purchase permits for the operation of a flotation device upon designated scenic river areas as authorized by this section.

C. In the interest of public safety, the Grand River Dam Authority is authorized to promulgate rules protecting the natural resources of the scenic rivers, regulating public use areas, establishing use permits for scenic rivers, establishing licensing requirements for commercial float operators and setting fees for the issuance of the licenses. The Authority shall be the sole grantor of licenses issued pursuant to the rules.

D. With regard to all rights and authorities transferred to the Grand River Dam Authority pursuant to this section, Section 896.1 of this title and Chapter 10- and 15- rules of the Oklahoma Administrative Code 630: Scenic Rivers Commission relating to licensing, use permits and protection of natural resources, are hereby transferred to the Grand River Dam Authority to the extent the rules are consistent with state law and rules of the Authority for the purpose of implementing and enforcing the provisions of the Scenic Rivers Act.

Historical Data

For purposes of the Scenic Rivers Act, the Grand River Dam Authority shall have additional powers and duties to:

1. Prepare, adopt and publish management plans and other documents to guide public and private activities and programs;

2. Consider and comment on public and private practices and proposed actions that may affect a scenic river;

3. Recommend standards for local government agencies whose political boundaries include all or part of a scenic river;

4. Own and control public access points for scenic rivers, and purchase easements and fee title to land along the scenic rivers for public purposes which are to be held by the Authority as an agency of the State of Oklahoma; and

5. Identify public and private nuisances that adversely affect a scenic river and take lawful action to abate nuisances.

**Historical Data**

Sections 7 through 19 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the "Scenic Rivers Act".

**Historical Data**

The Oklahoma Legislature finds that certain free-flowing streams and rivers of Oklahoma possess such unique natural scenic beauty, water, fish, wildlife and outdoor recreational values of present and future benefit to the people of the state that it is the policy of the Legislature to preserve these areas for the benefit of the people of Oklahoma. For this purpose the following are hereby designated as scenic rivers:

1. The Flint Creek in Delaware County;

2. The Illinois River in Adair, Delaware and Cherokee Counties above its confluence with the Barren Fork Creek;

3. The Barren Fork Creek in Adair and Cherokee Counties from the present alignment of U.S. Highway 59 West to its confluence with the Illinois River;

4. The Upper Mountain Fork River above the 600-foot elevation level of Broken Bow Reservoir in McCurtain and LeFlore Counties;

5. Big Lee Creek in Sequoyah County, above the 420-foot MSL elevation; and

6. Little Lee Creek in Adair and Sequoyah Counties.

**Historical Data**