

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

3 SENATE BILL 965

By: Marlatt

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Water Resources
8 Board; amending 82 O.S. 2011, Section 1085.1, which
9 relates to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board;
10 modifying appointments to the Board based on regional
11 representation; modifying certain qualifications;
12 updating language; and declaring an emergency.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 82 O.S. 2011, Section 1085.1, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1085.1 A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Water
16 Resources Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board, consisting of
17 nine (9) members to be appointed by the Governor, by and with the
18 advice and consent of the Senate. The Board shall constitute a body
19 corporate and politic and an instrumentality, agency and department
20 of the State of Oklahoma, and exercise by the Board of the powers
21 conferred by this act shall be deemed and shall be held to be an
22 essential governmental function of the State of Oklahoma. One
23 member shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year; one member
24 shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years; one member shall be

1 appointed for a term of three (3) years; one member shall be
2 appointed for a term of four (4) years; one member shall be
3 appointed for a term of five (5) years; two members shall be
4 appointed for a term of six (6) years; and two members shall be
5 appointed for a term of seven (7) years. Upon the expiration of
6 ~~said~~ the terms, their successors shall be appointed for terms of
7 seven (7) years. One member shall be appointed from each of the
8 congressional districts of this state and the remaining members
9 shall be appointed at large. However, when congressional districts
10 are redrawn then each member appointed prior to July 1 of the year
11 in which such modification becomes effective shall complete the
12 current term of office and appointments made after July 1 of the
13 year in which such modification becomes effective shall be based on
14 the redrawn districts. Appointments made after July 1 of the year
15 in which such modification becomes effective shall be from any
16 redrawn districts which are not represented by a board member until
17 such time as each of the modified congressional districts are
18 represented by a board member.

19 B. With the expiration of the at-large position in 2013, the
20 board shall transition from congressional district and at-large
21 representation to regional representation based upon the Planning
22 Regions as outlined in the 1995 Comprehensive Water Plan.

23 1. The at-large position expiring in 2013 shall thereafter be
24 represented by a person residing in the North Central Region.

1 2. The Congressional District 1 position expiring in 2014 shall
2 thereafter be represented by a person residing in the Southeast
3 Region.

4 3. The at-large position expiring in 2014 shall thereafter be
5 represented by a person residing in the South Central Region.

6 4. The Congressional District 2 position expiring in 2015 shall
7 thereafter be represented by a person residing in the East Central
8 Region.

9 5. The at-large position expiring in 2016 shall thereafter be
10 represented by a person residing in the Northeast Region.

11 6. The Congressional District 4 position expiring in 2017 shall
12 thereafter become an at-large position.

13 7. The Congressional District 5 position expiring in 2018 shall
14 thereafter be represented by a person residing in the Central
15 Region.

16 8. The at-large position expiring in 2018 shall represent the
17 Southwest Region; and

18 9. The Congressional District 3 position expiring in 2019 shall
19 thereafter be represented by a person residing in the Northwest
20 Region.

21 C. If a board member resigns or is unable to complete his or
22 her term, the seat shall immediately transition to the applicable
23 regional representation.

1 D. Each member shall be a qualified elector of this state. At
2 all times the membership of the Board shall have represented on it
3 at least one member well versed in each of the following major types
4 of water use: recreational, industrial, irrigational, municipal,
5 rural residential, agricultural, and soil conservation work and oil
6 and gas production. Not more than two members may be selected
7 representing any one of the major types of water use. The Board
8 shall meet at least once each month. The members of the Board may
9 be removed only for cause. Whenever a vacancy shall occur, the
10 Governor shall appoint a qualified person to fill the unexpired term
11 of the vacant office. Each member of the Board upon entering upon
12 his or her duties shall take and subscribe to the constitutional and
13 statutory oath of office and file the same with the Secretary of
14 State.

15 ~~B.~~ E. The Board shall organize annually by electing a ~~chairman~~
16 chair, vice-chairman vice chair, and secretary from the membership
17 of the Board, who shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed
18 by the Board.

19 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
20 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
21 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
22 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.