

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 259

By: Howard of the Senate

and

Newton of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to water and water rights; amending 82 O.S. 2021, Sections 1020.12, 1020.15, 1020.16, and 1020.19, which relate to groundwater use, reporting, metering, and permitting; modifying reporting requirements for certain water use; providing for fines and penalties; modifying permitting exclusions; requiring Oklahoma Water Resources Board to investigate certain usage complaints; requiring notice to landowner prior to inspection; directing metering and measurement of certain groundwater usage subject to Board monitoring; directing implementation of metering schedule and phase-in; requiring Board to implement certain priorities relating to groundwater use; directing rule promulgation by certain dates; amending 82 O.S. 2021, Sections 1085.2, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 164, O.S.L. 2023, and 1085.11 (82 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 1085.2), which relate to duties of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board; expanding duties of the Board relating to groundwater monitoring and data collection; updating statutory language; updating statutory references; making an appropriation; stating purpose; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

1       SECTION 1.       AMENDATORY       82 O.S. 2021, Section 1020.12, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       Section 1020.12. A. Holders of permits shall be required to  
4 report to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board ~~annually~~ their use of  
5 water pursuant to their permits. Holders of permits shall remit the  
6 report as required by the Board in the period following the  
7 permitted use. The report shall contain usage data based on the  
8 provisions of Section 1020.19 of this title and Section 5 of this  
9 act. Willful failure to report ~~annual~~ usage may result in  
10 penalties, fines, or cancellation of the permit by the Board upon  
11 proper notice and hearing as provided in the Administrative  
12 Procedures Act. Nonuse, conservation, or usage practices that  
13 result in less usage than the permitted equal proportional share  
14 shall not result in diminishment of the permit holder's future  
15 permitted equal proportional share.

16       B. Holders of permits which use groundwater in connection with  
17 an animal feeding operation which houses swine and primarily uses a  
18 liquid waste management system where animals are primarily housed in  
19 a roof-covered structure shall be required to indicate such use in  
20 their annual water use report. Such holders shall also indicate  
21 whether or not the animal feeding operation is licensed pursuant to  
22 the Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.

23       C. The Board shall notify the ~~State~~ Oklahoma Department of  
24 Agriculture, Food, and Forestry of the names and addresses of all

1 permit holders who report usage of groundwater in connection with an  
2 animal feeding operation which houses swine and which primarily uses  
3 a liquid waste management system where animals are primarily housed  
4 in a roof-covered structure and who are not licensed pursuant to the  
5 Oklahoma Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Act.

6 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 82 O.S. 2021, Section 1020.15, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Section 1020.15. A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall  
9 not permit any groundwater user to commit waste by:

10 1. Drilling a well, taking, or using groundwater without a  
11 permit, except for domestic use as defined in this title;

12 2. Taking more groundwater than is authorized by the permit;

13 3. Taking or using groundwater in any manner so that the water  
14 is lost for beneficial use;

15 4. Transporting groundwater from a well to the place of use in  
16 such a manner that there is an excessive loss in transit;

17 5. Using groundwater in such an inefficient manner that  
18 excessive losses occur;

19 6. Allowing any groundwater to reach a pervious stratum and be  
20 lost into cavernous or otherwise pervious materials encountered in a  
21 well;

22 7. Permitting or causing the pollution of a fresh water strata  
23 or basin through any act which will permit fresh groundwater  
24 polluted by minerals or other waste to filter or otherwise intrude

1 into such a basin or subbasin. The Board shall be precluded from  
2 determining whether waste by pollution will occur pursuant to the  
3 provisions of this paragraph if the activity for which the applicant  
4 or water user intends to or has used the water as specified under  
5 Section 1020.9 of this title is required to comply with rules and  
6 requirements of or is within the jurisdictional areas of  
7 environmental responsibility of the Department of Environmental  
8 Quality or the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and  
9 Forestry;

10 8. Drilling wells and producing groundwater therefrom except in  
11 accordance with the well spacing previously determined by the Board;

12 9. Using groundwater for air conditioning or cooling purposes  
13 without providing facilities to aerate and reuse such water; or

14 10. Failure to properly plug abandoned water wells in  
15 accordance with rules of the Board and file reports thereof.

16 B. Complaints by any individual in violation of the provisions  
17 of subsection A of this section shall be made to the Board and to  
18 the local groundwater irrigation district, if such district is  
19 established pursuant to Section 1021.1 et seq. of this title.  
20 Investigation of such complaints by the Board shall be made in  
21 collaboration with the local groundwater irrigation district, if  
22 applicable. Except as otherwise provided by paragraph 7 of  
23 subsection A of this section, ~~any employee of the Board having~~  
24 ~~evidence that an act of waste is being committed in his or her~~

1 ~~presence, or after investigation of a complaint filed by another~~  
2 ~~individual, shall take steps to assure that the waste ceases upon~~  
3 review of reporting, audits of usage, an investigation of a  
4 complaint filed by any person, or by the Board's own independent  
5 determination, the Board shall take action to cease commission of  
6 such waste and impose fines and penalties on such user as provided  
7 in Section 1020.22 of this title. Such steps shall include, but  
8 shall not be limited to ~~pursuing voluntary compliance~~, obtaining the  
9 issuance of a cease and desist order by the Executive Director of  
10 the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, imposing progressive fines and  
11 penalties related to the severity and frequency of waste,  
12 instituting action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin  
13 the waste, ~~pursuing a suspension of~~ suspending or revoking any  
14 permit or other administrative remedies by the Board, and filing a  
15 complaint in the district court of the county wherein such violation  
16 has occurred, and it shall be the duty of the district attorney of  
17 ~~said~~ such county to prosecute such complaint.

18 C. In cases of waste by pollution pursuant to paragraph 7 of  
19 subsection A of this section, any complaint or investigation, or any  
20 enforcement matter other than an individual proceeding involving the  
21 suspension of an Oklahoma Water Resources Board permit shall be  
22 referred to and subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of  
23 Environmental Quality or other appropriate state environmental  
24 agency or state agency with limited environmental responsibility.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 82 O.S. 2021, Section 1020.16, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1020.16. A. All persons engaged in the commercial drilling or commercial plugging of groundwater wells, monitoring wells, observation wells, wells utilized for heat exchange purposes, including, but not limited to, heat pump wells and geothermal wells, and in the commercial drilling or plugging of geotechnical borings and all persons engaged in the commercial installation of water well pumps in this state shall make application for and become licensed with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. Persons required to be licensed pursuant to this section shall pay an annual fee as required by the Board. The fees shall be deposited and expended as provided in subsection D of this section.

B. The Board may prepare examinations and establish other requirements for applicants to obtain, maintain, and renew licenses and operator certifications. The examinations shall test the knowledge and skills of:

1. Water well drillers in the construction, alteration, and repair of wells and boreholes, including proper sealing and abandonment of wells and boreholes, and the rules promulgated by the Board regarding water well and borehole drilling and plugging; and

2. Pump installers in the planning, installation, operation, and repair of pumping equipment and water wells including sealing

1 and abandonment, pumping efficiency, and the rules promulgated by  
2 the Board regarding pump installation.

3 C. The Board may inspect any water well, monitoring well,  
4 boring, water well pump, or abandoned well and borehole. Upon  
5 ~~consent of~~ notice to the owner of the land on which the well or  
6 borehole is located or as allowed by district court order,  
7 authorized representatives of the Board may enter upon and shall be  
8 given access to the premises for the purpose of inspection. If the  
9 Board finds noncompliance with applicable laws or rules or that a  
10 health hazard exists, the Board may disapprove use of the well and  
11 shall provide notice to the owner of the land on which the well is  
12 located and to the well driller, if known, of the disapproval. If a  
13 well has been disapproved, it shall not be used until brought into  
14 compliance and any health hazard is eliminated. Any person  
15 aggrieved by the disapproval of a well may request a hearing before  
16 the Board.

17 D. 1. There is hereby created within the Oklahoma Water  
18 Resources Board the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Remedial  
19 Action Indemnity Fund. The Indemnity Fund shall be administered by  
20 the Board.

21 2. The Indemnity Fund shall be excluded from budget and  
22 expenditure limitations. Except as otherwise provided by subsection  
23 E of this section, the monies deposited in the Indemnity Fund shall  
24 at no time become part of the general budget of the Oklahoma Water

1 Resources Board or any other state agency. Except as otherwise  
2 provided by subsection E of this section, no monies from the  
3 Indemnity Fund shall be transferred for any purpose to any other  
4 state agency or any account of the Board or be used for the purpose  
5 of contracting with any other state agency or reimbursing any other  
6 state agency for any expenses. Monies in the Indemnity Fund shall  
7 only be expended for remedial actions necessary, without notice and  
8 hearing, to protect groundwater from pollution or potential  
9 pollution from wells, or boreholes under the jurisdiction of the  
10 Board that do not meet minimum standards for construction or that  
11 have been abandoned or as may be recommended by the Well Drillers  
12 and Pump Installers Advisory Council.

13 3. The fees collected pursuant to subsection A of this section  
14 shall be first credited to the Well Drillers and Pump Installers  
15 Remedial Action Indemnity Fund. The Indemnity Fund shall be  
16 maintained at Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00).

17 4. Expenditures from the Indemnity Fund required pursuant to  
18 the provisions of this section shall be made pursuant to the  
19 provisions of ~~The~~ the Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act upon terms and  
20 conditions established by the Office of Management and Enterprise  
21 Services and shall not exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for  
22 each well, borehole, or pump for which action is taken.

23 5. Except in situations where the Board has assessed and  
24 declared a health or safety emergency and a claim by the owner of



1 the well or borehole for costs of remedial action is not paid by  
2 private insurance or other relief, the Board shall seek  
3 reimbursement as recommended by the Well Drillers and Pump  
4 Installers Advisory Council for any remedial action taken or  
5 required by the Board. Any monies received as reimbursement shall  
6 be deposited in the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Remedial  
7 Action Indemnity Fund except as otherwise provided in subsection E D  
8 of this section.

9 E. When the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Remedial Action  
10 Indemnity Fund reaches Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), the  
11 fees, monies received as reimbursement, and administrative penalties  
12 recovered under paragraph 1 of subsection G of this section shall be  
13 deposited in a separate account in the ~~Water Resources Board~~ OWRB  
14 Revolving Fund designated as the Well Drillers and Pump Installers  
15 Regulation Account, which shall be a continuing account not subject  
16 to fiscal year limitations. Monies in ~~said~~ such account shall be  
17 used by the Board for inspections, licensing, enforcement and  
18 education, reimbursing per diem and travel costs for members of the  
19 Well Drillers and Pump Installers Advisory Council pursuant to the  
20 State Travel Reimbursement Act, and as otherwise determined to be  
21 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

22 F. Before any person or firm licensed pursuant to this section  
23 shall commence the commercial drilling or plugging of any well or  
24 borehole or commence commercial installation of any pump, the person

1 or firm shall file with the Board all data or information as the  
2 Board may by rule require to assure the protection of the  
3 groundwater in the well or borehole. After completion, the driller  
4 shall file a completion report showing all such data together with a  
5 log of the well and pumping test data if applicable.

6 G. 1. The Board may, after notice and hearing, impose on any  
7 person administrative penalties of up to Five Thousand Dollars  
8 (\$5,000.00) and may revoke, suspend, or deny renewal of any license  
9 or operator certification for each violation of the rules of the  
10 Board regarding license or certification requirements, the  
11 requirement to obtain a license or certification, or minimum  
12 construction or installation standards. The administrative  
13 penalties shall be deposited in the Well Drillers and Pump  
14 Installers Remedial Action Indemnity Fund except as otherwise  
15 provided in subsection E of this section.

16 2. In addition to imposing administrative penalties, the Board  
17 may issue orders prohibiting actions by holders of valid licenses  
18 and operator certifications and by persons who are required to  
19 become licensed under the provisions of this section that constitute  
20 violations of rules promulgated pursuant to this section and  
21 requiring actions to remedy violations or other noncompliance with  
22 minimum standards rules for the construction of wells and borings,  
23 the plugging of wells and borings, and the commercial installation  
24 of water well pumps.

1       H. If a respondent fails, refuses, or neglects to comply with  
2 an order of the Board to pay an administrative penalty or to take  
3 certain action, the Board may present the matter to the Attorney  
4 General who is empowered to take action to collect the  
5 administrative penalty or to compel compliance with the order of the  
6 Board. One-half (1/2) of all penalties collected by the Attorney  
7 General shall be deposited in the Well Drillers and Pump Installers  
8 Regulation Account established pursuant to subsection E of this  
9 section and one-half (1/2) shall be deposited in the Attorney  
10 General's Revolving Fund created in Section 20 of Title 74 of the  
11 Oklahoma Statutes.

12       I. The Board is authorized to create a Well Drillers and Pump  
13 Installers Advisory Council. The Board shall establish rules  
14 stating the qualifications for membership and organization of the  
15 Council. Meetings of the Council shall be held at the call of the  
16 Executive Director of the Board. The Council shall have the  
17 following duties:

18       1. To recommend rules to the Board, provided such written  
19 recommendations have been concurred upon by a majority of the  
20 membership of the Council; and

21       2. To review and recommend approval or denial of use of monies  
22 in the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Remedial Action Indemnity  
23 Fund for:  
24

- 1           a. remedial actions to protect groundwater from pollution  
2           or potential pollution from wells, or boreholes under  
3           the jurisdiction of the Board which do not meet  
4           minimum standards for construction or that have been  
5           abandoned, and  
6           b. inspections, licensing, the pursuit of enforcement  
7           action with the proper authorities and education by  
8           the Board.

9           SECTION 4.        AMENDATORY        82 O.S. 2021, Section 1020.19, is  
10       amended to read as follows:

11       Section 1020.19. ~~Upon request of a majority of the landowners~~  
12 ~~residing within a basin or subbasin, the Board is authorized to~~  
13 ~~require that water wells be metered and that such meters as the~~  
14 ~~Board shall approve be utilized by the applicant and placed under~~  
15 ~~seal, subject to reading by the agents of the Board at any time.~~

16       A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board may also shall require  
17 ~~that the applicant report the reading of such meters at reasonable~~  
18 ~~intervals~~ all water wells requiring a permit to take and use  
19 groundwater from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board be equipped at  
20 any central point of distribution with water well flow meters or an  
21 alternative measuring system as defined by the Board. The water  
22 well flow meter or alternative measuring system shall have  
23 contemporary, verifiable records, as defined by the Board. The  
24 meter or alternative measuring system shall remain on point of

1 distribution and in proper operating condition at all times when  
2 groundwater is being produced. Data from the meter or alternative  
3 measuring system shall be transmitted to the Board annually or as  
4 otherwise required by the Board. Data from the measuring system  
5 shall be utilized for the annual groundwater use report. The meter  
6 and measurement requirements of this section shall be implemented  
7 pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of this act.

8 B. Beginning August 1, 2026, a five-year allocation of the  
9 maximum annual yield of the basin or subbasin may be approved for a  
10 regular permit. An applicant for a five-year allocation shall be  
11 required to submit annual usage as determined by a water well flow  
12 meter or highly accurate alternative measuring device approved by  
13 the Board and pay the annual permit fee. If approved by the Board,  
14 the applicant may exceed the maximum annual yield in any year of the  
15 five-year allocation by an amount as set by the Board, not to exceed  
16 two times the amount of any single-year maximum annual yield;  
17 provided, the applicant shall adhere to the cumulative maximum  
18 annual yield for the basin or subbasin over the five-year period.

19 C. Except as otherwise provided in this act, the Oklahoma Water  
20 Resources Board shall promulgate any rules necessary to implement  
21 the provisions of Sections 1020.12, 1020.15, 1020.16, 1020.19,  
22 1085.2, and 1085.11 of this title and Sections 5 and 6 of this act  
23 no later than August 1, 2026.  
24

1       SECTION 5.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1020.19A of Title 82, unless  
3 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4       A. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall promulgate rules to  
5 establish a phase-in schedule and plan for the meter and measurement  
6 requirements established in Section 1020.19 of Title 82 of the  
7 Oklahoma Statutes to ensure that the requirements are implemented  
8 statewide not later than eight (8) years following the effective  
9 date of this act. The phase-in schedule and plan shall be submitted  
10 as proposed permanent rulemaking to the Legislature not later than  
11 February 1, 2026.

12       B. The Board is authorized to promulgate rules and procedures  
13 regarding the spacing of wells within groundwater basins. The  
14 determinations made on the spacing of wells within a basin shall be  
15 specific to that basin.

16       SECTION 6.       NEW LAW       A new section of law to be codified  
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1020.19B of Title 82, unless  
18 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19       The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall promulgate rules and  
20 implement policies for the purposes of focusing agents, employees,  
21 and systems to:

22       1. Accept, audit, and review reporting on a timely basis from  
23 permitted groundwater users;

1        2. Modernize its data collection system with respect to  
2 permitted groundwater users and implement a program to receive and  
3 index usage reports by an online or electronic system that can  
4 accept real-time data collection;

5        3. Investigate any claims of waste pursuant to Section 1020.15  
6 of Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes; and

7        4. Impose fines and penalties for overuse of water allotments  
8 by any permitted well user or waste pursuant to Section 1020.15 of  
9 Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

10       SECTION 7.        AMENDATORY        82 O.S. 2021, Section 1085.2, as  
11 last amended by Section 3, Chapter 164, O.S.L. 2023 (82 O.S. Supp.  
12 2024, Section 1085.2), is amended to read as follows:

13       Section 1085.2. In addition to any and all other authority  
14 conferred upon it by law, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall  
15 also have authority:

16       1. Generally to do all such things as in its judgment may be  
17 necessary, proper, or expedient in the accomplishment of its duties;

18       2. To make such contracts and execute such instruments as in  
19 the judgment of the Board are necessary or convenient to the  
20 exercise of any of the powers conferred upon it by law. Provided,  
21 however, no contract shall be made conveying the title or use of any  
22 waters of ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this state to any person, firm,  
23 corporation, or other state or subdivision of government, for sale  
24 or use in any other state, unless such contract ~~be~~ is specifically

1 authorized by an act of the ~~Oklahoma~~ Legislature and thereafter as  
2 approved by it;

3 3. To negotiate contracts and other agreements with the federal  
4 government to arrange for the development of water resources and for  
5 the storage and distribution of water for beneficial purposes;  
6 provided, however, that the Board shall act in such capacity only as  
7 an intermediary in assisting others, and under no circumstances  
8 shall the Board have any power or authority to build, construct, or  
9 finance any waterways, dams, or other such projects for itself,  
10 except as may be otherwise specifically provided by the laws of this  
11 state;

12 4. To develop statewide and local plans to assure the best and  
13 most effective use and control of water to meet both the current and  
14 long-range needs of the people of ~~Oklahoma~~ this state; to cooperate  
15 in such planning with any public or private agency, entity, or  
16 person interested in water, and is directed to prepare such plans  
17 for consideration and approval by the Legislature; and to aid, at  
18 all times, counties, incorporated cities and towns, and special  
19 purpose districts in the state in promoting and developing flood  
20 control and water conservation in the state;

21 5. To employ and fix the compensation of such officers, agents,  
22 attorneys, technical personnel, and employees of the Board as it  
23 shall deem necessary to the proper performance of its duties;

24 6. To adopt and use an official seal;



1       7. To promulgate such rules and make orders as it may deem  
2 necessary or convenient to the exercise of any of the powers or the  
3 performance of any of the duties conferred or imposed upon it by  
4 this or any other law;

5       8. To institute and maintain, or to intervene in, any actions  
6 or proceedings in or before any court, board, commission, or officer  
7 of this or any other state or of the United States to stop or  
8 prevent any use, misuse, appropriation, or taking of any of the  
9 waters of this state which is in whole or in part in violation of  
10 any law, or of any rules, orders, judgments, or decrees of any  
11 court, board, commission, or officer of this or any state or of the  
12 United States; and to institute and maintain or intervene in any  
13 other action or proceeding where the Board deems it necessary to the  
14 proper execution and discharge of any of the powers or duties  
15 conferred or imposed upon it by law;

16       9. To determine, charge, and receive fees to be collected in  
17 advance for the filing and examination of applications for permits  
18 to:

- 19           a. construct water use works,
- 20           b. appropriate groundwater,
- 21           c. appropriate stream water,
- 22           d. establish vested rights,
- 23           e. inspect water use works,
- 24           f. file other papers,

- g. make copies of documents,
- h. make prints of maps and drawings,
- i. certify copies of documents, maps, and drawings,
- j. file transfers of water rights,
- k. gauge wells and ditches, changes in point of diversion and changes in place of use of water,
- l. test wells, and
- m. hold hearings, make records, and provide transcripts of hearings.

Such fees shall not be collected from any state agency or state institution;

10. To negotiate contracts or water compacts with the federal government or any department or bureau thereof, or with any other state for the purpose of obtaining assistance and cooperation in the accomplishment of the purpose of flood control and water conservation and use in the state. To that end, the Board may match funds with the federal government and with other states upon such terms as shall be agreed upon and approved by the Governor of the state, with the limitation that contracts or water compacts with other states for the division and apportionment of the cost and use of the water controlled by interstate projects shall be submitted to and approved by the Legislature of the state and the Governor of the state, and Congress and the President of the United States

conformable to the ~~State~~ Oklahoma Constitution and ~~Federal~~  
~~Constitutions~~ the United States Constitution;

11. To accept gifts and grants of money and property or any  
interest therein;

12. To provide funding from federal and state monies for water  
and wastewater project purposes to eligible entities for preliminary  
engineering reports and planning and feasibility studies;

13. To sell or dispose of real or personal property held by the  
Board when no longer needed in such manner as provided by law;

14. To make appropriations of water to all special purpose  
districts;

15. To execute and deliver, without actual consideration  
therefor, a written release of any easement or easement deed  
heretofore given to the Oklahoma Conservation Commission ~~of the~~  
~~State of Oklahoma, the Planning and Resources Board~~ or the Oklahoma  
Water Resources Board on lands situated in this state, whenever it  
shall appear to ~~said~~ the Oklahoma Water Resources Board that the  
need for such easement or easement deed no longer exists; provided,  
the owner of the lands affected shall file a written application for  
such release with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board;

16. To review disputes involving service areas or territories,  
rates for raw or treated water, and abrogation clauses in contracts  
among municipalities and rural water districts or not-for-profit  
rural water corporations; to recommend mediation and refer parties

1 in appropriate disputes to mediators and provide technical  
2 information to such mediators; and to recommend other means of  
3 resolving disputes; provided, that no party to such dispute may  
4 initiate action in any district court regarding the dispute until  
5 written notice of the dispute has been filed with the Board;  
6 provided further, that the provisions of this paragraph shall not be  
7 construed to diminish any right of access to the court granted to a  
8 party by law;

9 17. To provide workshop training sessions for board members of  
10 rural water districts and not-for-profit rural water corporations  
11 throughout the year on a regional basis for the purpose of study and  
12 instruction in the areas of financing, law, and the ethics, duties,  
13 and responsibilities of such board members. Such training shall be  
14 provided by the Board in conjunction with the Oklahoma Rural Water  
15 Association as required by law. To the extent possible, the Board  
16 shall attempt to schedule training workshops in three-hour segments  
17 to be held in any public facility at a time convenient to the  
18 attendees;

19 18. To establish an agency special account through the Office  
20 of Management and Enterprise Services and the ~~State Treasurer's~~  
21 Office of the State Treasurer as necessary for the collection and  
22 distribution of funds, including funds of sponsors and registration  
23 fees related to conferences, meetings, and training sessions; and  
24

1        19. To accredit persons having requisite knowledge in  
2 floodplain management and in minimization and prevention of flood  
3 hazards and losses;

4        20. To impose fines and penalties for overuse of water  
5 allotments by any permitted well user or any unpermitted well user  
6 who is not a domestic user pursuant to this title. Such fines and  
7 penalties shall be progressive in nature related to severity and  
8 frequency of overuse or unpermitted use and shall result in  
9 suspension or revocation of a permit upon findings of willful  
10 disregard of requirements by the user or multiple infractions by any  
11 permitted user over the entirety of the user's permits; and

12        21. To perform audits and spot checks on permitted users during  
13 production of water or to enter into and negotiate the terms of a  
14 memorandum of understanding between the Board, other state agencies  
15 or districts, and organized irrigation districts concerning the  
16 contemporary verification of such usage.

17        SECTION 8.        AMENDATORY        82 O.S. 2021, Section 1085.11, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19        Section 1085.11. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board shall  
20 compile, index, and publish all available data concerning the water  
21 resources of this state in forms that will be accessible for use by  
22 any citizen of this state. Such information shall include rainfall  
23 reports and other precipitation data; records of public and private  
24 water storage facilities; data on quantity and rate of stream flow;

1 locations of natural and artificial springs; data on water insoak  
2 and runoff; extent and depth of underground water reservoirs;  
3 reports from well-drilling logs; reports of annual permits and usage  
4 within groundwater basins; reports on quality of water found in  
5 various parts of ~~Oklahoma~~ this state; and an up-to-date compilation  
6 of all Oklahoma Statutes, rules, and regulations pertaining to the  
7 conservation, storage, use, and distribution of water resources.  
8 All reporting shall be anonymized and no information contained  
9 therein shall be able to indicate any individual permit or user.

10 SECTION 9. There is hereby appropriated to the Oklahoma Water  
11 Resources Board from any monies not otherwise appropriated from the  
12 General Revenue Fund of the State Treasury for the fiscal year  
13 ending June 30, 2026, the sum of One Million Five Hundred Thousand  
14 Dollars (\$1,500,000.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary to  
15 perform the water monitoring duties imposed upon the Board by  
16 Sections 1020.12, 1020.15, 1020.16, 1020.19, 1085.2, and 1085.11 of  
17 Title 82 of the Oklahoma Statutes and Sections 5 and 6 of this act.

18 SECTION 10. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.  
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20 60-1-1784 RD 2/26/2025 7:54:23 AM  
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