

## Burgum appoints John Paczkowski as interim director of State Water Commission and Office of the State Engineer

Governor Burgum announced at the last Water Commission meeting in February, that John Paczkowski will serve as interim director of the North Dakota State Water Commission and Office of the State Engineer, effective Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

Paczkowski currently serves as the Assistant State Engineer and has worked in that role since 2016. Paczkowski will succeed outgoing State Engineer Garland Erbele. Erbele is set to retire on March 31.

Prior to being named Assistant State Engineer, John Paczkowski served as Director of the Regulatory Division and Chief of the Regulatory Section. Paczkowski has also worked in the Investigations Section of the Water Development Division, and was Project Manager for the Water Use Data Collection Program in the Water Appropriations Division. He has vast experience and knowledge in both water management and water development efforts throughout the state. Paczkowski has been employed with the Water Commission since 1991.

A search committee has been formed to fill the position for North Dakota's State Engineer. Commissioner Dick Johnson, Devils Lake Basin, and Commissioner Michael Anderson, Lower Red River Basin, are designated members on the candidate search team along with a representative from both the Department of Agriculture and the Governor's Office.

The State Engineer for the North Dakota State Water Commission also serves as the chief engineer and secretary for the State Water Commission. The State Engineer is responsible for several regulatory functions and responsibilities, including allocation of the state's waters, dam safety, sovereign land management, and drainage. The mission of the State Water Commission is to improve the quality of life and strengthen the economy of North Dakota by managing the water resources of the state for the benefit of its citizens.

Applicants are currently being accepted for the position here:

[https://www.cnd.nd.gov/psc/recruit/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS\\_HRAM\\_FL.HRS\\_CG\\_SEARCH\\_FL.GBL?Page=HRS\\_APP\\_JBPST\\_FL&Action=U&SiteId=11000&FOCUS=Applicant&JobOpeningId=3015398&PostingSeq=1](https://www.cnd.nd.gov/psc/recruit/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS_CG_SEARCH_FL.GBL?Page=HRS_APP_JBPST_FL&Action=U&SiteId=11000&FOCUS=Applicant&JobOpeningId=3015398&PostingSeq=1)

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**Jessie Wald, PIO**

Water Commission | 900 East Boulevard Ave | Bismarck, ND 58505  
PHONE: (701) 328-2782 | FAX: (701) 328-3696 | E-MAIL: [jessiewald@nd.gov](mailto:jessiewald@nd.gov) | [www.swc.nd.gov](http://www.swc.nd.gov)