

Riverbend Water Resource District
Investment Policy and Strategies
April 22, 2020

Scope

This Investment Policy and Strategies shall govern the investment of all financial assets of the Riverbend Water Resources District (“RWRD” or the “District”). These funds are accounted for in the District's Financial Statements.

Prudence

Investments shall be made with judgment and care — under circumstances then prevailing — which a person of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercises in the management of his or her own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of his or her capital, as well as the probable income to be derived. The standard of prudence to be used by investment officials shall be the "prudent person" standard and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. Investment Officer(s) acting in accordance with written procedures and the Investment Policy and Strategies and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes, provided deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments. In determining whether an investment official has exercised prudence with respect to an investment decision, the determination shall be made taking into consideration the investment of all funds over which the official had responsibility rather than consideration as to the prudence of a single investment and, whether the investment decision was consistent with the District’s Investment Policy and Strategies and written investment procedures.

Objectives

It is the policy of the District that, giving due regard to the safety and risk of investment, all available funds shall be invested in conformance with state and federal regulations, applicable bond resolution requirements, and this adopted Investment Policy and Strategies.

- A. In accordance with the Public Funds Investment Act (the “Act”), the following prioritized objectives (in order of importance in accordance with Section 2256.005(d) of the Act), apply for each of the District's investment strategies:

- B. *Suitability* — It is important to understand the suitability of the investment to the financial requirements of the District. Only eligible investments listed in the Investment Policy and Strategies are suitable for District funds.
- C. *Safety* — Preservation and safety of principal are also of importance. All investments shall be of high quality securities with no perceived default risk. Market price fluctuations will occur, however managing the weighted average days to maturity for each fund type as specified will minimize these fluctuations.
- D. *Liquidity* — To enable the District to meet operating requirements that might be reasonably anticipated, the District's investment portfolio must maintain a sufficient level of liquidity. This shall be achieved by matching investment maturities with forecasted cash flow requirements, by maintaining at least 5% of the District's funds in overnight investments and by investing in securities with active secondary markets. Short-term investment pools and money market mutual funds provide daily liquidity and may be utilized as a competitive yield alternative to fixed maturity investments.
- E. *Marketability* — Securities with active and efficient secondary markets are necessary in the event of unanticipated cash requirements. Historical market "spreads" between the bid and offer prices of a particular security-type of less than a quarter of a percentage point shall define an efficient secondary market.
- F. *Diversification* — Investment maturities shall be staggered throughout the budget cycle to provide cash flow based on the anticipated needs of the district. Diversifying the appropriate maturity structure will reduce market cycle risk. Also, restricting the sum of investments purchased from certain issuers will reduce the credit risk exposure of the portfolio.
- G. *Yield* — Attaining a competitive market yield for comparable security-types and portfolio restrictions is the desired objective. The yield of an equally weighted, rolling six-month treasury bill portfolio shall be the minimum yield objective or "benchmark". A secondary objective will be to obtain a yield equal to or in excess of a local government investment pool, money market mutual fund or average Federal Reserve discount rate.

The first measure of success in this area will be the attainment of enough income to offset inflationary increases. Even though steps will be taken to obtain this goal, the Investment Officer(s) shall constantly be cognizant of the standard of care and the investment objectives pursuant to the provisions of the amended Act, Section 2256.006(a).

The Investment Officer(s) shall avoid any transactions that might impair public confidence in the District's ability to govern effectively. The governing body recognizes that in diversifying the portfolio, occasional measured losses due to market volatility are inevitable, and must be considered within the context of the overall portfolio's investment return, provided that adequate

diversification has been implemented. The prudence of the investment decision shall be measured in accordance with the tests set forth in Section 2256.006(b) of the Act.

I. Investing Strategies

Each major fund type has varying cash flow requirements and liquidity needs. Therefore, specific strategies shall be implemented considering the individual fund's unique requirements and the following shall be considered separate investment strategies for each of the funds mentioned below. District funds shall be analyzed and invested according to the following major fund types:

- A. *Operating Funds* — Investment strategies for operating funds and commingled pools containing operating funds have as their primary objective to assure that anticipated cash flows are matched with adequate investment liquidity. The secondary objective is to structure a portfolio, which will minimize volatility during economic cycles. This may be accomplished by purchasing high quality, short-term securities, which will complement each other in a laddered maturity structure. A dollar weighted average maturity of 365 days or less will be maintained and calculated by using the stated final maturity date of each security.
- B. *Debt Service Funds* — Investment strategies for debt service funds shall have as the primary objective the assurance of investment liquidity adequate to cover the debt service obligation on the required payment date. Securities purchased shall not have a stated final maturity date which exceeds the debt service payment date. A dollar weighted average maturity of 365 days or less will be maintained and calculated by using the stated final maturity date of each security.
- C. *Debt Service Reserve Funds* — Investment strategies for debt service reserve emergency and contingency funds shall have as the primary objective the ability to generate a dependable revenue stream to the appropriate fund from securities with a low degree of volatility. Securities should be of high quality and, except as may be required by the bond ordinance specific to an individual issue, of short to intermediate-term maturities with stated final maturities not exceeding five (5) years and a weighted average maturity not to exceed 730 days. Volatility shall be further controlled through the purchase of securities carrying the highest coupon available, within the desired maturity and quality range, without paying a premium, if at all possible. Such securities will tend to hold their value during economic cycles.
- D. *Construction and Special Purpose Funds* — Investment strategies for construction projects or special purpose fund portfolios will have as their primary objective to assure that anticipated cash flows are matched with adequate investment liquidity. These portfolios should include at least 10% in highly liquid securities to allow for flexibility and unanticipated project outlays. The stated final maturity dates of securities held should not exceed the estimated project completion date. A dollar weighted average maturity of

180 days or less will be maintained and calculated by using the stated final maturity of each security.

II. Delegation of Authority and Training

Unless already specified by law, the District must select at least one Investment Officer to be responsible for the investment of the funds. This must be done by rule, order, ordinance, or resolution, as appropriate. Unless authorized by law, a person may not deposit, withdraw, transfer, or manage in any other manner the funds of the District. Therefore, it is recommended to designate as Investment Officer(s) those positions responsible for making investment decisions. Authority granted is effective until rescinded by the District, or until that person's employment is terminated.

Pursuant to Section 2256.005 Subsection (f) of the Act, RWRD designates the Chief Financial Officer as an Investment Officer, a primary individual who shall be involved in investment activities to perform and execute the duties as required by the general laws of the state of Texas under oversight by the Executive Director/CEO.

Accordingly, the Investment Officer(s) of the District for the purposes of Section 2256.008 of the Act, and for the purposes of Section 49.1571 of the Texas Water Code shall receive at least 6 hours of training relating to their responsibility under the Act within 12 months after assuming duties. In addition, the Investment Officer(s) are required to receive 4 hours of applicable training every two years. These sessions must be completed no less often than once every two fiscal years commencing September 30, 2011 and the financial officers shall receive not less than 4 hours of instruction relating to investment responsibilities. The training must include education in investment controls, security risks, strategy risks, market risks, diversification and compliance with the Act. The investment training session shall be provided by an independent source approved by the investment committee. For purposes of this policy, an "independent source" from which investment training shall be obtained shall include a professional organization, an institute of higher learning or any other sponsor other than a business organization with whom the District may engage in an investment transaction. Thus, these independent sources will be training sessions sponsored by Government Treasurer's Organization of Texas, University of North Texas, Government Finance Officers Association of Texas.

The Investment Officer(s) shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program, consistent with this Investment Policy and Strategies. Such procedures shall include any explicit delegation of authority to the individual(s) responsible for investment transactions. No person(s) may engage in investment transactions, except as provided under the terms of this Investment Policy and Strategies and the procedures established by the District.

III. Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

The Public Funds Investment Act includes ethics and conflicts of interest provisions. The Investment Officer(s) and employee(s) involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions. The Investment Officer(s) and employee(s) involved in the investment process shall sign annual statements agreeing to abide by this section of the Investment Policy and Strategies and affirming no known conflicts of interest. The Investment Officer(s) and employee(s) involved in the investment process must file a disclosure statement with the Texas Ethics Commission and the District, if the Investment officer(s) or employee(s) has/have a personal business relationship with a business organization offering to engage in an investment transaction with the District.

An investment officer or employee involved in the investment process has a personal business relationship with a business organization if:

- a. The investment officer owns 10% or more of the voting stock or shares of the business organization or owns \$5,000 or more of the fair market value of the business organization;
- b. Funds received by the investment officer from the business organization exceed 10% of the investment officer's gross income for the prior year; or
- c. The investment officer has acquired from the business organization during the prior year investments with a book value of \$2,500 or more for the personal account of the investment officer.

In addition, any investment officer or employee who is related within the second degree by affinity or consanguinity, as determined under Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code, to an individual seeking to sell an investment to the District must file a statement disclosing that relationship with the Texas Ethics Commission and the District.

IV. Authorized Financial Dealers and Institutions (including pools)

This Investment Policy and Strategies requires a formal competitive "request for proposals" process be used to select broker/dealers, financial institutions, bank depositories, and pools. As the policy is intended to endure, it does not mention specific financial institutions or bank depositories. Rather, it provides for a process that will screen out institutions that lack economic viability or whose past practices suggests that the safety of public capital would be impaired if transactions were directed to or through such financial institutions or bank depositories.

A. When selecting broker/dealers, the District should look at:

- Financial conditions, strength and capability to fulfill commitments;
- Overall reputation with other dealers or investors;

- Regulatory status of the dealer; and
- Background and expertise of the individual representatives.
- In addition, in order to use a broker/dealer, they have to be included on an annually reviewed authorized broker list for the District.

B. When selecting financial institutions and bank depository institutions, the District should look at:

- Types of collateral;
- Security Interest Perfected; and
- Rates.

C. When selecting a local government investment pool, the law requires the pool to supply the following information to the District seeking to join the pool:

- a. investment transaction confirmations; and
- b. a monthly report that contains, at a minimum, the following information:
 - the types and percentage breakdown of securities in which the pool is invested;
 - the current average dollar-weighted maturity, based on the stated maturities of the pool;
 - the current percentage of the pool's portfolio in investments that have stated maturities of more than one year;
 - the book value versus the market value of the pool's portfolio, using amortized cost valuation;
 - the size of the pool;
 - the number of participants in the pool;
 - the custodian bank that is safekeeping the assets of the pool;
 - a listing of daily transaction activity of the district participating in the pool;
 - the yield and expense ratio of the pool;
 - the portfolio managers of the pool; and
 - any changes or addenda to the offering circular.

V. Certification Required from Broker/Dealers, Financial Institutions, Bank Depositories, and Pools

A qualified representative from any firm offering to engage in investment transactions with the District is required to sign a written instrument that certifies that they have received and reviewed a written copy of the District's Investment Policy and Strategies. The firm must acknowledge that it has implemented reasonable procedures and controls in an effort to preclude investments between the District and the firm that are not authorized by the District's Investment

Policy and Strategies. The District's Investment Officer(s) may not transact business with a person or entity who has not delivered the required written instrument to the District.

VI. Authorized and Suitable Investments

The following is a list of the types of authorized investments by the District:

- Certificates of Deposits;
- Collateralized Mortgage Obligation, secured by the Full Faith and Credit of the Federal Government;
- Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation;
- Freddie Mac CMO;
- GMNA II Guaranteed Pass Thru;
- Government National Mortgage Association Bonds;
- Logic Investment Pool;
- Lone State Investment Pool;
- Money Market Accounts;
- TexPool Participant Services;
- TexPool Prime Participant Services;
- TexStar Participant Services; and
- U.S. Treasury Notes

VII. Collateralization

Required for certificates of deposit over the \$100,000 insurance limit, for bank depository services over the \$250,000 insurance limit, and for repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements, this Investment Policy and Strategies addresses market valuation responsibility and timing, safekeeping by a third party and evidence of ownership.

All banks' and savings and loan associations' deposits and investments of District funds shall be secured by pledged collateral with a market value equal to no less than 103 percent of the principal plus accrued interest less an amount insured by FDIC or NCUSIF. Evidence of proper collateralization in the form of original safekeeping receipts held in institution's trust department or at a third-party institution not affiliated with the bank or bank holding company will be maintained in the office of the Investment Officer(s) at all times. The Investment Officer(s) will approve and release all pledged collateral. Collateral will be reviewed monthly to assure the market value of the securities pledged exceeds investments and/or the related bank balances. The District shall request additional collateral in the event they deem that their deposits and investments are not sufficiently protected by the pledged collateral.

VIII. Safekeeping and Custody

This Investment Policy and Strategies requires that all investments, with the exception of investment pools and mutual funds, must be settled on a delivery versus payment basis. It is strongly recommended to have investments safekept with a third-party institution, not the organization which sold the investment to the government district.

All transactions must be executed with authorized security dealers and financial institutions on a delivery-versus-payment (DVP) basis. That is, funds shall not be wired or paid until verification has been made that the Trustee received the collateral. The collateral shall be held in the name of the District or held on behalf of the District. The Trustee's records shall assure the notation of the District's ownership of or explicit claim on the securities. The original copy of all safekeeping receipts shall be delivered to the District. Securities will be held by the District's safekeeping agent, which shall be selected through a competitive "request for proposal" process or that agent's representative in New York City, or in its account at the Federal Reserve Bank or FHLB.

IX. Diversification

Diversification should be conceptualized in terms of maturity, as well as instrument type and issuer. Thus, the diversification concept in an operating fund should include prohibition against over concentration in a specific maturity sector, as well as constraining the reliance on specific risky instruments and issuers.

It is the Investment Policy and Strategies of the District to diversify its investment portfolios. The diversification will protect interest income from the volatility of interest rates and the avoidance of undue concentration of assets in a specific maturity sector; therefore, portfolio maturities shall be staggered. Securities shall also be selected and revised periodically by the District. In establishing specific diversification strategies, following general policies and constraints shall apply:

1. Risk of market price volatility shall be controlled through maturity diversification and by controlling unacceptable maturity extensions and a mismatch of liabilities and assets. The maturity extension will be controlled by limiting the weighted average maturity of the entire portfolio to 365 days. All long-term maturities will be intended to cover long-term liabilities. In addition, five (5%) percent of the funds in the portfolio will be liquid at all times.
2. The District shall establish strategies and guidelines for the percentage of the total portfolio that may be invested in U.S. Treasury Securities, federal agency instrumentalities, repurchase agreements, and insured/collateralized certificates of deposit and other securities or obligations. The District shall conduct a quarterly review of these guidelines and shall evaluate the probability of market and default risk in various investment sectors as part of its considerations.

3. Risk of principal loss in the portfolio as a whole shall be minimized by diversifying investment types according to the following limitations.

4. Investment Type % of Portfolio:

- U.S. Treasury Notes/Bills 100%
- U.S. Agencies & Instrumentalities 100%
- State of Texas Obligations & Agencies 15%
- Local Government Investment Pools 50%
- Local Government Obligations (AA) 10%
- Repurchase Agreements 25%
- Certificates of Deposit 100%
- U.S. Government Money Market Funds 50%

5. By Institution:

- Repurchase Agreements — No more than 10%
- All Other — No more than 40%
- Investment Pools — No more than \$10,000,000

X. Maximum Maturities

The maximum allowable stated maturity for an individual investment owned by the District is three (3) years except that no more than one million five hundred thousand dollars of the District's unrestricted investments may have an average or expected maturity date of no more than ten (10) years and provided further that any investment held in connection with a reserve fund by any bond resolution may have a maturity that exceeds ten (10) years, so long as the expected maturity date of the investment does not exceed the maturity date of the bond for which the investment was pledged.

XI. Internal Controls

The District, in conjunction with its annual audit, shall perform a compliance audit of management controls on investments and adherence to the District's Investment Policy and Strategies. The Investment Officer(s) shall establish a system of internal controls. The controls shall be designed to prevent losses of public funds arising from fraud, employee error, and misrepresentation by third parties, unanticipated changes in financial markets, or imprudent actions by Investment Officer(s) or employees of the District.

Examples of controls and managerial emphasis deemed important include the following:

- ∞ All appropriate investment transactions settled delivery versus payment (DVP);

- ' Investments safekept at a third party in the district's name;
- ' Annual compliance audit by independent auditor;
- ' Custodian safekeeping receipts maintained;
- ' Use of competitive bidding for investments;
- ' Avoidance of bearer-form securities;
- ' Documentation of investment bidding events;
- ' Written confirmation of telephone transactions;
- ' Reconciliation's and comparisons of security receipts with the investment subsidiary records, including custodian bank;
- ' Compliance with investment policies;
- ' Verification of all interest income and security purchase and sell computations;
- ' Control of collusion;
- ' Separation of duties;
- ' Separation of transaction authority from accounting and record-keeping;
- ' Clear delegation of authority;
- ' Accurate and timely reports;
- ' Validation of investment maturity decisions with supporting cash flow data;
- ' Adequate training and development of the Investment Officer(s);
- ' Review of financial conditions of all brokers, dealers, and depository institutions (where practical);
- ' Staying informed about market conditions, changes and trends that require adjustments in investment strategies;
- ' Monitoring market values at least monthly; and/or
- ' Written procedures documentation.

XII. Performance Standards

Performance standards provide a measure for determining the effectiveness of portfolio management. The Investment Officer(s) should design and review the District's investment portfolio with the objective of obtaining a rate of return throughout budgetary economic cycles, commensurate with the investment risk constraints and the cash flow needs.

XIII. Reporting

Regular investment reports to the Board of Directors of the District provide necessary written communication regarding investment performance, risk analysis, adherence to policy provisions and other pertinent information.

The following elements are required by this Investment Policy and Strategies and Texas State law concerning the District's Investment Report:

1. Must be prepared quarterly;
2. Must include a report of investment transactions for all funds;

3. Must describe the investment position;
4. Must be prepared jointly and signed by all of the Investment Officer(s);
5. Must contain a summary statement that provides the following information:
 - Beginning and ending market values for the period;
 - Additions and changes to the market value during the period;
 - Fully accrued interest for the period; and
 - List by type of asset and fund type invested;
7. Must list the book and market value for each investment at the beginning and ending of the reporting period;
8. Must list the maturity date (for all investments that have one) for each individual investment;
9. Must assign each investment to the account or fund or pooled group fund for which it was acquired; and
10. Must provide a statement that the investment portfolio is in compliance with relevant provisions of the Public Funds Investment Act and with the District's Investment Policy and Strategies.

XIV. Investment Policy and Strategies Adoption and Annual Review

The Board of Directors of the District shall review its Investment Policy and Strategies, not less than annually, and authorize an official action (i.e. resolution) stating that this Investment Policy and Strategies has been reviewed and approved.

**Riverbend Water Resource District
Investment Policy and Strategies**

**Certification Required from Broker/Dealers, Financial Institutions,
Bank Depositories, and Pools**

I, _____, am a qualified representative from an entity offering to engage in investment transactions with the Riverbend Water Resources District (the “District”) and certify that I have received and reviewed a written copy of the District’s Investment Policy and Strategies; I further acknowledge that the entity which I represent has implemented reasonable procedures and controls in an effort to preclude investments between the District and the entity that are not authorized by the District’s Investment Policy and Strategies.

Entity Name

Signature of Representative

Entity Address

Printed Name of Representative

Entity Address

Email Contact of Representative

Entity Phone

SUBSCRIBED AND ACKNOWLEDGED BEFORE ME by the said Declarant,
_____ on this _____ day of _____ 20____.

Notary Public, State of Texas