

State Engineer Garland Erbele Announces Retirement

North Dakota State Engineer Garland Erbele announced today that he will retire on March 31, 2020.

The State Water Commission appointed Erbele as North Dakota's 18th State Engineer in April 2016. Erbele, an environmental engineer with over 40 years of experience in water management, serves as Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Water Commission.

"We are deeply grateful for Garland's consistent leadership, thoughtfulness and responsible management of North Dakota's substantial water resources in a way that improved the quality of life for all North Dakotans. As state engineer, he oversaw many important and impactful developments, from major flood protection and water supply projects to the innovative North Dakota Risk Assessment MapService," said Gov. Burgum, who chairs the ten-member State Water Commission. "We thank him for his four decades of public service, including his nearly four years in North Dakota as state engineer, and we wish him all the best in retirement."

Erbele has been instrumental making great technological advances in how the Water Commission collects, monitors, utilizes, and disseminates data. PRESENS, NDRAM, and AEM surveys are just a few recent examples of the innovative and noteworthy programs that have been implemented under Erbele's leadership.

"I have had the good fortune of having a life that has been spent in water management and development. It has been my privilege to serve the state of North Dakota," said Erbele. "The role of State Engineer has provided me with many success stories and I am honored to have worked alongside such a dedicated group of professionals who care deeply about the future of water in North Dakota. The work we do, each and every day, touches the lives of every North Dakotan."

The Water Commission will discuss filling the position of State Engineer at its next meeting, scheduled for February 13.

Jessie Wald, *PIO*

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