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**For immediate release:**

### **Garrison Diversion Conservancy District elects new Chairman**

CARRINGTON (January 27, 2009) –The Garrison Diversion Conservancy District board of directors elected a new Chairman at the January board meeting, as well as a new Vice Chairman and Second Vice Chairman.

John Leininger, Griggs County Director, was elected as Chairman of the board, where he will serve a two-year term. John replaces Rick Anderson, McLean County Director, who completed the maximum two terms as Chairman. John has served on the board since 2001 and previously held the position of Second Vice Chairman. John has many years of experience in the education field and has worked on rural revitalization efforts on both the local and national levels. He currently works as a Region 6 Project Director for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Club. John says, “I am looking forward to leading the board and aim to be responsive to their concerns and questions while we collectively work towards our goal to provide reliable, high-quality, and affordable water to North Dakota.”

Grand Forks County Director, Ken Vein, was elected as Vice Chairman of the board where he will serve a two-year term. Ken is currently employed by Altru Health System, as the Division Administrator for Plant and Facilities. He previously worked as the Grand Forks City Engineer and Public Works Director for 16 years. Both positions have given Ken valuable experience which he brings to the board. Ken has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2005, and is the current Chairman of the Public Relations and Red River Valley Committee.

Ken Royse, Burleigh County Director, was elected as Second Vice Chairman of the board. Ken is the Vice President and Principal at Barlett & West Engineers, Inc. of Bismarck. Ken has served on the board since 2005, and is also a member of many other water-related organizations, giving him extensive experience which will benefit the board. Ken is a member of Garrison Diversion’s Budget and Finance Committee.

Leininger, Vein, and Royse will also serve on Garrison Diversion’s ten member Executive Committee.

The Garrison Diversion board of directors has 28 members representing each of the 28 counties in its district. Each county supports Garrison Diversion’s operations by issuing a one-mill levy and electing a citizen to serve a four-year term on its board of directors. The board works to fulfill Garrison Diversion’s

mission, “to provide a reliable, high-quality, and affordable water supply for the benefit of North Dakota.” They also support irrigation development and enhance recreation opportunities throughout the state.

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