



City of Grand Forks  
Staff Report

**APPROVED & ACCEPTED**  
by City Council  
12/15/1025  
*Maureen Storstad*  
Maureen Storstad  
City Auditor

City Council – December 15, 2025

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**Agenda Item: Water Department Budget Amendment**

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**Submitted by:** Melanie Parvey, Water Works Director  
Fred Goetz, Water Plant Manager

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**Staff Recommended Action: Approve any necessary budget amendment for chemical expense overages for the Water Plant.**

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**Committee Recommended Action:** N/A

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**Council Action:**

Motion by Vein, second by Fridolfs to approve on consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

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**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Grand has treated more water from the Red River this year than it has last year. The cost to treat the water is more expensive therefore causing an increase in chemical use and costs. The plant has used more sulfuric acid, lime, caustic and sodium aluminate to treat water from Red River.

The permit for the Red Lake River is 3.5 billion gallons. The plant has currently treated 2.9 billion gallons. The plant operations staff has been working to increase the amount of water they treat from the Red River because of how close they are to fully utilizing the permit for Red Lake River. The estimated budget overage is roughly \$270,000.

**ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:**

- The water plant has currently treated 17% less water from the Red Lake River this year to date.

**SUPPORT MATERIALS:**

- N/A