The Red River Basin Commission was formed in 2002 as a result of a merger between The Red River Basin Board, The International Coalition, and the Red River Water Resources Council. The Commission is made up of a 41 member Board of Directors, comprised mainly of representatives of local government, including the cities, counties, rural municipalities, watershed boards, water resource districts, joint power boards, and First Nations representation, as well as a water supply cooperative, a lake improvement association, environmental groups, and four at-large members.

On November 8, 1995, Council reduced the Councillor membership on the Commission from 2 to 1.

The Commission was formed to initiate a grass roots effort to address land and water issues in a basin-wide context, and has adopted a vision / mission statement and a set of Guiding Principles, based on input provided by Basin residents, to guide its future activities.

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