CONFIDENTIAL STARTUP AUTHORIZATION

Agricultural Renewal Trust

Operating Development Authorization and Confidential Startup Budget Record

Operating-development startup only

Operating-development working version: August 22, 2026

Confidential - Internal Financial and Operating Information - Not for Public Distribution

> Document status. This record is completed after the Agricultural Renewal Trust has been legally created, funded, banked, and administratively established. It authorizes a defined operating-development startup budget, the engagement of development contractors and advisors, and controlled payment of approved startup costs. It does not authorize acceptance or funding of an agricultural case, appoint an operating fiduciary, amend the Trust Agreement, or replace legal, tax, accounting, banking, or risk advice.

Purpose and Use of This Record

This document is the written authorization to move from completed Trust formation into operating development. The Initial Trustee completes the blank amounts and authority fields, attaches any supporting schedules, and adopts the record after appropriate professional review. Only the completed and signed record, together with later written amendments, controls the approved operating-development budget.

The operating-development phase is intended to hire the people who understand agriculture, business, finance, administration, and program development and to give them the controlled resources needed to build the operating system. The immediate work is to retain an Agricultural Program-Development Manager and a Financial and Administrative Development Manager, provide access to counsel, accounting, banking, risk, technology, and other qualified support, and prepare the policies, procedures, forms, controls, and readiness tests required before the first case is accepted.

The operating-development work covers the following continuing Trust programs:

- **Essential Operations Assistance.** Develop the process for time-sensitive assistance when failure or imminent failure of an existing essential agricultural operating function creates a material threat to continued operations. A breakdown by itself will not establish financial eligibility.
- **Agricultural Emergency and Business Disruption Recovery.** Develop the process for stabilizing and restoring a viable agricultural operation after a serious event outside ordinary operating control has interrupted or materially reduced operations, including properly limited workforce-preservation support when justified.
- **Agricultural Resource and Gap Assistance.** Develop the process for identifying and coordinating insurance, lenders, government and tribal programs, manufacturers, suppliers, educational resources, and other assistance, and for determining whether documented supplemental, bridge, replacement, gap, or sole-source Trust support is appropriate.

Budget meaning. An approved amount is a maximum, not a direction to spend the full amount. Every expense must still be necessary, properly authorized, supported, and assigned to the correct budget line.

Stage boundary. No inquiry may be treated as an accepted agricultural case and no program assistance may be promised, committed, or paid under this record. Program Activation requires a separate written action after the operating package is complete.

Readiness Confirmation

Before this record is signed, confirm each applicable item or explain the exception in the space provided.

[ ] The Trust Agreement has been executed and the Initial Trustee has accepted office.

[ ] The Trust's tax-identification and organizational records required to open and operate its accounts are complete.

[ ] A Trust bank account is open, and DH Group Holdings LLC has transferred or is ready to release the approved funding to the Trust.

[ ] The Trust's bookkeeping structure, expense categories, document-retention method, and reconciliation responsibility are established.

[ ] Oklahoma counsel and the CPA or tax adviser have been identified and are available for the operating-development work assigned to them.

[ ] Bank signer, payment-release, online-access, and alternate-authority arrangements are documented.

[ ] Confidential records can be stored and shared with access limited to people who need them for authorized Trust work.

[ ] The Trust's risk-financing approach has been considered, including what may be retained or self-funded and what insurance or other protection is required or advisable.

[ ] Trust money, invoices, accounts, and records will remain separately identified from those of DH Group Holdings LLC and every other organization.
[ ] The Formation Completion Record has been signed, or counsel has identified in writing the limited remaining item that does not prevent operating development from beginning.

Uncompleted item, responsible person, and completion date:

____

____

Readiness confirmed by: ______________________________ Date: ________________

Funding, Reserve, and Authorization Summary

DH Group Holdings LLC is the expected funding source and is assumed to have funds available for release. This record does not question that availability. It records how much the Trust may use for operating development after the funds are placed under the Trust's control.

DH Group Holdings LLC will provide the approved amount as Trust funding, and the transfer record should identify it that way. A loan should not be assumed. If counsel and the CPA later recommend that a separate transfer be treated as a loan for a specific reason, it requires its own written authorization and terms. Trust expenses should be paid from the Trust account so the Trust's books show the complete transaction history.

Funding or reserve item	Approved amount	Purpose or restriction
Cash held in the Trust on the authorization date	$______________	Record cleared, available Trust cash; do not include an uncompleted transfer.
Operating-development startup budget	$______________	Maximum aggregate amount available for the startup categories approved on the next page.
Initial Program Capital	$______________	Held for future program assistance and unavailable for startup expenses unless this record is formally amended.
Administrative liquidity reserve	$______________	Held to meet approved obligations, timing differences, and reasonably expected operating costs.
Unallocated Trust balance	$______________	Not committed by this record and retained subject to the Trust Agreement.

Reconciliation check: Trust cash above should equal the total of the startup budget, Initial Program Capital, administrative liquidity reserve, and unallocated balance, unless an attached schedule explains the difference.

Authorization date: ____

Operating-development budget period:

____

Attached funding schedule or transfer record:

____

Replenishment

The financial and administrative manager, bookkeeper, or other assigned person should report committed costs, cash on hand, protected amounts, and expected obligations before additional funding is requested. The Initial Trustee may approve a request to DH Group Holdings LLC during operating development. After operating fiduciaries take office, the authority schedule then in effect controls. No Trust contractor or fiduciary has an automatic right to draw from or bind DH Group Holdings LLC.

Replenishment review trigger (date, cash level, or committed-cost level):

____

____

Person responsible for preparing the request:

____

Person authorized to approve and transmit the request:

____

Confidential Operating-Development Startup Budget

Enter a maximum amount for each approved line. Write Not Authorized where a category may not be used. Attach a more detailed schedule when a category contains more than one contract or material commitment.

Budget category	Maximum amount	Included purpose
Oklahoma legal counsel and Trust implementation	$______________ _	Trust, contracting, delegation, program-authority, confidentiality, liability, and other assigned legal work.
Tax, accounting, bookkeeping, and reporting	$______________ _	Funding treatment, chart of accounts, payment records, contractor reporting, reconciliations, and tax documentation.
Banking, payment, and treasury setup	$______________ _	Account services, payment controls, signer changes, fraud controls, and testing.
Agricultural Program-Development Manager	$______________ _	Fees and approved expenses under the signed development agreement and work authorizations.
Financial and Administrative Development Manager	$______________ _	Fees and approved expenses under the signed development agreement and work authorizations.
Specialists and candidate due diligence	$______________ _	Technical consultation, background and reference work, inspections, estimates, or other approved development support.
Risk review, insurance, and retained-risk planning	$______________ _	Risk-adviser fees, required or approved coverage, and documented retained or self-funded risk measures.
Secure technology, communications, and records	$______________ _	IT, security, data storage, telephone, software, equipment, and records-management needs.
Travel, transportation, meetings, and site logistics	$______________ _	Approved mileage, vehicle or transportation costs, lodging, meeting costs, and development-site activity.
Office and administrative support	$______________ _	Supplies, printing, postage, temporary workspace, administrative services, and other necessary startup support.
Contingency and other approved startup costs	$______________ _	Use only for a documented operating-development need within the authority and exception rules below.
TOTAL OPERATING-DEVELOPMENT STARTUP BUDGET	$______________ _	Must equal the operating-development startup amount on the preceding page.

Shared-vendor note. A vendor may offer combined or discounted pricing because it serves more than one organization, but the Trust must have its own order, invoice allocation, payment record, and accounting entry. Approval of a shared vendor does not authorize a shared bank account or commingled billing record.

Budget Administration Rules

- No startup expense may be charged against Initial Program Capital without a signed amendment to this record.
- A contractor fee, reimbursable expense, travel rule, deliverable, and payment milestone must be stated in the applicable agreement or work authorization.
- Contingency use requires a short written explanation identifying the need, amount, approving authority, and affected budget line.
- Unused amounts remain Trust funds. They do not become compensation, a bonus, or an entitlement of a contractor or provider.

Startup Authority and Payment Controls

Budget approval and payment authority are separate. A person may prepare or recommend an expense without having authority to approve the obligation or release money.

Operating-development role	Authorized function	Authority not granted by this record
Initial Trustee	Adopts this record; enters or approves startup contracts; establishes signer and delegation limits; approves amendments and material exceptions.	No authority beyond the Trust Agreement or applicable law; adoption does not activate agricultural cases.
Agricultural Program-Development Manager	Investigates, drafts, coordinates, recommends, and manages accepted development assignments within the agreement and work plan.	May not promise program assistance, commit case capital, appoint a fiduciary, or bind the Trust except under a separate written delegation.
Financial and Administrative Development Manager	Builds the budget, accounting, payment, assistance-method, reporting, and administrative systems; reviews financial consequences and recommendations.	May not release money, borrow, guarantee, or bind the Trust except under a separate written delegation and bank authority.
Payment preparer or administrator	Assembles invoices, coding, support, proposed approvals, and payment instructions; maintains the payment file.	Preparation is not approval or release authority.
Counsel, CPA, banker, risk adviser, or specialist	Performs the defined professional engagement and gives advice within that scope.	Advisory service does not create operational or fiduciary authority unless a separate written appointment does so.

Designated Payment Authority

Primary authorized signer:

____

Authorized alternate signer:

____

Routine payment limit per transaction:

____

Aggregate routine payment limit per month:

____

Amount at which two approvals are required: ____

Permitted payment methods and bank-control reference: ____

Routine payments under a signed contract, accepted milestone, and available budget line may be released by the designated signer without separate transaction-by-transaction approval from the Initial Trustee, but only within the completed limits above. If a limit or signer field is blank, no delegated authority should be inferred.

When two approvals are required, an alternate should be designated in advance so illness, resignation, suspension, or temporary unavailability does not create an avoidable payment deadlock. Any temporary substitution must follow the Trust Agreement and bank records and must be documented; no person may appoint themselves or bypass a suspended authority.

Approval Required Regardless of Amount

- Any unbudgeted expense, use of Initial Program Capital, or increase in the total operating-development budget.
- Any related-party payment or transaction involving a personal, family, ownership, referral, or other material conflict.
- Any borrowing, guaranty, lien, security interest, recoverable-capital arrangement, or commitment extending beyond the approved budget period.
- Any change to contractor compensation, material scope, payment milestone, termination terms, or expense rights.
- Any payment to a new recipient whose identity or payment instructions have not been independently verified.
- Any promise, approval, commitment, or payment of agricultural program assistance before Program Activation.

Contractor and Professional Engagement Record

Complete this page after selection and before the first work authorization or payment. A signed agreement, not this summary, controls the engagement.

Lead development role	Contractor and term	Fee and expense ceilings	Approval record
Agricultural Program-Development Manager	Name/entity: ________________ Start: __________ End: __________	Fees: $___________ Expenses: $________	Agreement date: __________ Approved by: __________
Financial and Administrative Development Manager	Name/entity: ________________ Start: __________ End: __________	Fees: $___________ Expenses: $________	Agreement date: __________ Approved by: __________

Required Contractor File

[ ] Approved role description, candidate evaluation, references, and due-diligence record.
[ ] Signed independent-contractor agreement and first written work authorization.
[ ] Confidentiality, conflict-of-interest, data-handling, and return-of-records commitments.
[ ] Tax and payment documentation and independently verified payment instructions.

[ ] Compensation, expense, travel, milestone, deliverable-acceptance, change, and termination terms.
[ ] Any insurance, licensing, qualification, or retained-risk evidence required for the assigned work.
[ ] A written statement that contractor status does not appoint the person as trustee or authorize agricultural case funding.

Professional and Support Roster

Function	Provider	Engagement or scope	Budget limit / approval
Oklahoma legal counsel	___________________	___________________________	$___________ / _________
CPA / tax adviser / bookkeeper	___________________	___________________________	$___________ / _________
Banking / treasury contact	___________________	___________________________	$___________ / _________
Risk or insurance adviser	___________________	___________________________	$___________ / _________
Technology / security / records	___________________	___________________________	$___________ / _________
Other approved specialist	___________________	___________________________	$___________ / _________

Limited Specialist-Engagement Authority

A development manager may identify specialists, obtain estimates, and recommend an engagement. The manager may retain or authorize a specialist only if the completed delegation below, the signed contractor agreement, and the available budget all permit it. Every engagement requires a defined scope, rate or cap, confidentiality and conflict terms, deliverable, and payment record.

Manager or role receiving limited specialist authority:

____

Maximum per specialist engagement:

____

Maximum aggregate amount during the budget period:

____

Excluded subjects or providers:

____

Records, Reporting, Confidentiality, and Risk Controls

Required Payment File

[ ] The signed agreement, purchase authorization, or other document establishing the obligation.
[ ] An invoice, receipt, milestone record, or comparable support showing what was provided and when.
[ ] The budget category, amount, approving authority, payment preparer, and payment releaser.
[ ] Recipient identity, tax documentation when required, and independently verified payment instructions.
[ ] Proof of payment, any deliverable-acceptance record, and explanation of a correction, refund, credit, or exception.

Monthly Startup Report

The assigned financial and administrative person should prepare a confidential monthly report showing opening and ending cash, funding received, outstanding commitments, payments by budget line, remaining authority, Initial Program Capital, the administrative liquidity reserve, exceptions, and expected next-period obligations. Bank reconciliation should be performed or reviewed by someone other than the person who released payments whenever staffing makes that practical.

Report preparer: ____

Reconciliation preparer: ____

Independent reviewer: ____

Monthly delivery date: ____

Confidentiality and Separate Records

Budget amounts, bank information, candidate information, payment instructions, contracts, legal and tax advice, and security details are limited to people who need them for authorized Trust work. The Initial Trustee's personal identity should not be included in public or routine operating materials except where disclosure is legally, contractually, or institutionally required. Required identity records should remain in the appropriate confidential legal, tax, bank, or fiduciary file.

The Trust must keep its own account, invoices, contracts, payment records, and books. It may use the same vendor as another trust, company, or program and may participate in a documented discount, but each charge and allocation must remain separately identifiable and supported.

Risk Treatment

The Trust may retain or self-fund a risk when that choice is legally permitted, financially supportable, and deliberately approved after appropriate advice. The decision should identify the exposure, estimated maximum loss, funds available to absorb it, responsible reviewer, and review date. Required insurance, contractual coverage, or another protection recommended by counsel, a risk adviser, a counterparty, or the bank should be obtained or the written reason for a lawful alternative should be retained.

Risk-treatment memorandum or schedule attached: ____

Review date and responsible person: ____

Operating-Development Completion and Program Activation Boundary

Completion of this startup authorization does not open the Programs. Before the first agricultural case is accepted, a separate readiness and Program Activation action should confirm that the operating system is complete and usable.

[ ] The Agricultural Program-Development Manager and Financial and Administrative Development Manager have completed the accepted operating-development deliverables.

[ ] The Program Policies, Procedures, and Forms Manual defines common eligibility, agricultural and financial review, assistance methods, authority, exceptions, payment, monitoring, completion, declination, reconsideration, conflicts, confidentiality, and record requirements.

[ ] Each of the three Programs has usable intake, evaluation, approval, agreement, payment, monitoring, and closure forms appropriate to its work.

[ ] Operating co-trustees, alternates, and any Trust Director or Trust Protector role have been appointed and accepted as required by the Trust Agreement and appointment records.
[ ] Banking, signer, accounting, payment, security, and reporting authority has been converted to the operating structure and tested with a non-case transaction or other controlled test.
[ ] Available program capital, administrative reserves, specialist access, records controls, confidentiality controls, and risk treatment are adequate for the limited opening area.
[ ] Counsel, the CPA, banker, risk adviser, and operating managers have completed the reviews assigned to them, and all material unresolved issues are recorded.
[ ] A separate written Program Activation action states the effective date, geographic area, intake channel, opening authority schedule, and any temporary limits on cases or commitments.

Authorization Decision

[ ] Approved as written [ ] Approved with attached conditions [ ] Not approved

Effective date: ____

Approved operating-development startup budget:

____

Initial Program Capital protected from startup use:

____

Administrative liquidity reserve:

____

Conditions, exclusions, or attached schedules:

____

____

____

Initial Trustee: __________________________________

Signature: _____________________________________ Date: ______________

Professional Review Record

Oklahoma counsel review completed by: ________________________ Date: ________

Scope or written comments attached: ____

CPA / tax / accounting review completed by: ____________________ Date: ________

Scope or written comments attached: ____

Bank or risk review, if requested: ____________________________ Date: ________

Amendment and Exception Log

Date	Change or exception	Amount affected	Authority / attachment
__________ _	______________________________	$__________	____________________
__________ _	______________________________	$__________	____________________
__________ _	______________________________	$__________	____________________