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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
 CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY
 RESOURCE COMMISSION
 10 Water Street, Suite 225
 Lebanon, NH 03766
 603 727-9484

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August 18, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
 and the Honorable Council
 State House
 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the New Hampshire Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission (CRVRC) to enter into a **RETROACTIVE, SOLE SOURCE** agreement with the Connecticut River Joint Commissions Inc. (VC# 166704-B001), Lebanon, NH, in the amount of \$60,000 to provide administration, management, and program assistance for the CRVRC, effective from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027, upon Governor and Council approval. 100% General Funds.

Funding is available in the following account, with the ability to adjust encumbrances between State Fiscal Years through the Budget Office, if needed and justified.

	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
03-44-44-445010-8678-073-500581	\$30,000	\$30,000
Department of Environmental Services, CT River Valley Resource Commission, Grants Non-Federal		

EXPLANATION

This agreement is **RETROACTIVE** as CRVRC waited until the New Hampshire state budget had been approved before moving forward with the agreement. The agreement is **SOLE SOURCE** because the Connecticut River Joint Commissions Inc. (CRJC) has been the administrative agent of the CRVRC and the Vermont Connecticut River Watershed Advisory Commission (CRWAC) since 1990. The CRJC will provide management and administrative assistance for the CRVRC to assist with carrying out RSA 227-E to protect the resources of the Connecticut River Valley while guiding growth and development. The CRJC will provide the CRVRC with services including, but not limited to, permit review, local Connecticut River subcommittee meeting facilitation and record-keeping, implementation of the Connecticut River Water Resources Management Plan, and general accounting services related to support of the local Connecticut River subcommittees and CRVRC.

The CRVRC, created by the legislature in 1987 and the CRWAC, similarly created in 1988, were directed to cooperate with each other to preserve and protect the resources of the Connecticut River Valley, and to guide its growth and development. They have met together as the CRJC since 1989.

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The total appropriation from the State of New Hampshire is \$60,000. The CRJC receives comparable operating funds from the State of Vermont and raises other funds from federal and private sources to address its legislative mandates for the Connecticut River.

This agreement has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as to form, execution, and content.

We respectfully request your approval.



Edmond Cooley
Chair of the CRVRC

GRANT AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Grantee hereby Mutually agree as follows: GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Identification and Definitions.

1.1. State Agency Name NH Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission (CRVRC)		1.2. State Agency Address Suite 225, 10 Water St., Lebanon, NH 03766	
1.3. Grantee Name Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC)		1.4. Grantee Address Suite 225, 10 Water St., Lebanon, NH 03766	
1.5 Grantee Phone # 603-448-1680	1.5. Account Number 03-44-44-445010-8678-073-500581	1.6. Completion Date June 30, 2027	1.8. Grant Limitation \$60,000
1.9. Grant Officer for State Agency Edmond Cooley, Chair, CRVRC		1.10. State Agency Telephone Number 603-271-2959	
If Grantee is a municipality or village district: "By signing this form we certify that we have complied with any public meeting requirement for acceptance of this grant, including if applicable RSA 31:95-b."			
1.11. Grantee Signature 1 		1.12. Name & Title of Grantee Signor 1 Marie L. Caduto, President, CRJC	
Grantee Signature 2		Name & Title of Grantee Signor 2	
Grantee Signature 3		Name & Title of Grantee Signor 3	
1.13 State Agency Signature(s) 		1.14. Name & Title of State Agency Signor(s) Edmond Cooley, Chair, CRVRC	
1.15. Approval by Attorney General (Form, Substance and Execution) (if G & C approval required) By:  Assistant Attorney General, On: 8 / 20 / 25			
1.16. Approval by Governor and Council (if applicable) By: _____ On: / /			

2. SCOPE OF WORK: In exchange for grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire, acting through the Agency identified in block 1.1 (hereinafter referred to as "the State"), the Grantee identified in block 1.3 (hereinafter referred to as "the Grantee"), shall perform that work identified and more particularly described in the scope of work attached hereto as EXHIBIT A (the scope of work being hereinafter referred to as "the Project").

3. AREA COVERED. Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Grantee shall perform the Project in, and with respect to, the State of New Hampshire.
4. EFFECTIVE DATE: COMPLETION OF PROJECT.
- 4.1. This Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date on the date of approval of this Agreement by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire if required (block 1.16), or upon signature by the State Agency as shown in block 1.14 ("the Effective Date").
- 4.2. Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the Project, including all reports required by this Agreement, shall be completed in ITS entirety prior to the date in block 1.7 (hereinafter referred to as "the Completion Date").
5. GRANT AMOUNT: LIMITATION ON AMOUNT: VOUCHERS: PAYMENT.
- 5.1. The Grant Amount is identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT C, attached hereto.
- 5.2. The manner of, and schedule of payment shall be as set forth in EXHIBIT C.
- 5.3. In accordance with the provisions set forth in EXHIBIT C, and in consideration of the satisfactory performance of the Project, as determined by the State, and as limited by subparagraph 5.5 of these general provisions, the State shall pay the Grantee the Grant Amount. The State shall withhold from the amount otherwise payable to the Grantee under this subparagraph 5.3 those sums required, or permitted, to be withheld pursuant to N.H. RSA 80:7 through 7-c.
- 5.4. The payment by the State of the Grant amount shall be the only, and the complete payment to the Grantee for all expenses, of whatever nature, incurred by the Grantee in the performance hereof, and shall be the only, and the complete, compensation to the Grantee for the Project. The State shall have no liabilities to the Grantee other than the Grant Amount.
- 5.5. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made, hereunder exceed the Grant limitation set forth in block 1.8 of these general provisions.
6. COMPLIANCE BY GRANTEE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS. In connection with the performance of the Project, the Grantee shall comply with all statutes, laws regulations, and orders of federal, state, county, or municipal authorities which shall impose any obligations or duty upon the Grantee, including the acquisition of any and all necessary permits and RSA 31-95-b.
7. RECORDS and ACCOUNTS.
- 7.1. Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, unless otherwise required by the grant terms or the Agency, the Grantee shall keep detailed accounts of all expenses incurred in connection with the Project, including, but not limited to, costs of administration, transportation, insurance, telephone calls, and clerical materials and services. Such accounts shall be supported by receipts, invoices, bills and other similar documents.
- 7.2. Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, unless otherwise required by the grant terms or the Agency pursuant to subparagraph 7.1, at any time during the Grantee's normal business hours, and as often as the State shall demand, the Grantee shall make available to the State all records pertaining to matters covered by this Agreement. The Grantee shall permit the State to audit, examine, and reproduce such records, and to make audits of all contracts, invoices, materials, payrolls, records of personnel, data (as that term is hereinafter defined), and other information relating to all matters covered by this Agreement. As used in this paragraph, "Grantee" includes all persons, natural or fictional, affiliated with, controlled by, or under common ownership with, the entity identified as the Grantee in block 1.3 of these provisions
- 8.
- 8.1. PERSONNEL.
The Grantee shall, at its own expense, provide all personnel necessary to perform the Project. The Grantee warrants that all personnel engaged in the Project shall be qualified to perform such Project, and shall be properly licensed and authorized to perform such Project under all applicable laws.
- 8.2. The Grantee shall not hire, and it shall not permit any subcontractor, subgrantee, or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform the Project, to hire any person who has a contractual relationship with the State, or who is a State officer or employee, elected or appointed.
- 8.3. The Grant Officer shall be the representative of the State hereunder. In the event of any dispute hereunder, the interpretation of this Agreement by the Grant Officer, and his/her decision on any dispute, shall be final.
- 9.
- 9.1. DATA; RETENTION OF DATA; ACCESS.
As used in this Agreement, the word "data" shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations,
- 9.2. computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, paper, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.
- 9.3. Between the Effective Date and the Completion Date the Grantee shall grant to the State, or any person designated by it, unrestricted access to all data for examination, duplication, publication, translation, sale, disposal, or for any other purpose whatsoever.
- 9.4. No data shall be subject to copyright in the United States or any other country by anyone other than the State.
- 9.5. On and after the Effective Date all data, and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, whichever shall first occur.
10. The State, and anyone it shall designate, shall have unrestricted authority to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, in whole or in part, all data.
10. CONDITIONAL NATURE OR AGREEMENT. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability or continued appropriation of funds, and in no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available or appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of those funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately upon giving the Grantee notice of such termination.
11. EVENT OF DEFAULT: REMEDIES.
- 11.1. Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Grantee shall constitute an event of default hereunder (hereinafter referred to as "Events of Default"):
- 11.1.1 Failure to perform the Project satisfactorily or on schedule; or
- 11.1.2 Failure to submit any report required hereunder; or
- 11.1.3 Failure to maintain, or permit access to, the records required hereunder; or
- 11.1.4 Failure to perform any of the other covenants and conditions of this Agreement.
- 11.2. Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:
- 11.2.1 Give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely remedied, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Grantee notice of termination; and
- 11.2.2 Give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the Grant Amount which would otherwise accrue to the Grantee during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Grantee has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Grantee; and
- 11.2.3 Set off against any other obligation the State may owe to the Grantee any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and
- 11.2.4 Treat the agreement as breached and pursue any of its remedies at law or in equity, or both.
12. TERMINATION.
- 12.1. In the event of any early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Project, the Grantee shall deliver to the Grant Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report (hereinafter referred to as the "Termination Report") describing in detail all Project Work performed, and the Grant Amount earned, to and including the date of termination.
- 12.2. In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall entitle the Grantee to receive that portion of the Grant amount earned to and including the date of termination.
- 12.3. In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall in no event relieve the Grantee from any and all liability for damages sustained or incurred by the State as a result of the Grantee's breach of its obligations hereunder.
- 12.4. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, either the State or, except where notice default has been given to the Grantee hereunder, the Grantee, may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice.
13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. No officer, member of employee of the Grantee, and no representative, officer or employee of the State of New Hampshire or of the governing body of the locality or localities in which the Project is to be performed, who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review or

- approval of the undertaking or carrying out of such Project, shall participate in any decision relating to this Agreement which affects his or her personal interest or the interest of any corporation, partnership, or association in which he or she is directly or indirectly interested, nor shall he or she have any personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement or the proceeds thereof.
14. GRANTEE'S RELATION TO THE STATE. In the performance of this Agreement the Grantee, its employees, and any subcontractor or subgrantee of the Grantee are in all respects independent contractors, and are neither agents nor employees of the State. Neither the Grantee nor any of its officers, employees, agents, members, subcontractors or subgrantees, shall have authority to bind the State nor are they entitled to any of the benefits, workmen's compensation or emoluments provided by the State to its employees.
15. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTS. The Grantee shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written consent of the State. None of the Project Work shall be subcontracted or subgranted by the Grantee other than as set forth in Exhibit B without the prior written consent of the State.
16. INDEMNIFICATION. The Grantee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all losses suffered by the State, its officers and employees, and any and all claims, liabilities or penalties asserted against the State, its officers and employees, by or on behalf of any person, on account of, based on, resulting from, arising out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omissions of the Grantee or subcontractor, or subgrantee or other agent of the Grantee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant shall survive the termination of this agreement.
17. INSURANCE.
- 17.1 The Grantee shall, at its own expense, obtain and maintain in force, or shall require any subcontractor, subgrantee or assignee performing Project work to obtain and maintain in force, both for the benefit of the State, the following insurance:
- 17.1.1 Statutory workers' compensation and employees liability insurance for all employees engaged in the performance of the Project, and
- 17.1.2 General liability insurance against all claims of bodily injuries, death or property damage, in amounts not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate for bodily injury or death any one incident, and \$500,000 for property damage in any one incident; and
- 17.2. The policies described in subparagraph 17.1 of this paragraph shall be the standard form employed in the State of New Hampshire, issued by underwriters acceptable to the State, and authorized to do business in the State of New Hampshire. Grantee shall furnish to the State, certificates of insurance for all renewal(s) of insurance required under this Agreement no later than ten (10) days prior to the expiration date of each insurance policy.
18. WAIVER OF BREACH. No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event, or any subsequent Event. No express waiver of any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of any provisions hereof. No such failure of waiver shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions hereof upon any further or other default on the part of the Grantee.
19. NOTICE. Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses first above given.
20. AMENDMENT. This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire, if required or by the signing State Agency.
21. CONSTRUCTION OF AGREEMENT AND TERMS. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the law of the State of New Hampshire, and is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assignees. The captions and contents of the "subject" blank are used only as a matter of convenience, and are not to be considered a part of this Agreement or to be used in determining the intent of the parties hereto.
22. THIRD PARTIES. The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.
23. ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings relating hereto.
24. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. The additional or modifying provisions set forth in Exhibit A hereto are incorporated as part of this agreement.

EXHIBIT A
SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Contract funds are to be used solely for the services and related costs described in the Scope of Services.

Paragraph 17 is stricken as CRJC is comprised of governmental entities and will be performing only administrative functions.

There are no other special provisions.

Grantee Initials NYC
Date 7/29/25

EXHIBIT B
SCOPE OF SERVICES

TITLE: NH Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission – Management and Administration

ASSISTANCE AREA: New Hampshire side of the Connecticut River Valley

OBJECTIVE: The Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) will provide management and administrative assistance for the NH Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission (CRVRC) to assist with carrying out RSA 227-E to protect the resources of the Connecticut River Valley.

WORK TASKS:

Task 1: Provide the local river subcommittees of the CRJC with administrative support that enables them to carry out the mission of the CRJC.

- a) Provide staff support to the local river subcommittees of the CRJC, preparing minutes, reports, and agendas for meetings.
- b) Assist the local river subcommittees in responding to and providing comment on permits affecting the watershed.
- c) Provide staff support to the local river subcommittees by maintaining electronic files of subcommittee correspondence and permit review comments.
- d) Assist the local river subcommittees with coordination, communication, and outreach.
- e) Provide for the maintenance of contact databases that enable efficient communications and build support for the local river subcommittees.
- f) Assist the local river subcommittees with the submission of annual and biennial reports to riverfront municipalities, the NH Department of Environmental Services, and the NH Rivers Management Advisory Committee in accordance with RSA 483:8-a.
- g) Assist the local river subcommittees in recruitment of new members and provide education and outreach to build capacity within the subcommittees.

Task 2: Provide administrative services to meetings of the Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission (CRVRC), the Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) and standing subcommittees and working groups of said commissions (e.g., FERC Relicensing Work Group).

- a) Develop agendas, properly notice meetings to the public, and prepare minutes.
- b) Provide staff support by maintaining electronic files of CRVRC, CRJC, and subcommittee correspondence.
- c) Facilitate coordination between the CRVRC and its Vermont counterpart, the Connecticut River Watershed Advisory Commission.
- d) Maintain a database of names of local officials, riverfront landowners, agricultural businesses, tourism and recreational interests as well as the public who are interested in the work of CRVRC and/or the CRJC.
- e) Assist the CRVRC with outreach to the public. Provide the public and members of the CRVRC and CRJC with information and education that builds capacity for the organization.

Grantee Initials

Date

MJC
7/29/25

- f) Provide grant writing services as needed that promote the strategic initiatives outlined in the Connecticut River Water Resources Management Plan and that further the capacity of the CRVRC and the CRJC.
- g) Maintain a website for the CRJC that informs the work of the CRVRC.
- h) Assist CRVRC members in the recruitment and nomination of representatives to CRVRC to ensure that all CRVRC seats are filled.

Task 3: Provide fiscal management to the CRJC.

- a) Provide accounting and auditing services to ensure proper accounting procedures and reporting are in place.
- b) Provide Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable services.
- c) Ensure proper accounting for any match requirements by other funders.
- d) Provide monthly financial summaries, cash flow analysis and, if necessary for funding purposes, develop an Indirect Cost Analysis that provides a rate using methodology approved by the funding entity.

Task 4: Develop an Annual Report.

- a) An annual report for each Fiscal Year (FY2026 and FY2027) will be delivered to the NH CRVRC and the NH Department of Environmental Services that outlines the work that was completed and the financial activities by August 31st of each year.
- b) CRVRC Commission members and CRJC will be prepared to meet with NHDES and any appropriate audiences to explain the current financial and administrative condition of the organizations.

Responsible Parties: The Administration of this contract shall be under the supervision of both the CRVRC and the CRJC and its elected officers.

Proposed Timeline: The contract shall be in effect from July 1, 2025 until June 30, 2027.

Grantee Initials MJC
Date 7/29/25

EXHIBIT C

Method of Payment and Payment Schedule

CRJC shall invoice the NH CRVRC quarterly based on actual project expenses incurred for those three months. All services shall be performed to the satisfaction of NH CRVRC and NHDES before payment is made. All payments shall be made upon receipt and approval that the tasks have been performed and upon receipt of an associated invoice. Supporting documentation shall be submitted with the invoices demonstrating work completed. Total contract shall not exceed \$60,000.

Grantee Initials
Date 7/29/25

CERTIFICATE OF VOTE
(Corporate Authority)

I, **Jason Rasmussen**, Duly Elected Treasurer of Connecticut River Joint Commissions, Inc. (hereinafter the "Corporation"), a New Hampshire corporation, hereby certify that:

- (1) I am the duly elected and acting Treasurer of the Corporation;
- (2) I maintain and have custody and am familiar with the minute books of the Corporation;
- (3) I am duly authorized to issue certificates with respect to the contents of such books;
- (4) that the Board of Directors of the Corporation has authorized such authority to be in force and effect on June 20, 2022.

The person(s) holding the below listed position(s) are authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Corporation any contract or other instrument for the sale of products and services:

Marie Caduto, President
Jeffrey Miller, Secretary

- (5) the meeting of the Board of Directors was held in accordance with State of New Hampshire law and the by-laws of the Corporation; and
- (6) said authorization has not been modified, amended or rescinded and continues in full force and effect as of the date hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand as the Treasurer of the Corporation this 24th day of July 2025.

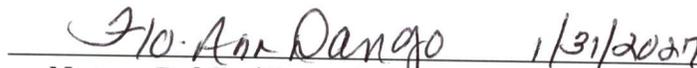


Jason Rasmussen, Treasurer

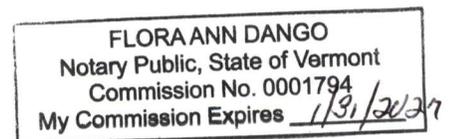
STATE OF VERMONT
COUNTY OF WINDSOR

On this 24 day of July 2025, before me, Flora Ann Dango the undersigned Officer, personally appeared **Jason Rasmussen** who acknowledged himself to be the **Treasurer** of Connecticut River Joint Commissions, Inc., a corporation and that he as such **Treasurer** being authorized to do so, executed the foregoing instrument for the purposed therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.



Notary Public/Commission Expiration Date



State of New Hampshire

Department of State

CERTIFICATE

I, David M. Scanlan, Secretary of State of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that CONNECTICUT RIVER JOINT COMMISSIONS, INC. is a New Hampshire Nonprofit Corporation registered to transact business in New Hampshire on August 23, 1990. I further certify that all fees and documents required by the Secretary of State's office have been received and is in good standing as far as this office is concerned.

Business ID: **172695**

Certificate Number: **0007249350**



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,

I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed
the Seal of the State of New Hampshire,
this 1st day of August A.D. 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Scanlan".

David M. Scanlan
Secretary of State

**Attachment A
Budget Estimate**

Budget Item	Jul 2025- Jun-26	Jul 2026- Jun-27	Total
Salaries & Benifits	\$24,500.00	\$24,500.00	\$49,000.00
Travel	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$3,600.00
Supplies & Services	\$3,700.00	\$3,700.00	\$7,400.00
Equipment			\$0.00
Facilities & Administrative Costs			\$0.00
Subtotals	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$60,000.00
In-Kind Contribution			\$0.00
Total Project Cost	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$60,000.00