

**DIVERSION AUTHORITY
PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE
FARGO CITY HALL – COMMISSION ROOM
1:30 P.M.
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2019**

The Diversion Authority Public Outreach Committee met Wednesday, June 26, 2019, at Fargo City Hall. The following Committee members were present: Rodger Olson, Cass County Joint Water Resources District Manager; Kevin Campbell, Clay County Commissioner; Mike Thorstad, West Fargo City Commissioner; Vern Bennett, Cass County Commissioner; Jacob Gust, Cass County Water Resource District Manager; and Rick Steen, Cass County Commission.

The following Committee Members were absent: John Strand, Fargo City Commissioner; Grant Weyland, Clay County Commissioner; Joel Paulsen, Moorhead City Councilman; and Gerald Van Amburg, Buffalo Red River Watershed District Manager.

Others present were: Jason Benson, Cass County Engineer; Matt Stamness, Assistant Cass County Engineer; Greg Thielman, Houston Moore Group; and Rocky Schneider and Sadie Moen, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Service, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kevin Campbell at 1:30 p.m.. Mr. Rick Steen motioned to approve the meeting minutes from May. Mr. Jacob Gust seconded the motions. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PROJECT TALKING POINTS

Mr. Schneider present the FM Diversion talking points. He presented the packet of what is updated, and how the updates will be shown. Word changes that are minimal will not be presented as a change compared to the other major changes in red. Information about the Buffalo Red River Watershed District (BRRWD) permit was changed the most this past month.

LANDS OUTREACH ACTIVITES

a) CLOMR UPDATE

Mr. Schneider explained the CLOMR has been submitted to FEMA. There was discussion on how contacts need to be made with entities. It was done in the past, and it should be done again. Mr. Schneider also discussed how the MOU's can be used as an outreach touch point.

MN ASSOCIATION OF WATERSHED DISTRICTS CONFERENCE AND TOUR

Mr. Schneider talked about the watershed conference in Moorhead on Saturday. There will be more than 120 people going on the tour to see the inlet structures and construction.

CONSTRUCTION VISUALS

Mr. Schneider discussed drone footage of the inlet structure. It was discussed on what the best balance would be to show the project. Mr. Schneider explained that the downtown construction has been the most beneficial based on the location and its proximity to the population.

FMDIVERSION.COM TRAFFIC AND SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICS

Mr. Schneider explained that the analytics are lower this month due no construction, but as construction starts to pick up so will the analytics. There has also been some traffic due to news related to the BRRWD permit.

THREE QUESTION VIDEO

Mr. Schneider played the three-question video of Vern Bennett. Mr. Schneider explained that there is a lot of history on the project and we need to preserve that.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Campbell discussed about the Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement between Moorhead and Clay County has been approved. The kickoff meeting of the board will be in July.

Mr. Campbell discussed the chair sending out a release statement about next steps in relation to the BRRWD. He concurs with the chair's statement.

Mr. Campbell discussed changing the Public Outreach meeting time to 2:00.

Mr. Schneider talked about the Water Topics overview committee request for a presentation on August 1. Messaging was discussed.

Mr. Gust noted the Cass and Clay County meetings that recently occurred. They are discussing more than 45 properties for appraisals and buyouts.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.