

A regular meeting of the Metro Flood Diversion Authority Land Management Committee was held on October 27, 2021. The following members were present: Mary Scherling, Cass County Commissioner; Kory Peterson, Mayor, City of Horace; Bruce Grubb, Fargo City Administrator; Kevin Campbell, Clay County Commissioner; Nathan Boerboom, Fargo Division Engineer; Jenny Mongeau, Clay County Commissioner; Bob Zimmerman, Moorhead City Engineer; Chuck Hendrickson, Moorhead City Council; Rodger Olson, Cass County Joint Water Resource District and Duane Breitling, Cass County Commissioner.

Member absent: Arlette Preston, Fargo City Commissioner.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Mrs. Scherling called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

**2. AGENDA REVIEW**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Mr. Campbell moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

**3. MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION PASSED**

**Mr. Olson moved to approve the minutes from July 2021 and Mr. Breitling seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**4. PRPROPERTY ACQUISITION STATUS REPORT**

All the properties along the channel have been acquired and to date, 599 properties have been acquired. 257 environmental easements have been put in place and 127 are in negotiations. All the Drain 27 parcels should be finalized by month end.

**5. a. PRAM**

Version IV was utilized for the DNR permit. We are currently working on updating to Version VI since the permitting process has been completed. PRAM will address both Minnesota and North Dakota. The final document will be shared upon completion.

**b. Flowage Easement Valuation**

Crown is currently working on the appraisals and anticipate being completed by year end. The valuations will be reviewed by CCJWRD/MCCJPA and offers will go out upon approval. The goal is to have them all acquired by early 2025.

**c. Cemetery Mitigation**

A mitigation policy is currently being developed. Six cemeteries are being affected and two will have view shed impacts. We will be conducting GPR to identify any unmarked or abandoned graves.

**d. 2022 Farmland Management**

Lease agreements are entered into each year, and we are currently working on getting the 2022 leases signed.

**e. Lands Director**

Mr. Paulsen reported that the lands director will be starting on Monday. In addition to lands, she will be assisting with communication strategies and website redevelopment.

**6. CROP INSURANCE FOCUS GROUP**

The Diversion Authority is offering crop insurance to affected upstream farms. The frameworks has been established and additional details will be relayed as they arise.

**7. RELOCATION BENEFITS INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS**

Approximately 70 rural landowners will be displaced and will need to be relocated. Informational meetings will be held in mid-December for those that will be affected.

**8. CCJWRD UPDATE**

Mr. Olson reported that the land agents have again relayed the difficulty in negotiating due to land values and appraisals and five RHD payments have been approved.

**9. MCCJPA UPDATE**

Mr. Campbell reported that the two properties needed for the RRCS have been acquired, a settlement negotiation is underway on a third property (easement) and the fourth property will likely being moving forward as LRED.

**10. MetroCOG UPDATE**

There was no update.

**11. COMMITTEE UPDATE FOR DA BOARD**

Mrs. Scherling indicated that an update will be provided at the board of authority meeting tomorrow.

**12. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**13. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be November 17, 2021.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mayor Peterson moved, and Mr. Campbell seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:48 PM.**