Metro Flood Diversion Authority Land Management Committee Meeting Minutes 3 PM – January 26, 2022



A regular meeting of the Metro Flood Diversion Authority Land Management committee was held on January 26, 2022. The following members were present: Mary Scherling, Cass County Commissioner; Bruce Grubb, Fargo City Administrator; Kevin Campbell, Clay County Commissioner; Nathan Boerboom, Fargo Division Engineer; Rodger Olson, Cass County Joint Water Resource District; Jenny Mongeau, Clay County Commissioner; Chuck Hendrickson, Moorhead City Council and Duane Breitling, Cass County Commissioner.

Members absent: Kory Peterson, Mayor, City of Horace; Arlette Preston, Fargo City Commissioner and Bob Zimmerman, Moorhead City Engineer.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Mr. Campbell called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

#### 2. AGENDA REVIEW

## **MOTION PASSED**

Ms. Mongeau moved to approve the agenda as presented and Mr. Hendrickson seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

## 3. SELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2022

Mr. Olson nominated Mr. Campbell as chair of the committee and Mr. Campbell declined the nomination. Mr. Olson subsequently nominated Mrs. Scherling as chair.

## **MOTION PASSED**

Mr. Olson nominated Mrs. Scherling to continue as chair of the committee. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

#### **MOTION PASSED**

Mrs. Scherling nominated Mr. Campbell as the vice chair and Mr. Breitling seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

## 4. MEETING MINUTES

#### **MOTION PASSED**

Mr. Olson moved to approve the minutes from November 2021 and Mr. Hendrickson seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion carried.



#### 5. FLOWAGE EASEMENT UPDATE

Ms. Smith and Mr. Dodds provided an update on the flowage easement offer packets.

# Flowage Easement Offer Packet



## **Next Steps**



#### 6. CEMETERY MITIGATION PLAN AND PRESENTATION

Mr. Shockley provided an overview of the cemetery mitigation plan.

## **Background**

- FEIS states cemeteries in the Staging Area will be impacted by the Comprehensive Project
- USACE released federal cemetery mitigation plan identifying options for impacted cemeteries
- MN DNR Dam Safety and Public Waters Work Permit Condition No. 25 requires the Authority to address impacts to cemeteries in MN
- Authority formed Local Cemetery Mitigation Team to build upon USACE's efforts and to create mitigation plan
- Settlement Agreement requires Authority to provide funds and plans for cemeteries
- PRAM requires development of Cemetery Protection Plan
- Very limited resources to use as precedent for development for the cemetery mitigation plan



## **Purpose**

- Plan A was the basis for federal cemetery study conducted by USACE
- As a result of approval of Plan B and changes to the comprehensive Project, the Authority developed the Cemetery Protection Plan
- The Cemetery Protection Plan identifies impacts and mitigation measures for cemeteries in the Staging Area impacted by the Comprehensive Project

## **Impacted Cemeteries**

Six cemeteries may experience impacts as a result of the Comprehensive Project:

- Clara Cemetery
- Eagle Valley Evangelical Cemetery
- Hemnes Cemetery
- North Pleasant Cemetery
- Roen Family Cemetery
- Wolverton Cemetery

## 7. PROPERTY ACQUISITION STATUS REPORT

Mr. Dodds reported that all parcels along the channel have been acquired. LRED trials were to begin in January, but several agreements have since been reached. Over 750 parcels have been acquired to date. Flowage easement letters will go out to approximately 500 property owners in February 2022.

# 8. CCJWRD UPDATE

Mr. Olson reported that they are meeting tomorrow. They have an offer for a homeowner, and farm rental contracts will be approved. Work continues on the Environmental Monitoring Easements.

# 9. MCCJPA UPDATE

Mr. Campbell reported that they meet tomorrow, and he will provide an update at the board meeting.

## 10. COMMITTEE UPDATE FOR DA BOARD

Mr. Dodds shared the following status report will be provided to the board tomorrow.

- Acquisitions
- Continue working on acquiring property for: Southern Embankment Reach 2A, Upstream Structures and Structure Sites, Environmental Monitoring Easements
- Acquired property interests on nearly 750 parcels (including those acquired via last resort eminent domain, and including split parcels)



• Completed acquisitions for: Diversion Channel, SE-1, I-29 Road Raise, Diversion Inlet Structure, Wild Rice River Control Structure, Red River Control Structure, Drayton Dam, and Drain 27 Wetland

# Appraisal Work

- Appraisals being completed for Upstream Structures (farmsteads, rural residential, etc.)
- Phase 2 Flowage Easement Appraisals are done, being reviewed and will be presented to CCJWRD and MCCJPA for approval in February 2022

## Other Key Focus Areas

- Preparing Flowage Easement offer packet
- Supporting current eminent domain actions and settlement solutions
- Relocations and farmstead re-establishment planning and 2022 farmland lease arrangements

## 11. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

#### 10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be February 23, 2022.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Breitling moved, and Mr. Olson seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:37 PM.