

MINUTES OF MEETING  
DIVERSION AUTHORITY PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE  
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
JUNE 12, 2013

The Diversion Authority Public Outreach Committee met on June 12, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

The following Committee members were present: Rodger Olson, Cass County Joint Water Resource District, Chairman; Kevin Campbell, Clay County Commissioner; Ken Pawluk, Cass County Commissioner; Mike Thorstad, West Fargo City Commissioner; Brenda Elmer, Moorhead City Commissioner; and Jacob Gust, ad hoc Committee Member. Absent: Brad Wimmer, Fargo City Commissioner; and Gerald Van Amburg, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District.

Also present were Tom O'Hara, CH2MHill; Eric Dodds, Daron Selvig and Rocky Schneider, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.; Lyndon Pease, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Cass County Joint Water Resource District Secretary-Treasurer; Sharon Josephson, Congressman Collin Peterson's Office; and Don Nelson, property owner in the Comstock area.

Rodger Olson called the meeting to order.

**Approval of agenda order**

It was moved by Kevin Campbell, seconded by Ken Pawluk and unanimously carried to approve the order of the agenda.

**Minutes**

It was moved by Mike Thorstad, seconded by Kevin Campbell and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2013, meeting.

**Right of Entry Committee report**

Lyndon Pease updated the Committee on access issues relating to the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project. URS is conducting cultural surveys north of the Sheyenne River, along the lower Rush River, on the project alignment and along roadways. The work should be completed by the end of this week.

Phase II cultural surveys will be conducted the end of this month and into July on a burial site by the Sheyenne River. Similar work will be completed this fall north of the Maple River.

The Cass County Joint Water Resource District will be taking one parcel through the court process for Phase I cultural work this fall.

### **Corps of Engineers Environmental Assessment (EA) Public Review process**

Eric Dodds said the Corps of Engineers is working to publish the EA documents, which will be posted on the Diversion Authority website. A link will be set up on the website so people can submit comments, which will go directly to the Corps of Engineers staff.

### **Minnesota legislative briefing update**

A meeting was held with Senator Eken, Representative Marquart and Representative Lien to update them on the project. They asked to be engaged in future meetings.

### **North Dakota State Water Commission meeting**

Darrell Vanyo, Keith Berndt and Pat Zavoral have been presenting regular updates at State Water Commission meetings. The project schedule and brochure were included in their meeting packets.

### **North Dakota Water Education Foundation summer water tours**

Project brochures have been provided for summer water tours held by the North Dakota Water Education Foundation (NDWEF).

Carol Harbeke Lewis reported that she contacted the NDWEF about holding a tour here next summer and they are planning to do so. She also inquired about including a monthly article in the *North Dakota Water* magazine. More information will be sought relating to the cost to do so.

### **Draft upstream mitigation timeline**

The Corps of Engineers will allow expanding the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke ring levee to accommodate 38 additional properties for relocations. It is hoped the same thing can be accomplished in the Comstock, Minnesota, area.

### **Upcoming public meetings**

A meeting relating to the EA will be held in Moorhead on June 25th.

A meeting will be held with property owners in the Harwood area on June 26th. Discussion will focus on drainage, transportation and land acquisition relating to the project.

A meeting with residents in the Comstock area has been tentatively scheduled in August.

### **Upcoming presentation**

The Home Builders Association has requested a technical presentation. This will be held on June 20th.

**E-Newsletter and FMDiversion.com update**

Daron Selvig reviewed additions to the project website and topics of articles that will be included in the next E-newsletter that will be released after the Diversion Authority meeting.

The *Public Outreach Committee Report* was reviewed. The report will be presented to the Diversion Authority at its meeting tomorrow.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to be considered, the meeting adjourned without objection.

APPROVED:

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Rodger Olson  
Chairman

ATTEST:

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Carol Harbeke Lewis  
Cass County Joint Water Resource District  
Secretary-Treasurer