

NOTES OF MEETING  
DIVERSION AUTHORITY PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE  
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

The Diversion Authority Public Outreach Committee met on September 10, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

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

Also present were Rocky Schneider and Daron Selvig, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.; Lyndon Pease, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Justin Forde, Senator John Hoeven's Office; Jason Benson, Cass County Engineer; Julie Norman and Brenda Lovgren, Cass County Joint Water Resource District Administrative Assistants; and Don Nelson, property owner in the Comstock area.

**Minutes**

Meeting minutes for August 13, 2014, were not approved due to insufficient quorum.

**Right of Entry Committee report**

Lyndon Pease updated the Committee on access issues and survey work needed for the Metro Flood Diversion Project and the In Town Levees Project.

Access is needed for the Corp of Engineers to do sediment samples and channel surveys on the Wild Rice River, as well as cultural resources surveys for surrounding cemeteries. Access agreements will be sent to points of contact by the end of next week.

**Mitigation update**

Two *Requests for Qualifications* (RFQ) submittals were received by Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. The RFQ would look at the value of crop insurance and the effect on flowage easement values, with and without crop insurance. The bid opening was held on September 8, 2014.

The Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project has met every construction goal to date.

### **Minnesota Governor Dayton's visit**

Governor Dayton met with Breckenridge and Moorhead local officials. Residents shared perspectives and concerns were addressed.

A letter has been provided to Governor Dayton as a follow-up to his visit regarding permanent flood protection. Topics focused on were:

- Limiting work on the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Ring Levee Project to 100-year protection until the Environment Impact Statement (EIS) is complete;
- Delaying construction of the diversion channel until the EIS is complete;
- Adding broader geographic representation to the Diversion Authority Board; and
- Expediting the resolution of the pending litigation.

### **ND Legislative Update**

A presentation on the Metro Flood Diversion Project budget will be made to the legislative committee on September 24, 2014.

### **Diversion Authority community meetings**

A meeting was held with the Park East residents to update them on the In Town Levees Project. Additional meetings will be scheduled to answer concerns. Meetings were also held with the Red River Basin Commission and the Clay County candidates. A meeting in Comstock is scheduled for September 18, 2014.

### **E-Newsletter /FMDiversion.com update**

Daron Selvig reported the letter to Governor Dayton will be published on the website. Topics for the next E-Newsletter will include an article regarding local cemeteries and the Diversion Authority budget. He also reported that FMDiversion.com readership has increased over the last 2-3 months.