

MINUTES OF MEETING
DIVERSION AUTHORITY PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
AUGUST 8, 2012

The Diversion Authority Public Outreach Committee met on August 8, 2012, 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; Mike Thorstad, West Fargo City Commissioner; and Gerald VanAmburg, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District. Brenda Elmer, Moorhead City Commissioner; and Brad Wimmer, Fargo City Commissioner, were absent.

Also present were Tom Waters, CH2MHill; Daron Selvig, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.; Lee Beauvais and Lyndon Pease, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Cass County Joint Water Resource District Secretary-Treasurer.

Minutes

It was moved by Mike Thorstad, seconded by Gerald VanAmburg and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2012, meeting.

Right of Entry Committee report

Lee Beauvais reported on the status of access for survey work regarding the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project. Access has been obtained from 22 of the 23 sites for biotic surveys. Cultural work is finishing up and two landowners will be contacted for cultural surveys. The Corps of Engineers will be in the area to finish up htrw surveys in the next couple of weeks. Payment for Phase II cultural surveys and the installation of piezometers will be discussed at the next Cass County Joint Water Resource District meeting.

Public Outreach Committee Charter

It was moved by Kevin Campbell and seconded by Mike Thorstad to approve the Public Outreach Committee Charter, as amended. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Post-Feasibility Study outreach plan

An informational meeting will be held with the entities that make up the Diversion Authority at 7:30 a.m. on September 13, 2012, at the Courtyard by Marriott in Moorhead to hear the results of Post-Feasibility Studies. A summarized version of the information

will be presented at the Diversion Authority meeting that day at 3:30 p.m. and a public meeting will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott in Moorhead at 6:30 p.m. The preferred technical solutions will be heard and information will be gathered from the entities involved, as well as the public. A formal recommendation will be made in October for consideration by the Diversion Authority. The Corps of Engineers may or may not support it, but they have the obligation to vent it through their system, which may require further study or they may elevate the decision to headquarters.

Committee members concurred with the concept and indicated they want to make sure the public and the entities that make up the Diversion Authority have enough time to consider any new alternatives.

Presentations / meetings

A presentation will be made at the Fargo West Rotary Club meeting at 11:45 a.m. on Monday at the Holiday Inn. Meetings have also been held with River Keepers, Cass County Electric Cooperative and the Home Builders Association of Fargo-Moorhead.

Property and project location inquiries

Daron Selvig reported that they are looking toward utilizing a web application for property and project location inquiries.

E-Newsletter / FMDiversion.com update

Mr. Selvig reviewed the topics of five articles that will appear in the August E-Newsletter. The FMDiversion.com website now has links to *You Tube* showing presentations from the North Dakota Water Education Foundation Executive Briefing on July 13, 2012.

Finance Committee information

Mr. Thorstad informed Committee members that the Finance Committee has formed a Special Assessment District Committee to look into using special assessments. He suggested the Public Outreach Committee stay up-to-speed with that process.

Mr. Campbell said funding by the State of Minnesota still needs to be determined. Its share of operation and maintenance may need to be based on an assessment district also.

Jacob Gust added as an ad hoc member of the Public Outreach Committee

The Committee agreed to add Jacob Gust as an ad hoc member of the Public Outreach Committee.

Adjournment

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

APPROVED:

Rodger Olson
Chairman

ATTEST:

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