

MINUTES OF MEETING  
DIVERSION AUTHORITY PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE  
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
OCTOBER 10, 2012

The Diversion Authority Public Outreach Committee met on October 10, 2012, at 8:30 a.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; Mike Thorstad, West Fargo City Commissioner; Kevin Campbell, Clay County Commissioner; and Jacob Gust, ad hoc Committee Member. Brad Wimmer, Fargo City Commissioner; Brenda Elmer, Moorhead City Commissioner; and Gerald VanAmburg, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District; were absent.

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

**Minutes**

It was moved by Mike Thorstad, seconded by Rodger Olson and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2012, meeting.

**Public outreach plans for upstream communities**

Information has been provided to the City of Oxbow, Hickson and Bakke Subdivision with regard to the concept of a ring dike to protect those areas. The Corps of Engineers will be involved with planning and design for the ring dike because it would be part of the Federal Project. A decision on whether to accept the concept does not need to be made immediately. Residents from those areas are encouraged to come forward and have a discussion so that their questions can be answered.

Mr. Olson said access was one of the concerns expressed, but the roads will be built up in that area, so they will have access. Mr. Dodds added that there would be an evacuation plan for extreme flood events. The ring dike would provide 500-year protection, which would be greater than the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project would provide. Kevin Campbell said protecting those communities would also benefit the Kindred school district.

Horace officials have asked for a public meeting so the people they represent can have their questions answered relating to the project. A meeting is being planned for October 25, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. at the Horace Senior Citizen Center.

A meeting will be held in West Fargo in the future.

**Outreach and Communications Plan**

Copies of the draft *Outreach and Communications Plan* were distributed. Daron Selvig asked the Committee members to review it and let them know any thoughts they have.

**E-Newsletter / FMDiversion.com update / outreach meetings**

Mr. Selvig said there will be a post-feasibility update, an update from the Corps of Engineers and articles on the financing model and the economics surrounding the project in the next E-newsletter to be released Monday.

An article has been posted on FMDiversion.com explaining the difference between a floodway and the floodplain. A number of comments were left on the site last week after information was released pertaining to the concept of the ring dike around the City of Oxbow, Hickson and Bakke Subdivision.

Brad Wimmer, Mark Bittner and Eric Dodds gave a presentation on the project at a Kiwanis club meeting.

The NDSU Department of Emergency Management will hold a four-part speaker series on the project for all interested NDSU students, faculty and staff.

**Meeting with Federal officials**

Tom Waters said a trip to Washington, D.C. is being planned for Diversion Authority members on October 24 and 25, 2012. They hope to meet with various administrative officials to remind them of the need for the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to be considered, it was moved by Mike Thorstad, seconded by Kevin Campbell and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rodger Olson  
Chairman

ATTEST:

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