

MINUTES OF MEETING
DIVERSION AUTHORITY PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
DECEMBER 12, 2012

The Diversion Authority Public Outreach Committee met on December 12, 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; Brad Wimmer, Fargo City Commissioner; Mike Thorstad, West Fargo City Commissioner; and Jacob Gust, ad hoc Committee Member. Brenda Elmer, Moorhead City Commissioner; and Gerald Van Amburg, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District; were absent.

Also present were Tom O'Hara, CH2MHill; Eric Dodds and Daron Selvig, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.; Jason Benson, Cass County Engineer; Lyndon Pease, Moore Engineering, Inc.; and Carol Harbeke Lewis, Cass County Joint Water Resource District Secretary-Treasurer.

Minutes

It was moved by Kevin Campbell, seconded by Brad Wimmer and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2012, meeting.

Outreach meetings

Rodger Olson gave an update on the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project at the Cass County Township Officers' Meeting in Casselton on November 29, 2012. Lee Beauvais and Gregg Thielman, Houston-Moore Group, LLC, presented information relating to transportation and drainage issues.

Another outreach meeting will be scheduled in Harwood when the Corps of Engineers completes design work for that area. The meeting will likely be held sometime in March 2013. Transportation, drainage and land acquisition will also be discussed at the meeting. Jacob Gust asked if they will have information available on land acquisition costs. Tom O'Hara said they are doing a high level re-estimation of land costs and hope to have more information in January or February 2013.

Update on ring levee proposals

The Corps of Engineers will be holding a meeting with property owners in Oxbow, Hickson and Bakke Subdivision on January 8, 2013, at Bennett Elementary School. They will meet with landowners individually on January 9 and 10, 2013.

Mitigation conditions submitted by the City of Oxbow will be discussed at the Diversion Authority meeting tomorrow.

E-Newsletter

Daron Selvig reviewed topics of articles that will be included in the next E-newsletter that will be released Monday.

FMDiversion.com update

Mr. Selvig said the new alignment maps have been added to the website, as well as any new questions, answers and comments. He asked the committee to let them know if they see anything that needs to be changed or if they have any additions.

Meetings with legislators and local officials

Meetings will be held with Cass County legislators to update them on the project. Mr. O'Hara said it may be time to provide another periodic update to the entities that make up the Diversion Authority also.

Eric Dodds attended a meeting with chamber leadership lately and they plan to continue their effort to form a flood task force. He will meet with them once a month to keep them updated on the project. Mr. Wimmer and Mr. Campbell will participate in the task force.

Mr. O'Hara said they attended a recent "Business After Hours" event held by the Chamber where they discussed the project with people and handed out information.

Mr. Dodds said they plan to keep the Home Builders Association of Fargo-Moorhead and local realtors updated on the project also.

Right of Entry Committee report

Lyndon Pease reviewed the status of access needed for surveys and testing regarding the project. The Corps of Engineers is doing additional soil borings in the area to obtain geotechnical information to determine soil stability. Access will be needed for soil borings from Main Avenue to 4th Avenue North for downtown levees.

Access to one site for the installation of a piezometer is still needed. Piezometers read and log ground water activity, which will be monitored through construction and post construction.

Adjournment

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

APPROVED:

Rodger Olson
Chairman

ATTEST:

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