



**Diversion Authority Public Outreach Committee
Minutes
2:00 P.M. - Wednesday, September 25, 2019
City of Fargo Commission Chambers
Fargo, North Dakota**

Permanent, Reliable Flood Protection

The Diversion Authority Public Outreach Committee met Wednesday, September 25, 2019, at Fargo City Hall. The following committee members were present: Rodger Olson, Cass County Joint Water Resource District; Kevin Campbell, Clay County Commissioner; Mike Thorstad, West Fargo City Commissioner; Jake Gust, Cass County Joint water Resource District; Rick Steen, Cass County Commissioner; John Strand, Fargo City Commissioner; and Shelly Carlson, Moorhead City Council Member.

The following committee members were absent: Grant Weyland, Clay County Commissioner; and Vern Bennett, Cass County Commissioner.

Others Present where: Joel Paulsen, Executive Director; Mary Scherling, Cass County Commissioner; Matt Stamness, Assistant Cass County Engineer; Keith Weston, Red River Retention Authority; Eric Dodds, Tammy Jo Taft, and Rocky Schneider, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Service, Inc.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Olson at 2:01 p.m.. Mr. Steen motioned to approve the meeting minutes from July. Mr. Gust seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PROJECT TALKING POINTS

Mr. Schneider went through the updated talking points. There was discussion about changing the name of the talking points document. Mr. Olson asked what other groups the talking points should be sent out to. Mr. Paulsen said a master list can be developed.

CLOMR OUTREACH

Mr. Schneider noted the CLOMR has been submitted to FEMA. This was also done two years ago. There has been a number of outreach activities associated with this submittal including letters to entities. Mr. Paulsen explained he will also be presenting to entities. Mr. Campbell noted that people should know that a response is not always receive. There was discussion on what a CLOMR means and what happens when entities respond to the letters.

ANIMATED FLYOVER

The committee watched a video of an animated flyover to get feedback.

CONSTRUCTION FLYOVER

Mrs. Taft showed a recent UAS flyover. Ms. Carlson requested for some notes on the video to give the viewer more information.

ANALYTICS

Mrs. Taft explained that the URL changed from .com to .gov. She also showed what the newsletter looks like.

JASON BENSON MINUTE

Mrs. Taft showed two one-minute videos with facts about the Diversion.

PLANNING DOCUMENT

Mr. Schneider explained that this document was outlined in the communication plan. Mr. Campbell asked if the MCCJPA and CCJPA meetings could be listed on the document. Mr. Paulsen said that people are welcome to come and discuss issues. Mr. Schneider mentioned having goals/planning process so the we have a clear direction and ability to measure efforts by. Mr. Paulsen would like to update the plan since it has not been done in three years. Something will happen within the next quarter.

OUTREACH PRESENTATIONS

There was discussing about completed and upcoming public presentations including meetings regarding biological and geomorphic monitoring. Mr. Olson noted that public presentations and meetings provide a good opportunity for property owners to ask questions and have more information about easements.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Steen asked if we have given consideration to a regular publication in the Forum. Mr. Paulsen explained that he has been thinking about something similar to that and would like it to be discussed at both committee and board levels. He explained that he would be open to writing a letter once a month to explain project updates and clear up any miscommunication in the community. Mr. Steen asked Mr. Paulsen to see if her could reach out to other papers in the community as well. Mr. Paulsen explained that he will need help from the committee and board to figure out what communication needs to be out. Mr. Gust explained how he had to explain how he has had to show justification for the diversion. Mr. Paulsen explained how we should think about this more and bring it up at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m..