

Joint Water Resource District to lead development of assessment district plan

Mr. Montplaisir said the committee recommends the Cass County Joint Water Resource District (CCJWRD) be assigned to develop a special assessment district plan for the North Dakota local cost share. Mr. Campbell discussed the Minnesota cost share and said the State of Minnesota will pay for construction costs, and options will need to be considered later on how to pay for operation and maintenance costs.

Mark Brodshaug, Chairman of the CCJWRD, was present. He briefly discussed the tasks of the Cass County Joint Water Resource District, Finance Committee and Diversion Project Assessment Committee (DPAC) in the development of a special assessment district. The DPAC will consist of 11 people and will be comprised of five CCJWRD members; one City of West Fargo representative; three City of Fargo representatives; and two Cass County representatives.

MOTION, passed

Mr. Mahoney moved and Mr. Wimmer seconded to assign the Cass County Joint Water Resource District (CCJWRD) to develop a special assessment district plan for the North Dakota local cost share of the FM Area Flood Diversion Project. On roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Houston-Moore Group (HMG) adjusted rate schedule for 2013

The Houston-Moore Group has requested a 4% increase in its rate schedule for 2013. The committee approved the request effective July 1, 2013. Mr. Mahoney said many people are not receiving a cost of living adjustment given the state of the economy. Mr. Pawluk asked what circumstances have changed to warrant the increase. Mr. Berndt believes it is due to inflation.

Mr. Wimmer suggested the item be tabled and that the Finance Committee re-address the topic next month in order for HMG to provide additional information regarding the request. The board agreed to table the item.

Kindred School District fact sheet

The Kindred School District requested the Diversion Board of Authority reimburse the school district for revenues they claim were lost because of a 20% reduction in property tax valuations for Oxbow, which was granted by the State Board of Equalization. Mr. Montplaisir said the school district did not lose any tax dollars; Oxbow residents will pay less in taxes, and the remaining residents of the school district will pay more to compensate for the reduction.

Mr. Vanyo said since the school district did not lose any revenue, the board is not responsible to reimburse the school district.

MOTION, passed

Mr. Mahoney moved and Mr. Pawluk seconded to authorize the chairman to send a letter to the Kindred Public School District indicating since there was no loss in revenues as a result of the 20% reduction in taxable valuation for Oxbow, no reimbursement will be given to the school district. Motion carried.