

MINUTES OF MEETING
DIVERSION PROJECT ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
MAY 23, 2013

The Diversion Project Assessment Committee (DPAC) met on May 23, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Committee members present were Mark Brodshaug, Dan Jacobson, Michael R. Buringrud and Raymond Wolfer, Cass County Joint Water Resource District Managers; Mary Scherling, Cass County Commissioner; Michael Montplaisir, Cass County Auditor; Kent Costin, City of Fargo Director of Finance; and Jim Brownlee, West Fargo City Administrator. Rodger Olson, Cass County Joint Water Resource District, was absent.

Non-voting members present were Sean M. Fredricks, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.; Eric Dodds and Shawn Gaddie, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.

Also present were Mary Matheson, Cass County Auditor's Office; Rocky Schneider and Jacob Strombeck, Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.; and Carol Harbeke Lewis, Cass County Joint Water Resource District Secretary-Treasurer.

Chairman Brodshaug called the meeting to order.

Approval of agenda order

It was moved by Michael Buringrud, seconded by Jim Brownlee and unanimously carried to approve the order of the agenda, as amended.

Minutes

It was moved by Michael Montplaisir, seconded by Michael Buringrud and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2013, meeting.

FDA value versus assessed value

Jacob Strombeck reviewed information on Flood Damaged Assessment (FDA) value versus Cass County assessment values. It was agreed that using Cass County assessment values would be easily understood. FDA value information could be used as a starting point for defining value for non-assessed properties.

It was moved by Michael Buringrud, seconded by Michael Montplaisir and unanimously carried to proceed with using Cass County assessment values for development of the assessment district regarding the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project.

Updated task list / decisions to-date

Mr. Strombeck reviewed the updated task list / decisions to-date.

Financing alternatives comparison

Options for financing the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project were reviewed. Mr. Montplaisir said even though the sale of bonds is not needed in the near future, it is important to keep the special assessment process moving forward as it will be needed for financing and maintenance of the project. It was also pointed out that bonding would not be based on potential increases in sales tax revenue.

Kent Costin asked if the Oxbow-Hickson-Bakke Subdivision area would be assessed since the ring levee project would be funded by the Diversion Authority. Mr. Fredricks said if the area is not included in the original assessment district, it would not be in the maintenance district. Mr. Brodshaug said the levee would be considered a mitigation project and should not be assessed as part of the Diversion project. Other options may be to set up a Federal assessment district later to maintain the ring levee project or the City of Oxbow could be contracted to mow, check flap gates, etc. Mr. Montplaisir suggested getting input on this matter from those that negotiated the ring levee project.

Preliminary public outreach plan

Eric Dodds reviewed the guiding principles of outreach for DPAC. The existing outreach plan in place for the project could be utilized. Information could be provided at public and neighborhood meetings and is also available in the monthly newsletter and the website. Significant outreach will be needed prior to taking a vote on the assessment district.

A meeting will be held on June 25, 2013, in downtown Fargo regarding the Environmental Assessment. A landowner meeting is scheduled in Harwood on June 26, 2013. Very brief information on special assessments will be provided at that meeting. More neighborhood meetings will be held in future.

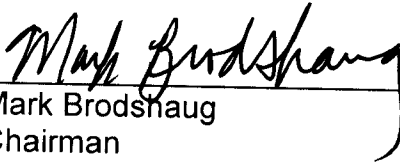
Future meeting topics

Preliminary direct benefit results will be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjournment


There being no further business for the Committee to consider, the meeting adjourned without objection.

APPROVED



Mark Brodshaug
Chairman

ATTEST:



Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer