

**CASS COUNTY JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR NORTH DAKOTA DIVERSION**

WHEREAS, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District is a joint North Dakota water resource district and political subdivision under N.D. Cent. Code Chapter 61-16.1, comprised of the four water resource districts in Cass County, North Dakota.

WHEREAS, the Red River of the North and its tributaries in North Dakota and Minnesota are prone to frequent flooding, and flooding presents significant risks to communities in Cass and Clay Counties, including the cities of Fargo and Moorhead.

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (the "Corps") is currently conducting the FARGO-MOORHEAD METROPOLITAN FEASIBILITY STUDY (the "Study"), in cooperation with its local sponsors, the Cities of Fargo and Moorhead, to analyze various proposed measures to reduce flood risks for the benefit of the entire region.

WHEREAS, the Study has included analysis of several possible alternatives, including non-structural flood-proofing, diversion channels of various capacities in North Dakota and Minnesota, a levee system along the banks of the Red River of the North, and upstream retention.

WHEREAS, the Corps has conducted public meetings in the Fargo-Moorhead area to present the various options, as well as the results of the Corps' most recent cost-benefit analysis for each option, to the public and to the respective Congressional Delegations for North Dakota and Minnesota, the respective State governments, Cass and Clay Counties, City governments, water resource districts in North Dakota, watershed districts in Minnesota, and other local government entities.

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Flood Management Work Group is an executive committee comprised of voting members from various local government entities, including the City of Fargo, the City of Moorhead, Cass County, Clay County, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District, and the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District.

WHEREAS, the ultimate objective of the Metropolitan Flood Management Work Group is to achieve local consensus regarding a locally-preferred option for permanent flood control for the region, for the benefit of North Dakota and Minnesota, and communities in each state.

WHEREAS, construction of a North Dakota diversion would result in substantial benefits unique to a North Dakota diversion option, including potential regional flood control benefits for the Sheyenne River, Maple River, Rush River, and Wild Rice River sub-watersheds, and including significant transportation benefits.

WHEREAS, the Study reveals construction of a North Dakota diversion would provide greater flood control benefits for a larger geographical area.

WHEREAS, several Minnesota communities have already voiced a preference for a North Dakota diversion.

WHEREAS, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District's jurisdiction encompasses the entire proposed project area for any of the North Dakota diversion options, and the District possesses unique statutory authorities to develop, construct, operate, and maintain flood control and protection projects under North Dakota law.

WHEREAS, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District favors the largest North Dakota diversion option possible to provide the greatest amount of flood control and protection benefits for the largest geographical area possible.

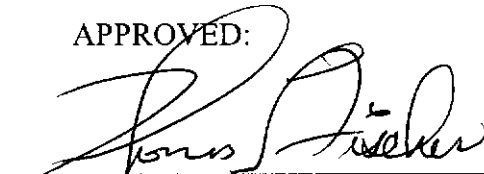
WHEREAS, in light of its unique statutory authorities and jurisdiction, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District is best equipped to act as local sponsor for a North Dakota diversion project.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cass County Joint Water Resource District favors and supports the largest North Dakota diversion project possible that would qualify for Federal cost-share.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cass County Joint Water Resource District possesses the authority and the willingness to act as local sponsor for the development, construction, operation, and maintenance of a North Dakota diversion project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cass County Joint Water Resource District will communicate its preference for a North Dakota diversion and its authority and willingness to act as local sponsor to the Metropolitan Flood Management Work Group, as well as to the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, the State of North Dakota, Cass County, the City of Fargo, and other government entities in North Dakota.

APPROVED:



Thomas L. Fischer, Chair

ATTEST:



Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer

Date Approved: October 22, 2009