

NOTES FROM MEETING
DIVERSION AUTHORITY AGRICULTURAL POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
AUGUST 12, 2014

The Diversion Authority Agricultural Policy Subcommittee met on August 12, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were those whose names appear on the attached roster.

Chairman Rodger Olson called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

No action was taken at the meeting due to lack of a quorum; however, discussion was held on the agenda items.

Metro Flood Diversion Project – Request for Qualifications for an *Ag Risk Economic Evaluation* for temporary water retention easement values and crop insurance

Eric Dodds informed the group that the Corps of Engineers prefers using Flowage Easements to pay property owners for retaining water on their land. Typically, the value is determined through appraisals. There has been some suggestion that crop insurance be used as another tool, along with Flowage Easements. Watts and Associates, Inc. recently conducted a study to evaluate agricultural risk management options and out of that study, the question emerged as to whether providing crop insurance would change the value of a Flowage Easement. After extensive discussion on the matter, there was unanimous consensus to recommend the Land Management Committee proceed with a Request for Qualifications for an *Ag Risk Economic Evaluation* for temporary water retention easement values and crop insurance.

Metro Flood Diversion Project – farmstead relocation

There are approximately 12 working farms in the proposed staging area for the Metro Flood Diversion Project. The Corps of Engineers has been asked to provide input on the relocation process or other options available. A meeting will be held with the property owners when more information is available. Individual meetings could also be scheduled at that time.