

GARRISON DIVERSION CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

RED RIVER VALLEY COMMITTEE

**Ramada Plaza & Suites
Fargo, North Dakota
February 26, 2016**

A meeting of the Red River Valley Committee of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District was held on February 26, 2016, at the Ramada Plaza & Suites, Fargo, North Dakota. The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Vein at 12:50 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Acting Committee Chairman Ken Vein
Director Roger Bischoff
Director Geneva Kaiser
Director Mike Tweed
Secretary Duane DeKrey

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Committee Chairman Roger Fenstad
Director Jay Anderson

OTHERS PRESENT

Kip Kovar, Deputy Program Manager, Engineering, RRVWSP, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, Carrington, North Dakota
Merri Mooridian, Deputy Program Manager, Administration, RRVWSP, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, Carrington, North Dakota
Kimberly Cook, Communications Director, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, Carrington, North Dakota
Lisa Schafer, Executive Assistant, Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, Carrington, North Dakota
Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm, Fargo, North Dakota
Paul Boersma, Black & Veatch Corporation, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The meeting was recorded to assist with compilation of the minutes.

READING OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Director Kaiser to dispense with a reading of the December 18, 2015, minutes and approve them as distributed. Second by Director Bischoff. Upon voice vote, motion carried.

RED RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT UPDATE

The committee reviewed the topics of discussion from the Lake Agassiz Water Authority board meeting earlier today.

Merri Mooridian, Deputy Program Manager, Administration, Red River Valley Water Supply Project (RRVWSP), said with the Lake Agassiz Water Authority's approval of the Development Agreement, she will soon start meeting with the users/systems beginning with the larger systems first to review the agreement and determine their water needs.

NATIONAL LEGAL COUNSEL

Duane DeKrey, Secretary, reviewed the process used for selecting national legal counsel to assist with legal issues concerning the RRVWSP.

A selection process took place with an appointed Ad Hoc/Review Committee to review the submitted proposals and conduct interviews. Two firms were selected for interviews by video conference, which took place on January 6. The Review Committee recommended hiring Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, and the full board approved the recommendation at its January 7 board meeting. The chief attorney, who the committee has been corresponding with is David Bernhardt.

Tami Norgard, Vogel Law Firm, reviewed the retainer agreement with the committee. A copy of the agreement was provided to the committee with today's meeting materials.

Motion by Director Bischoff to recommend approval of the retainer agreement with Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck to act as legal counsel regarding potential federal issues relating to the Red River Valley Water Supply Project to the Executive Committee. Second by Director Tweed. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Bischoff, Kaiser, Tweed and Vein. Those voting nay: none. Absent and not voting: Anderson and Fenstad. Motion carried.

OTHER

Project Phasing - - Kip Kovar, Deputy Program Manager, Engineering, RRVWSP, Garrison Diversion, stated that there may not be enough funding in the next biennium to design the whole RRVWSP. For this reason, project phasing may need to be considered. He distributed draft maps and reviewed options for phasing the project.

Mr. Kovar stated that the proposed first phase would be a pipeline from the McClusky Canal going east because this is the baseline of the project. The pipeline going to central North Dakota is key in phase one.

Acting Chair Vein said he believes that an Environmental Assessment (EA) needs to be done.

Motion by Director Kaiser to recommend beginning the environmental process for the purpose of a water supply contract for in-basin use for central North Dakota to the Executive Committee. Second by Director Bischoff. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Bischoff, Kaiser, Tweed and Vein. Those voting nay: none. Absent and not voting: Anderson and Fenstad. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

(SEAL)

Kenneth Vein, Acting Chairman

Duane DeKrey, Secretary