# **FM AREA DIVERSION PROJECT**

# **Property Owner Information Packet** for Cass County Commission September 21st, 2020

PROPERTY OWNER: Paul & Carolyn Thoen

LAND AGENT: Jamie Wark with SRF

OIN: 5278



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# <u>Written Correspondence Timeline – Paul & Carolyn Thoen</u>

OIN 5278	Sent	Received
Offer to Purchase	12/20/2019	12/21/2019
Formal Negotiations and Written Offer of Just Compensation	3/12/2020	3/13/2020
Request for Meeting	3/31/2020	4/6/2020
Notice of Intent to Take Possession of Right-of-Way	5/22/2020	5/26/2020
Downston Americal to Take Donnesian of Nanonama Binkt of		
Request for Approval to Take Possession of Necessary Right-of- Way and Temporary Easement	7/30/2020	7/30/2020
Invitation to Attend Public Meeting	8/6/2020	8/7/2020
Commission Meeting Date	9/21/2020	

# CASS COUNTY COMMISSION CHECKLIST — COMPLIANCE WITH N.D. CENT. CODE § 61-16.1-09(2) FARGO-MOORHEAD AREA DIVERSION PROJECT

### A. Subject Property Information:

1. Landowner: Paul M. Thoen and Carolyn M. Thoen

2. Land Agent: Jamie Wark

3. Parcel No.: 55-0000-09652-020

4. OIN No.: 5278

#### B. Verification:

- 1. NDCC § 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(1)(a) requires the Cass County Joint Water Resource District ("CCJWRD") to conduct 60 days of informal negotiations.
  - Did CCJWRD verify at least 60 days of informal negotiations with Landowner:
- 2. NDCC § 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(1)(b)[1] requires CCJWRD to send the landowner an appraisal and written offer for just compensation by certified mail or commercial delivery requiring a signed receipt or other evidence of constructive notice.
  - Did CCJWRD verify it sent Landowner an appraisal and written offer for just compensation: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Did CCJWRD verify service of the appraisal and offer by certified mail or commercial delivery, and that Landowner either signed for them or had constructive notice: \_\_\_\_\_\_
- 3. NDCC § 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(1)(b)[2] requires CCJWRD to send Landowner a written request for a meeting by certified mail or commercial delivery requiring a signed receipt [if the parties have not come to an agreement within 15 days of Landowner's receipt or notice of CCJWRD's offer].
  - Did CCJWRD verify it sent Landowner a written request for a meeting by certified mail or commercial delivery, and that Landowner either signed for the notice or had constructive notice:

- 4. NDCC § 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(1)(b)[3] requires CCJWRD to send Landowner a written notice of intent to take possession of the right of way, by certified mail or commercial delivery requiring a signed receipt [if the parties have not come to an agreement within 30 days of Landowner's receipt or notice of CCJWRD's invitation to a meeting].
  - Did CCJWRD verify it sent a written notice of intent to take possession of right away by certified mail or commercial delivery, and that Landowner either signed for the notice or had constructive notice: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. NDCC § 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(2) requires all written communications to Landowner to include contact information for responding to CCJWRD and a description of the required negotiation timeline.
  - Did CCJWRD verify that all written communications to Landowner included contact information for responding to CCJWRD and a description of the required negotiation timeline: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. NDCC § 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(3) prohibits a district from including or utilizing any reference to quick take eminent domain during negotiations.
  - Did CCJWRD verify it did not include or utilize any reference to quick take eminent domain during negotiations:

If the Commission answers in the affirmative to the above questions,

#### **RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

• I move to authorize the Cass County Joint Water Resource District to utilize quick take eminent domain under Section 61-16-1.09(2) of the North Dakota Century Code to take an easement for a right of way, and temporary easement (if any), regarding the OIN described above in A.4.

# FM Area Diversion Project Property Negotiation Summary

#### September 14, 2020

Owner	Paul and Carolyn Thoen
Address	16767 49 <sup>th</sup> Street SE, Kindred, ND 58051
Property Location	Southern Embankment-1
Property Type	Agriculture
OIN	5278
Representative	Eric Thoen, Son
Land Firm & Agent	SRF – Jamie Wark

# **Property Need**

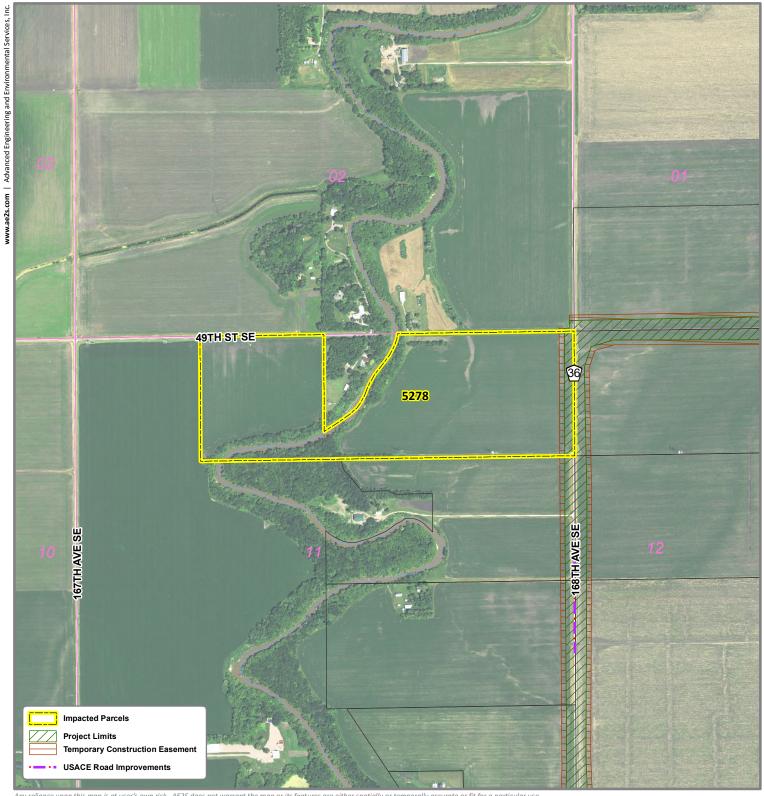
The parcel is within the Southern Embankment-1 area associated with the Project. The Diversion Authority is required to obtain a portion of the parcel for the Southern Embankment-1.

# **Valuation and Negotiation Summary:**

Appraisal Value / Date	\$18,500 dated November 27, 2019
	3.12 acres Land/Site Taking \$5,400/acre = \$16,848
	1.69 acres Temporary Easement \$200/acre x 5 years = \$1,690
Counteroffer	N/A

### **Negotiation Notes**

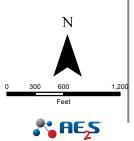
- SRF Land agent, Jamie Wark, has been in contact with Eric Thoen, son of Paul and Carolyn Thoen, per landowner's request.
- Offer letter sent December 20, 2019
- Formal offer letter sent March 12, 2020
- Land agent has called landowner/representative 20+ times
- Representatives for OIN 5278, OIN 5241 & OIN 747, 751, 5014, 4015 & 5277 have negotiated as a group.
- Met with representative for the landowner and neighboring landowners on August 20, 2020 to discuss counteroffer and drainage issues
- Land agent provided a 10% increase to the appraised value to representative. No agreement reached thus far.
- Land agent has encouraged landowner to continue to negotiate



All parcel acreages and legal descriptions shown hereon are based on County GIS data. Final acreages and legal descriptions to be determined by boundary survey

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane North Dakota South FIPS 3302 Feet |

C:\Data\Projects\GIS Projects\FM Area Diversion\Projects\Land Acquisition\Project Work Package\!Project Wide\Individual Property Maps - General Inquiry\IndividualLayout8x10v105.mxd





OIN: 5278
PAUL M & CAROLYN J THOEN
Parcel ID: 55-0000-09652-020
Cass County, ND

FM AREA DIVERSION Map Date: 4/2/2020





December 20, 2019

Paul M. and Carolyn J. Thoen 1679 49th St SE Kindred, ND 58051

**RE:** Offer to Purchase

Parcel ID: OIN 5278

Project Title: Fargo Moorhead Diversion

PID: 55-0000-09652-020

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Thoen,

The Cass County Joint Water Resource District (CCJWRD) and other partners are constructing a flood control improvement project in your area. The CCJWRD has hired the HMG Group to aid in the acquisition of right-of-way for the project. You are receiving this letter as the owner of property that must be acquired for the project. This letter conveys CCJWRD's offer to purchase all interests in the real property that are necessary for the project. The interests being purchased (the "Parcel") are listed on Exhibit A (Acquisition Summary) and shown on Exhibit B (Certificate of Survey), and the amount stated in this letter as the purchase amount is for all of those interests. If the Parcel includes interests that another person or entity may own (for example a mortgage lender or easement holder), the CCJWRD's offer is contingent on all parties with interest agreeing to the amount and allocation of the purchase funds.

To determine market value of the interest being acquired, CCJWRD retained the services of the independent property appraisal firm, Crown Land Consultants Inc. The appraiser has determined that the market value of the interests being purchased is \$18,500.00. The CCJWRD has used the market value set forth in the appraisal as the basis for determining Just Compensation for the property interests being acquired from you. A copy of the appraisal is attached to this letter and provided to you. If the purchase amount is based on any conditions or exceptions (such as terms of the transfer of possession or retention of any interest); they will be included in Exhibit A. A summary of the appraisal is provided on Exhibit A (Appraisal Summary).

The Cass County Joint Water Resource District hereby offers to pay you \$18,500.00 as Just Compensation for the property interests it must acquire from you.

Once we agree on the basic terms of an agreement for you to sell, and the CCJWRD to buy the property interests described in this letter, a Purchase Agreement will be drafted and presented to you for approval. The Purchase Agreement will contain all of the pertinent terms and conditions of this offer, as well as several standard legal, property acquisition terms. The Purchase Agreement will be between you and the CCJWRD.

We appreciate your willingness to negotiate with the CCJWRD. We request counteroffers or acceptance of this offer within 30 days from the date of this letter. CCJWRD has flexibility regarding closing, rent and/or leaseback options. We also support 1031-1033 tax exchanges.

If you have any questions about the acquisition process, please contact me at 701-893-7435 or by email at jwark@srfconsulting.com We are here to help you understand the process and to assist in negotiating a fair direct purchase of the Parcel, however, we do not represent you. We are willing to meet with you in person as well as set up a time to discuss questions on the phone.

Upon receipt of this letter, please sign below. Your signature indicates only that you have received this Offer to Purchase, and the following documents:

- Copy of the appraisal for Parcel ID OIN 5278 by Crown Land Consultants Inc.
- Exhibit A (Acquisition Summary), and Exhibit B (Certificate of Survey)

Your signature DOES NOT indicate your acceptance or rejection of the offered amount. Nor does it affect your right to continue to negotiate with the CCJWRD.

On behalf of CCJWRD, we wish to thank you for your cooperation and assistance, and we look forward to working with you toward a mutually satisfactory completion of the acquisition process.

Sincerely,  Jamie Wark	
famie Wark	
<del>S</del> enior Analyst	
Direct # 701-893-7435	
wark@srfconsulting.com	
One North Second Street, Fargo, ND 58102	
I acknowledge that onabove.	, 20, I received this letter and all documents listed
Paul M. Thoen	
Carolyn J. Thoen	

Required Notice: For your information the contact information for Cass County Joint Water Resource District (CCJWRD) is Carol Harbeke-Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer, at 701-298-2381. The property, that is the subject of this written communication, must be acquired by CCJWRD before September 2020.

Enclosures: Appraisal Report, Exhibit A, Exhibit B

I:\Projects\7715-18\RW\_Parcels\5278 - Paul and Carolyn Thoen\OIN 5278 Thoen - Offer Letter.docx

#### **EXHIBIT A**

# ACQUISITION SUMMARY Fargo Moorhead Diversion

Offer to Purchase Parcel ID: OIN 5278

Project Title: Fargo Moorhead Diversion

PID: 55-0000-09652-020

Recorded Fee Owner: Paul M. and Carolyn J. Thoen

Property Legal Description:

SEE ATTACHED SURVEY

Description of Property Interests to be Acquired: Fee Simple and Temporary Easement

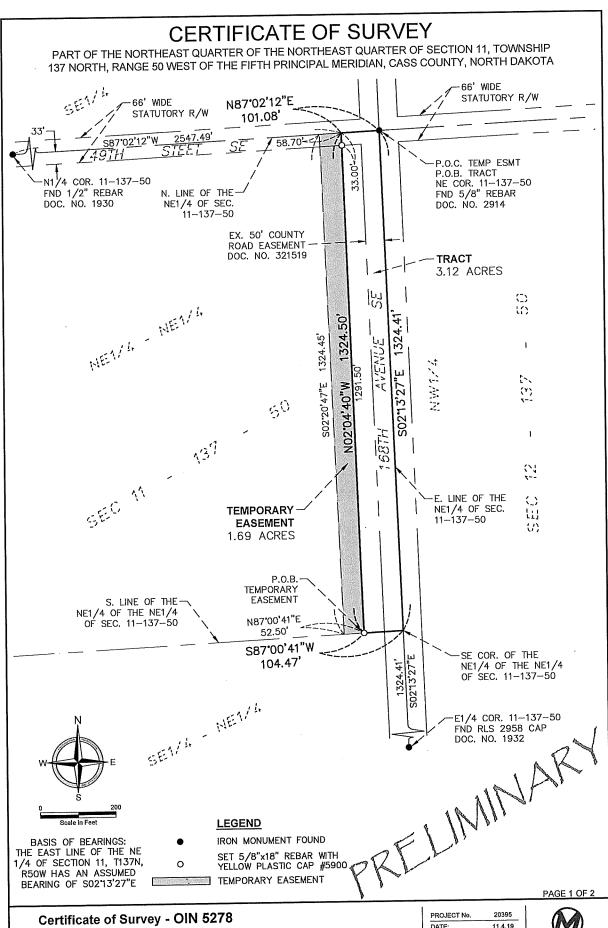
Noted and Waived Exceptions, Reservations or Encumbrances: None

\*Unless otherwise noted, any offer to purchase is contingent on the following:

- 1. Demonstration of marketable title,
- 2. Conveyance of all interests identified, unless waived in writing by the Cass County Joint Water Resource District,
- 3. Execution of a purchase agreement signed by the Cass County Joint Water Resource District, or its designee.

#### APPRAISAL SUMMARY

Parcel Value	Area Size/ Description	Per Unit	Indicated Value
Land/Site Taking	3.12 Acres	\$ 5,400	\$ 16,848.00
Temporary Easement	1.69 Acres	\$ 200 (x 5 years)	\$ 1,690.00
		TOTAL (rounded)	\$ 18,500.00



Paul & Carolyn Thoen
Part of the NE1/4NE1/4 Sec. 11-137-50
Cass County, North Dakota

**Page 9 of 36** 

PROJECT No. 20395

DATE: 11.4.19

REVISED: \_\_

DRAFTER: SMT

REVIEWER: CDH



# CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY

PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 137 NORTH, RANGE 50 WEST OF THE FIFTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, CASS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

#### **DESCRIPTION-TRACT**

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Beginning at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence North 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds East along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 101.08 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 3.12 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

# **DESCRIPTION-TEMPORARY EASEMENT**

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Commencing at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence South 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds West along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 58.70 feet; thence South 02 degrees 20 minutes 47 seconds East for a distance of 1324.45 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 52.50 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 1.69 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this survey, plan, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Registered Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of North Dakota.

Shawn M. Thomasson, R.L.S.	
N.D. License No. LS-5900	
Date:	
State of North Dakota)	
County of Cass )	16 11 waste and state
On this day of , 2019, before me, a Notary Public in an	d for said county and state,
personally appeared Shawn M. Thomasson, Registered Land Surveyor, known	to me to be the person described in and
who executed the foregoing certificate and acknowledged to me that he execu	ited the same as his free act and deed.
Notary Public, Cass Co	ounty, North Dakota

PAGE 2 OF 2

Certificate of Survey - OIN 5278

Paul & Carolyn Thoen Part of the NE1/4NE1/4 Sec. 11-137-50 Cass County, North Dakota

Page 10 of 36





# **USPS Tracking®**

FAQs >

# Track Another Package +

5278 Thoen

Tracking Number: 9505511429339354241322

Remove X

Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 12:41 pm on December 21, 2019 in WEST FARGO, ND 58078.

<b>⊘</b> Delivered	TI g
December 21, 2019 at 12:41 pm Delivered, In/At Mailbox WEST FARGO, ND 58078	Feedback
Get Updates ✓	
Text & Email Updates	~
Tracking History	~
Product Information	~

See Less ∧

# Can't find what you're looking for?

Go to our FAQs section to find answers to your tracking questions.

Page 11 of 36

09/21/2020



#### CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED - HAND DELIVERY

March 12, 2020

Cass County Joint Water Resource District

Paul and Carolyn Thoen 16767 49th Street SE Kindred, ND 58051 Certified No. 7018 0040 0000 5525 7325

Greetings:

Dan Jacobson Chairman West Fargo, North Dakota

Rodger Olson Manager Leonard, North Dakota

Ken Lougheed Manager Gardner, North Dakota

Jacob Gust Manager Fargo, North Dakota

Keith Weston Manager Fargo, North Dakota RE:

Cass County Joint Water Resource District Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project

Formal Negotiations and Written Offer of Just Compensation

OIN: 5278

Parcel No.: 55-0000-09652-020

The Cass County Joint Water Resource District (the "District") is in the process of acquiring property interests necessary for the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project (the "Project"), and the District has been in discussions with you regarding right of way the District must acquire from you to accommodate the Project. The District directed me to provide you this letter as the District's formal offer to purchase right of way and a temporary easement from you. More specifically, to accommodate the Project, the District must acquire right of way and a temporary easement from you over property located in Cass County and identified as Parcel Identification Number 55-0000-09652-020. The legal description of the property to be acquired is:

### Right of Wav:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Beginning at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence North 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds East along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 101.08 feet to the point of beginning.

Carol Harbeke Lewis Secretary-Treasurer

1201 Main Avenue West West Fargo, ND 58078-1301

701-298-2381 FAX 701-298-2397 wrd@casscountynd.gov casscountynd.gov Paul and Carolyn Thoen March 12, 2020 Page 2

Said tract contains 3.12 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

### Temporary Easement:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Commencing at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence South 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds West along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 58.70 feet; thence South 02 degrees 20 minutes 47 seconds East for a distance of 1324.45 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 52.50 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 1.69 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

Enclosed is an appraisal regarding the value of the right of way and temporary easement the District must acquire from you, as determined by a licensed North Dakota appraiser. As you can see from the appraisal, the appraiser indicated the value of the right of way the District must acquire from you is \$16,848.00, and the temporary easement is \$1,690.00 for a total purchase price of \$18,538.00 which the appraiser rounded to \$18,500.00. The District approved the appraisal and this letter is the District's offer to you in the amount of \$18,500.00 as just compensation to purchase right of way and temporary easement from you for the Project. If you are willing to accept the District's offer, please sign the enclosed *Purchase Agreement* and return it to the District in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

You are encouraged to maintain contact with the land agent assigned to your property. Lisa Kilde of SRF Consulting Group, Inc. can be reached at (701) 893-7437 or Ikilde@srfconsulting.com. Lisa is your point of contact for getting answers to any questions you have about the Project and acquisition of right of way from you for the Project.

Paul and Carolyn Thoen March 12, 2020 Page 3

For your information, North Dakota law requires the District to provide you with a description of the District's negotiation timeline regarding your right of way and temporary easement. If you do not accept the District's offer of just compensation and do not return a signed Purchase Agreement within fifteen (15) days, the District will send you a written request to discuss the Project and required right of way and temporary easement to be acquired at an upcoming Cass County Joint Water Resource District meeting. Ultimately, the District must conclude all negotiations and complete all acquisitions by Fall 2020.

We look forward to reaching a mutually acceptable agreement to resolve this matter. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CASS COUNTY JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Carol Harbeke Lewis

Secretary-Treasurer
1201 Main Avenue West

West Fargo, ND 58078

(701) 298-2381

Lewisc@casscountynd.gov

#### **Enclosures**

CC:

Lisa Kilde, Land Agent

Eric Dodds, Program Manager, AE2S Chris McShane, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

Chad Peterson, Cass County Commission Chair

Robert Wilson, Cass County Administrator Birch Burdick, Cass County State's Attorney

Joel Paulsen, Executive Director, Diversion Authority

#### COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION ■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Agent ■ Print your name and address on the reverse Addressee C. Date of Delivery so that we can return the card to you. B. Received by (Printed Name) Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, JANC & MYOGN or on the front if space permits. D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes 1. Article Addressed to: If YES, enter delivery address below: Paul and Carolyn Thoen 16767 49th Street SE KINARU ND 59051 Service Type ☐ Priority Mail Express® □ Priority Mail Expressor □ Registered Mail™ □ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery □ Return Receipt for Merchandise □ Signature Confirmation™ ☐ Adult Signature ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery Certified Mail® Certified Mail Restricted Delivery 9590 9402 3806 8032 1529 07 ☐ Collect on Delivery ☐ Collect on Delivery ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery ☐ Insured Mail ☐ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500) 7018 0040 0000 5525 7325

PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt



#### **CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

March 31, 2020

Cass County Joint Water Resource District

Paul and Carolyn Thoen 16767 49th Street SE Kindred, ND 58051 Certified No. 7018 0040 0000 5525 7486

Greetings:

RE:

Dan Jacobson Chairman West Fargo, North Dakota

Rodger Olson Manager Leonard, North Dakota

Ken Lougheed Manager Gardner, North Dakota

Jacob Gust Manager Fargo, North Dakota

Keith Weston Manager Fargo, North Dakota

Carol Harbeke Lewis Secretary-Treasurer

1201 Main Avenue West West Fargo, ND 58078-1301

701-298-2381 FAX 701-298-2397 wrd@casscountynd.gov casscountynd.gov Cass County Joint Water Resource District Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project

Request for Meeting

OIN: 5278

Parcel No.: 55-0000-09652-020

As you know, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District (the "District") is in the process of developing the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project (the "Project"). The District previously provided you a letter dated March 12, 2020; a copy of the District's appraisal for the right of way and temporary easement needed from you; and a Purchase Agreement as the District's offer of just compensation to purchase the right of way and temporary easement from you. The District's letter specifically described the right of way and temporary easement the District must acquire from you for the Project. We have not received a signed Purchase Agreement from you, and we have not otherwise arrived at mutually acceptable terms regarding the District's purchase of right of way and temporary easement from you to accommodate the Project.

The District requests your attendance at a meeting, either by phone or in person, to discuss the District's offer to purchase right of way and temporary easement from you. The District is meeting at the Cass County Highway Department, 1201 Main Avenue West in West Fargo, North Dakota, at 8:00 a.m., on April 9, 2020, and April 23, 2020. Over the next several months, District meetings will be conducted via conference call originating at the Cass County Highway Department; however, District board members will not be attending in person. Therefore, if possible, we request your attendance by telephone.

The District hopes you will attend one of the above-mentioned meetings to discuss the Project and the right of way and temporary easement the District must acquire from you to accommodate the Project. If you would like to attend either meeting by phone, please contact me or Melissa Maertens at (701) 298-2381 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting so the necessary arrangements can be made and the call-in information provided to you.

Paul and Carolyn Thoen OIN 5278 March 31, 2020 Page 2

Please continue to maintain contact and negotiate with the land agent assigned to your property. **Jamie Wark** of SRF Consulting Group, Inc. is your point of contact for getting answers to any questions you have about the Project. **Jamie can be reached at (701) 893-7435** or **jwark@srfconsulting.com**.

North Dakota law requires the District to provide you with a description of the District's negotiation timeline regarding your right of way and temporary easement. The District must conclude all negotiations and complete the acquisition of right of way and temporary easement necessary for construction of Project components on your property by Fall of 2020.

The District hopes you will attend one of the upcoming District meetings to discuss the Project and the required right of way and temporary easement. The District looks forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

CASS COUNTY JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Carol Harbeke Lewis

Secretary-Treasurer

1201 Main Avenue West

West Fargo, ND 58078

(701) 298-2381

lewisc@casscountynd.gov

CC:

Jamie Wark, Land Agent

Eric Dodds, Program Manager, AE2S

Chris McShane, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

Chad Peterson, Chair, Cass County Commission

Robert Wilson, Cass County Administrator

Birch Burdick, Cass County State's Attorney

Joel Paulsen, Executive Director, Diversion Authority

#### **SENDER:** COMPLETE THIS SECTION COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY ■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Agent ■ Print your name and address on the reverse Addressee so that we can return the card to you. C. Date of Delivery Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, 120 or on the front if space permits. D. Is delivery address different from item 1? \(\sigma\) Yes 1. Article Addressed to: If YES, enter delivery address below: □ No PAUL AND CAROLYN THOEN 16767 49TH ST SE KINDRED ND 59051 3. Service Type


9590 9402 3806 8032 1527 47 2 Article Number (Transfer from service label)

7018 0040 0000 5525 7486

PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

- □ Adult Signature
   □ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
   ★ Certified Mail®
   □ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
   □ Collect on Delivery
   □ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Insured Mail ☐ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)

- □ Priority Mail Express®
   □ Registered Mail™
   □ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
   □ Return Receipt for Merchandise
   □ Signature Confirmation™
   □ Signature Confirmation
   □ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

Domestic Return Receipt



# CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Cass County Joint Water Resource

**District** 

May 22, 2020

Paul and Carolyn Thoen 16767 49th Street SE Kindred, ND 58051

Certified No. 7019 1640 0002 0398 7661

Dan Jacobson Chairman West Fargo, North Dakota Greetings:

Rodger Olson Manager

RE: Cass County Joint Water Resource District Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project

Leonard, North Dakota

NOTICE OF INTENT TO TAKE POSSESSION OF RIGHT OF WAY

OIN: 5278

Ken Lougheed Manager Gardner, North Dakota Parcel No. 55-0000-09652-020

Jacob Gust Manager Fargo, North Dakota

As you know, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District (the "District") is in the process of developing the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project (the "Project"). On behalf of the District, I previously provided you a letter dated March 12, 2020, a copy of the District's appraisal for your right of way and temporary easement, and a Purchase Agreement as the District's offer of just

Keith Weston Manager Fargo, North Dakota

In addition, I also provided you a letter dated March 31, 2020, to invite you to meet with the District for purposes of discussing the acquisition of your land. The parties have conducted the informal and formal negotiation procedures required by law but, unfortunately, the parties have not yet reached a mutuallyacceptable agreement regarding compensation for the District's purchase of the right of way and temporary easement from you to accommodate the Project.

compensation to purchase the right of way and temporary easement from you.

Carol Harbeke Lewis Secretary-Treasurer

This letter is the District's NOTICE OF INTENT TO TAKE POSSESSION OF RIGHT OF WAY. If we do not have an agreement, the District will be requesting approval from the Cass County Commission to take possession of a right of way easement and temporary easement over your property. Cass County will provide you with at least 30 days' notice of a public meeting, and will invite you to the meeting to discuss the District's request.

1201 Main Avenue West West Fargo, ND 58078-1301

This NOTICE does not preclude the parties from continuing negotiations. The District still hopes the parties can arrive at a mutually-acceptable agreement.

701-298-2381 FAX 701-298-2397 wrd@casscountynd.gov casscountynd.gov

Paul and Carolyn Thoen OIN 5278 May 22, 2020 Page 2

You are encouraged to maintain contact with the land agent assigned to your property. Jamie Wark of SRF Consulting Group, Inc. can be reached at (701) 893-7435 or jwark@srfconsulting.com. Jamie is your point of contact for getting answers to any questions you have about the Project and acquisition of right of way and temporary easement from you for the Project.

North Dakota law requires the District to provide you with a description of the District's negotiation timeline regarding your right of way and temporary easement. Ultimately, the District must conclude all negotiations and complete all acquisitions by Fall 2020.

Sincerely,

CASS COUNTY JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Carol Harbeke Lewis

Secretary-Treasurer

1201 Main Avenue West

West Fargo, ND 58078 (701) 298-2381

lewisc@casscountynd.gov

CC:

Jamie Wark, Land Agent

Walle Jake

Chris McShane, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

Chad Peterson, Chair, Cass County Commission

Robert Wilson, Cass County Administrator

Birch Burdick, Cass County State's Attorney

Eric Dodds, Program Manager, AE2S

Joel Paulsen, Executive Director, Diversion Authority

#### COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION A. Signature ■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Agent ■ Print your name and address on the reverse ☐ Addressee so that we can return the card to you. C. Date of Delivery B. Received by (Printed Name) Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, 26/80 □ Yes or on the front if space permits. 1. Article Addressed to: D. Is delivery address different from item 1? PAUL AND CARDIYN THOEN If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No 16767 49TH STREET SE KINDRED ND 58051 Service Type ☐ Priority Mail Express® □ Adult Signature □ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery ▼ Certified Mail® □ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery Registered Mail™ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery Return Receipt for Merchandise Signature Confirmation™ ☐ Collect on Delivery ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery ☐ Insured Mail 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery ☐ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500) 7019 1640 0002 0398 7661

PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt



# SENT VIA EMAIL wilsonro@casscountynd.gov

**Cass County** Joint Water Resource District

July 30, 2020

Dan Jacobson Chairman West Fargo, North Dakota Robert Wilson Cass County Administrator Cass County Commission 211 9th Street S Fargo, ND 58103

Rodger Olson Manager Leonard, North Dakota Greetings:

Ken Lougheed Manager

RE: Cass County Joint Water Resource District Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project

Gardner, North Dakota

Request for Approval to Take Possession of Necessary Right of Way and **Temporary Easement** 

OIN: 5278

Parcel No. 55-0000-09652-020

Jacob Gust Manager Fargo, North Dakota

Keith Weston Manager

Fargo, North Dakota

As you know, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District (the "District") is in the process of acquiring the right of way necessary for the Fargo Moorhead Diversion Area Project ("Project"). I previously copied you on the following three letters whereby the District sought to negotiate the acquisition of the right of way and temporary easement from Paul M. Thoen and Carolyn J. Thoen (the "Landowner"):

- Letter dated March 12, 2020, enclosing the District's appraisal for the acquisition of the right of way and temporary easement from the Landowner and a proposed Purchase Agreement:
- Letter dated March 31, 2020, inviting the Landowner to meet with the District for purposes of negotiating compensation for the right of way and temporary easement to be acquired; and
- Letter dated May 22, 2020, notifying the Landowner the District planned to submit a request to the Cass County Commission seeking immediate possession of the right of way and temporary easement necessary for the Project.

Carol Harbeke Lewis Secretary-Treasurer

1201 Main Avenue West West Fargo, ND 58078-1301

701-298-2381 FAX 701-298-2397 wrd@casscountynd.gov casscountynd.gov

Robert Wilson July 30, 2020 Page 2

The District has conducted months of negotiations with the Landowner to arrive at a mutually acceptable agreement for the District's purchase. More specifically, the District engaged in both informal and formal negotiations with the Landowner, as required under N.D. Cent. Code § 61-16.1-09(2)(b), in an effort to reach agreement regarding fair compensation to the Landowner for the acquisition of the necessary right of way and temporary easement in, on, over, across, and through certain property owned by the Landowner in Cass County, North Dakota. The legal description of the necessary right of way and temporary easement is as follows:

# Right of Way Easement:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Beginning at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence North 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds East along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 101.08 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 3.12 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

#### AND

#### Temporary Easement:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Commencing at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet to the point of beginning; thence

Robert Wilson July 30, 2020 Page 3

North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence South 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds West along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 58.70 feet; thence South 02 degrees 20 minutes 47 seconds East for a distance of 1324.45 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 52.50 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 1.69 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

As you may recall, in 2017, the North Dakota Legislature modified the process for water resource districts to acquire immediate possession of right of way necessary for water projects; the new process is set forth in Section 61-16.1-09(2)(b). The District has followed all of the necessary steps under the statute, but the parties have not reached a mutually acceptable agreement. Under the new acquisition process enumerated in Section 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(3), the District must next seek the County Commission's approval to proceed further, and to ultimately utilize quick take eminent domain to take possession of the right of way and temporary easement above to commence the Project.

More specifically, Section 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(3) requires the County Commission to hold a public meeting and to provide the Landowner no less than thirty days' notice of the meeting. The District will also attend the meeting, along with a representative of the land firm which was the Landowner's main point of contact throughout the negotiation process. Prior to the public meeting, the land firm representative and the District will verify neither the District nor any of its agents referenced or threatened quick take eminent domain during the informal and formal negotiation process.

While the District takes all landowners' rights very seriously, the District also has an obligation, as a member of the Metro Flood Diversion Authority, to acquire the right of way and temporary easement necessary for the Project, and construction of the Project will not be possible without acquiring the right of way and temporary easement identified above. As the District will explain and verify for the Commission in more detail through this process, the District provided the Landowner with the District's appraisal as the starting point for negotiations, then attempted to negotiate further with the Landowner over the course of several months. This step is not one the District takes lightly; quick take eminent domain is a serious undertaking, and the District has negotiated in good-faith with the Landowner to avoid this process. Despite the District's efforts to be fair, friendly, and flexible in both the informal and formal negotiations with the Landowner, unfortunately, the parties have not reached a mutually acceptable agreement for the acquisition of the right of way and temporary easement.

Robert Wilson July 30, 2020 Page 4

The District respectfully requests that the Cass County Commission proceed with the public meeting process under Section 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(3) regarding the Landowner and the right of way and temporary easement identified in this letter. Further, the District respectfully requests that the Cass County Commission ultimately approve the District's use of quick take eminent domain to take possession of the right of way and temporary easement identified above by quick take eminent domain so the Project may proceed. For your information, while the County conducts the process under Section 61-16.1-09(2)(b)(3), the District still hopes the parties can arrive at a mutually-acceptable agreement.

Sincerely,

CASS COUNTY JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Carol Harbeke Lewis Secretary-Treasurer

1201 Main Avenue West West Fargo, ND 58078

(701) 298-2381

lewisc@casscountynd.gov

cc:

Jamie Wark, Land Agent

Chris McShane, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C. Birch Burdick, Cass County State's Attorney

Joel Paulsen, Executive Director, Diversion Authority

Eric Dodds, AE2S Program Manager Sharon Oliver, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

Heather Worden, Administrative Assistant, Cass County Commission



Board of County Kindred, ND 58051 Commissioners

Chad M. Peterson

Rick Steen Fargo, North Dakota

Fargo, North Dakota

Ken Pawluk Fargo, North Dakota

Duane Breitling West Fargo, North Dakota

Mary Scherling

August 6, 2020

#### VIA UPS - DELIVERY CONFIRMATION

Paul M. Thoen Carolyn J. Thoen 16767 49th Street SE

Re:

**Cass County Commission** 

Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project Invitation to Attend Public Meeting

OIN: 5278

Parcel No. 55-0000-09652-020

UPS Tracking No. 1Z RT8 7R1 25 3185 7102

### Greetings:

As you know, the METRO FLOOD DIVERSION BOARD OF AUTHORITY (the "Authority") is proceeding with the Fargo Moorhead Area Diversion Project ("Project"); the Cass County Commission (the "Commission") is a member of the Authority. The Cass County Joint Water Resource District (the "District") is also a member of the Authority, and the Authority previously directed the District to obtain the North Dakota right of way necessary to accommodate the Project. You have been in negotiations with the District and its agents regarding the right of way and Stanley Township, North Dakot temporary easement the District must acquire from you for the Project. The District copied the Commission on the following three letters the District sent to you regarding the District's negotiations with you:

- Letter dated March 12, 2020, enclosing the District's appraisal for the acquisition of the right of way and temporary easement from you, along with a proposed Purchase Agreement;
- Letter dated March 31, 2020, inviting you to meet with the District for purposes of negotiating compensation for the right of way and temporary easement to be acquired; and
- Letter dated May 22, 2020 notifying you the District planned to submit a request to the Commission seeking immediate possession of the right of way and temporary easement necessary for the Project.

The District informed the Commission that you and the District have not reached a mutually-acceptable agreement, and have not signed a purchase agreement, regarding the right of way and temporary easement the District must purchase from you to accommodate the Project. With that in mind, the District recently requested approval from the Commission to utilize quick take eminent domain to take possession of the right of way and temporary easement the District must acquire from you.

Heather Worden Commission Assistant

P.O. Box 2806 211 9th Street South Fargo, North Dakota 58108 701-241-5609 www.casscountynd.gov

Thoen August 6, 2020 Page 2

The legal description of the necessary right of way and temporary easement is as follows:

#### Right of Way Easement:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Beginning at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence North 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds East along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 101.08 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 3.12 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

#### **AND**

#### Temporary Easement:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Commencing at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence South 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds West along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 58.70 feet; thence South 02 degrees 20 minutes 47 seconds East for a distance of 1324.45 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East along the south line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 52.50 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 1.69 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

The Commission invites you to attend the Commission's meeting on September 21, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. The District will also participate in the meeting, along with a representative of the land firm which was your primary point of contact throughout the negotiation process. At the meeting,

Thoen August 6, 2020 Page 3

the Commission will ask the District to verify the District's compliance with Section 61-16.1-09(2) of the North Dakota Century Code. The Commission will ultimately vote on whether to approve the District's use of quick take eminent domain to take a right of way easement and temporary easement over your property.

If you wish to participate in the Commission's September 21, 2020 public meeting via conference call or Microsoft Teams, please contact Heather Worden at (701) 241-5609 or wordenh@casscountynd.gov as soon as possible so Ms. Worden can assist you with the necessary arrangements.

This Notice does not preclude you from continuing to work with the District regarding the right of way easement and temporary easement necessary for the Project. In fact, the Commission and the District encourage you to maintain contact with **Jamie Wark** and to continue discussions about the Project. **Jamie Wark** of **SRF Consulting Group, Inc.** is your point of contact regarding the Project. You can reach **Jamie Wark** at (701) 893-7435 or jwark@srfconsulting.com.

Finally, North Dakota law requires the Commission to provide you with a description of the District's timeline regarding your right of way. The District must complete the acquisition of right of way necessary for construction of Project components on your property by Fall of 2020.

Sincerely,

CASS COUNTY COMMISSION

Robert Wilson, Cass County Administrator

Cass County Commission 211 Ninth Street South Fargo, ND 58103

(701) 241-5609

cc: Jamie Wark, Land Agent

Birch Burdick, Cass County State's Attorney

Joel Paulsen, Executive Director, Diversion Authority

Chris McShane, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

Eric Dodds, AE2S Program Manager

Sharon Oliver, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

Heather Worden, Administrative Assistant, Cass County Commission

# Proof of Delivery

Dear Customer,

This notice serves as proof of delivery for the shipment listed below.

# **Tracking Number**

1ZRT87R12531857102

#### Weight

0.00 LBS

#### Service

UPS Next Day Air®

# Shipped / Billed On

08/05/2020

#### **Delivered On**

08/07/2020 10:17 A.M.

#### **Delivered To**

16767 49TH ST SE KINDRED, ND, 58051, US

### **Received By**

DRIVER RELEASE

#### Left At

Met Customer Woman

### Reference Number(s)

RT87R1CZCNF

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve you. Details are only available for shipments delivered within the last 120 days. Please print for your records if you require this information after 120 days.

Sincerely,

**UPS** 

Tracking results provided by UPS: 08/13/2020 11:26 A.M. EST

### AFFIDAVIT OF LAND AGENT

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA	)
COUNTY OF CASS	) ss. )

- [¶1] I, Ken Helvey, do hereby state on oath:
- [¶2] I am employed by SRF Consulting Group, Inc. as Principal/Land Agent. The Cass County Joint Water Resource District ("the District") hired SRF Consulting Group, Inc. to negotiate and acquire the necessary right of way for the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project (the "Project").
- [¶3] The District must acquire certain interests in real property from Paul M. Thoen and Carolyn J. Thoen ("Landowner") for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project.
- [¶4] Landowner's real property where the District must acquire a Right of Way and Temporary Easement for the Project located in Cass County, North Dakota, is more fully described as follows:

# Right of Way

OIN 5278

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Beginning at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence North 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds East along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 101.08 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 3.12 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

AND

# **Temporary Easement**

OIN 5278

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Commencing at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence South 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds West along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 58.70 feet; thence South 02 degrees 20 minutes 47 seconds East for a distance of 1324.45 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East along the south line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 52.50 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 1.69 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

The property described above is the "Necessary Property."

- [¶5] Affiant is familiar with the records maintained by SRF Consulting Group, Inc. with respect to the Necessary Property and has reviewed all such records prior to executing this affidavit.
- [¶6] SRF Consulting Group, Inc. has attempted to negotiate with Landowner to acquire the Necessary Property. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a log of all contacts SRF Consulting Group, Inc. has had with Landowner.
- [¶7] The District has instructed SRF Consulting Group, Inc. to refrain from referencing, mentioning, or threatening quick take eminent domain during negotiations since August 1, 2017.

[¶8] I verify to the best of my knowledge, as Principal/Land Agent of SRF Consulting
Group, Inc., nobody from SRF Consulting Group, Inc. has referenced, mentioned, or threatened
quick take eminent domain to Landowner during negotiations since August 1, 2017.
Dated this 8 day of September, 2020.
Ken Helvey SRF Consulting Group, Inc.
Subscribed to and sworn to before me this 8 day of September, 2020.
LISA R KILDE Notary Public State of North Dakota My Commission Expires Jan. 3, 2023  My Commission Expires Jan. 3, 2023  My Commission Expires:

(SEAL)

# **OIN 5278 - Thoen Contact Attempts**

Date	Note
12/20/2019	Appraisal and offer letter sent
12/21/2019	Appraisal and offer letter received
3/12/2020	Formal offer letter sent
3/12/2020	Jamie visited with Paul and Carolyn on their property
3/31/2020	CCJWRD invite sent
4/1/2020	Spoke to Carolyn. Asked to negotiate with son (Eric). Eric's contact number is 701-799-9188
4/2/2020	Called Eric and LM
4/6/2020	Called Eric and LM
4/6/2020	CCJWRD invite received
4/8/2020	Called Eric
4/10/2020	Called Eric and LM
4/13/2020	Called Paul & Carolyn
4/14/2020	Called Eric
4/15/2020	Called Paul & Carolyn
4/16/2020	Called Paul & Carolyn
4/17/2020	Called Eric
5/4/2020	Called Paul & Carolyn
5/6/2020	Called Eric
5/22/2020	Possession intent letter sent
5/26/2020	Spoke to Paul. Asked to have Eric call land agent. Paul upset with letter received.
5/26/2020	Possession intent letter received
6/11/2020	Spoke to Eric. Eric would talk to Paul about counteroffer
6/30/2020	Called Eric and LM
8/3/2020	Spoke to Kelly. Informed him David Braaten would like to meet as a group. Eric said he was interested.
8/7/2020	Spoke to Eric. Verified August 20 meeting at Cass County Highway Department at 4:00 pm
8/19/2020	Spoke to Eric, provided address for meeting for August 20 meeting
8/20/2020	Met with Eric as well as representatives for OIN 5278 & OIN 747 at Cass County Highway Department

### AFFIDAVIT OF DAN JACOBSON FOR CASS COUNTY COMMISSION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA	)
	) ss.
COUNTY OF CASS	)

- [¶1] I, Dan Jacobson, do hereby state on oath:
- [¶2] I serve as Chair of the Cass County Joint Water Resource District ("the District").
- [¶3] As a member of the Metro Flood Diversion Authority, the District is responsible for acquiring the right of way in North Dakota necessary to accommodate the Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project (the "Project").
- [¶4] The District has concluded acquisition of certain Right of Way and Temporary Easement in and to real property owned by Paul M. Thoen and Carolyn J. Thoen ("Landowner") is necessary for the Project.
  - [¶5] State and federal funds have been made available for the Project.
- [¶6] The real property owned by Landowner where a Right of Way and Temporary Easement must be acquired by the District for the Project is located in Cass County, North Dakota, more fully described as follows:

#### Right of Way

#### OIN 5278

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Beginning at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence North 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds East along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 101.08 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 3.12 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

AND

# **Temporary Easement**

OIN 5278

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County, North Dakota, described as follows:

Commencing at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 11; thence South 02 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds East on an assumed bearing along the east line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 1324.41 feet to the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds West along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 104.47 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 02 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 1324.50 feet to the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11; thence South 87 degrees 02 minutes 12 seconds West along the north line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 11 for a distance of 58.70 feet; thence South 02 degrees 20 minutes 47 seconds East for a distance of 1324.45 feet to the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence North 87 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East along the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter for a distance of 52.50 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 1.69 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

- [¶7] The District has fulfilled the required negotiation steps in accordance with subsection 2 of section 61-16.1-09 of the North Dakota Century Code.
- [¶8] The District sent a written offer for just compensation to the landowner by certified mail, along with an appraisal and purchase agreement on March 12, 2020. A copy of the offer (without the appraisal that was included) is attached as **Exhibit 1**.
- [¶9] On March 31, 2020, the District sent Landowner a written request for a meeting, by certified mail; the District and Landowner have not reached an agreement regarding compensation, and more than fifteen days have passed since Landowner's receipt of the offer. A copy of the written request for a meeting with the landowners is attached as **Exhibit 2**.

[¶10] The District and Landowner have not reached an agreement regarding compensation, and more than thirty days have passed since Landowner's receipt of the request for a meeting.

[¶11] On May 22, 2020, the District sent Landowner a written notice of intent to take possession of the Right of Way and Temporary Easement, by certified mail. A copy of the notice of intent is attached as **Exhibit 3**.

[¶12] The District has retained land agents who are in direct contact with Landowner. The District instructed our land agents not to reference, mention, or threaten quick take eminent domain during negotiations. The land agents have verified they have not referenced, mentioned, or threatened quick take eminent domain during the course of negotiations with Landowner since August 1, 2017.

[¶13] I verify there have been no references, mention, or threats of quick take eminent domain by the District during negotiations since August 1, 2017.

Dated this 14 day of Scotember, 2020.

Dan Jacobson, Chair

Cass County Joint Water Resource District

Subscribed to and sworn to before me this 14 day of September, 2020.

MELISSA MAERTENS Notary Public State of North Dakota My Commission Expires July 3, 2024

(SEAL)

Notary Public, Cass County, State of

North Dakota