### FM AREA DIVERSION PROJECT

# **Property Owner Information Packet** for Cass County Commission October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

PROPERTY OWNER: Cheryl Evert Etal

LAND AGENT: Jamie Wark with SRF

OIN: 5016



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### Written Correspondence Timeline – Cheryl Evert Etal

OIN 5016	Sent	Received
Offer to Purchase	12/20/2019	12/24/2019
Formal Negotiations and Written Offer of Just Compensation	4/6/2020	5/21/2020
Request for Meeting	6/17/2020	6/22/2020
Notice of Intent to Take Possession of Right-of-Way	7/27/2020	8/3/2020
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Request for Approval to Take Possession of Necessary Right-of- Way and Temporary Easement	9/2/2020	9/2/2020
	3 <b>3_</b> 0	3 <b>3_</b>
Invitation to Attend Public Meeting	9/11/2020	9/14/2020
Commission Meeting Date	10/19/2020	

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

CHECKLIST — COMPLIANCE WITH N.D. CENT. CODE § 01-10.1-09(2)
FARGO-MOORHEAD AREA DIVERSION PROJECT

- 2. Land Agent: Jamie Wark
- 3. Parcel No.: 55-0000-09662-010
- 4. OIN No: 5016

**Subject Property Information:** 

Landowner:

### B. Verification:

1.

A.

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.

Cheryl Evert, Mary Nerby, and Beverly Wolf

- 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 and temporary easement, 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 regarding OIN 5016.

### FM Area Diversion Project Property Negotiation Summary

### October 12, 2020

Owner	Cheryl Evert, Mary Nerby, Beverly Wolf
Mailing Address	23168 Oak Leaf Lane, Battle Lake, MN 56515
Property Location	SE Embankment
Property Type	Agricultural
OIN	5016
Land Agent	Jamie Wark – SRF
Landowner Representative	N/A

### **Property Need**

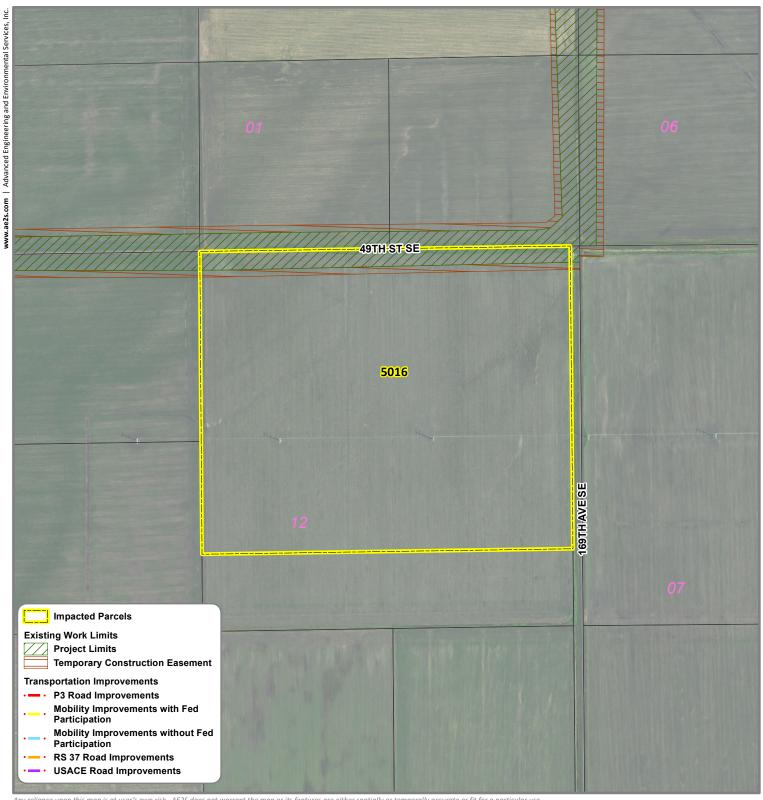
The parcel is within the Southern Embankment area associated with the Project. The Diversion Authority is required to obtain a part of the parcel for the embankment.

### **Appraisal Summary:**

Appraisal Value / Date	\$44,500 (rd) – 12/10/2019
	7.53 acres land/site taking at \$5,500/acre – \$41,415
	2.96 acres TCE at \$200/5years - \$2,960
Counteroffer	\$56,000 (rd)

### **Miscellaneous Provisions**

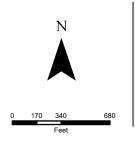
- Land agent Jamie Wark, SRF, has offered the landowners 10% above appraised value for the required acres however the landowner did not accept.
- Landowner then provided a counteroffer in the amount of \$10,000/acre (82% increase)
- Landowner feels there are too many unknowns about the project to accept the appraised value, or the 10% increase offer for the 7.53 acres.
- Landowner is very concerned over how their property will be affected by the storage of water on their property due to the embankment.
- Landowner has agreed to a revised offer of \$7,000/acre for a rounded total of \$56,000 (21% increase).
- CCJWRD Board approved the landowner's counteroffer of \$56,000 and the Purchase Agreement has been forwarded to the landowners for their signature.



Any reliance upon this map is at user's own risk. AE2S does not warrant the map or its features are either spatially or temporally accurate or fit for a particular use. 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 | Produced by: hrecords - AE2S, Inc. |

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





OIN: 5016 CHERYL EVERT ETAL Parcel ID: 55-0000-09662-010 Cass County, ND

> FM AREA DIVERSION Map Date: 6/18/2020





December 20, 2019

Cheryl Evert 23168 Oak Leaf Lane Battle Lake, MN 56515 Mary Nerby PO Box 553 Riverdale, ND 58565 Beverly Wolf PO Box 293 Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849

RE:

Offer to Purchase Parcel ID: OIN 5016

Project Title: Fargo Moorhead Diversion

**PID:** 55-0000-09662-010

Dear Ms. Evert, Mrs. Nerby, and Mrs. Wolf,

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, Compass Land Consultants Inc. The appraiser has determined that the market value of the interests being purchased is \$44,500.00. 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 \$44,500.00 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 701-893-7437 or by email at lkilde@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 5016 by Compass 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,  Lisa Kilde Senior Right of Way Specialist Direct # 701-893-7437  Ikilde@srfconsulting.com	
One North Second Street, Fargo, ND 58102	
I acknowledge that onabove.	, 20, I received this letter and all documents listed
Cheryl Evert	
Cheryr Evert	
Mary Nerby	
Beverly Wolf	
Required Notice: For your information the contact in (CCJWRD) is Carol Harbeke-Lewis, Secretary-Treas	nformation for Cass County Joint Water Resource District surer, at 701-298-2381. The property, that is the subject of this

Enclosures: Appraisal Report, Exhibit A, Exhibit B

written communication, must be acquired by CCJWRD before September 2020.

I:\Projects\7715-18\RW\_Parcels\5016 - Evert ETAL\OIN 5016 Evert ETAL - Offer Letter.docx

### **EXHIBIT A**

## ACQUISITION SUMMARY Fargo Moorhead Diversion

Offer to Purchase Parcel ID: OIN 5016

Project Title: Fargo Moorhead Diversion

**PID:** 55-0000-09662-010

Recorded Fee Owner: Cheryl Evert, Mary Nerby, Beverly Wolf

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

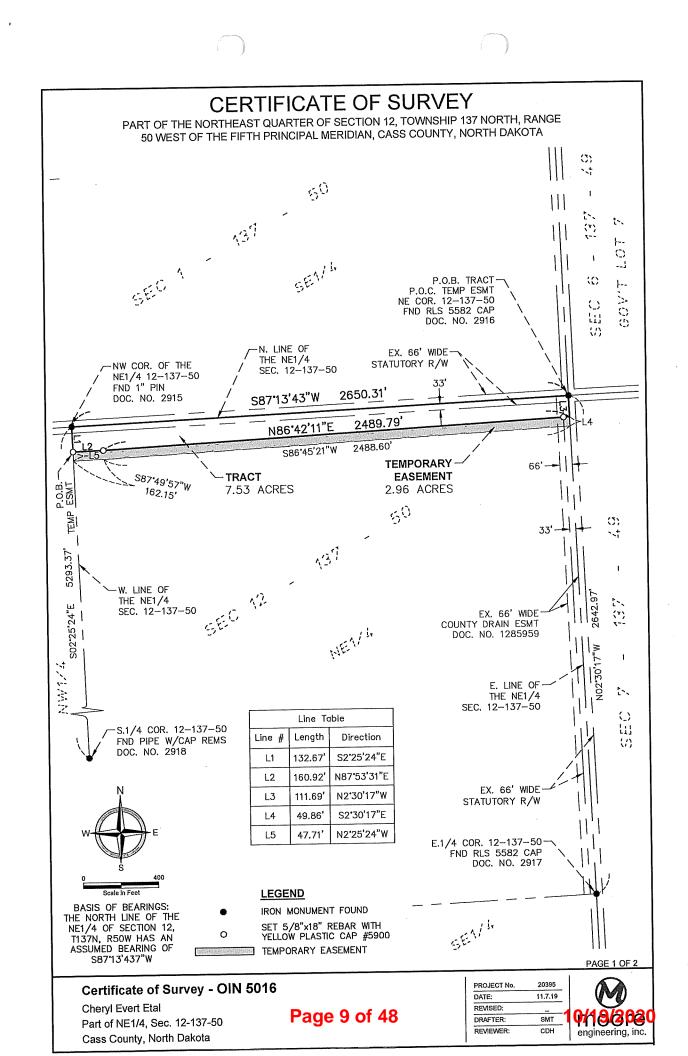
\*Unless otherwise noted, any offer to purchase is contingent on the following:

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	7.53 Acres	\$ 5,500	\$ 41,415.00
Temporary Easement	2.96 Acres	\$ 200 (x 5 years)	\$ 2,960.00
		TOTAL (rounded)	\$ 44,500.00



### CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY

PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 137 NORTH, RANGE 50 WEST OF THE FIFTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, CASS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

#### **DESCRIPTION-TRACT**

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds West along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 111.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 7.53 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 Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds East along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 49.86 feet; thence South 86 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 2488.60 feet; thence South 87 degrees 49 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 162.15 feet to the west line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds West along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 47.71 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 2.96 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.

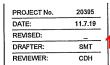
Shawn M. Thomasson, R.L.S.
N.D. License No. LS-5900
Date:
State of North Dakota)
County of Cass )
On this day of, 2019, before me, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared Shawn M. Thomasson, Registered Land Surveyor, known to me to be the person described in and who executed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

PAGE 2 OF 2

Certificate of Survey - OIN 5016

Cheryl Evert Etal
Part of NE1/4, Sec. 12-137-50
Cass County, North Dakota

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## **USPS Tracking**<sup>®</sup>

FAQs >

### Track Another Package +

5016

Tracking Number: 9505511429339354241360

Remove X

Your item was delivered in or at the mailbox at 11:00 am on December 21, 2019 in BATTLE LAKE, MN 56515.

<b>⊘</b> Delivered	т е
December 21, 2019 at 11:00 am Delivered, In/At Mailbox BATTLE LAKE, MN 56515	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 48

10/19/2020

## **USPS Tracking®**

FAQs >

### Track Another Package +

5016

**Tracking Number:** 9505511429339354241353

Remove X

Your item was delivered to a parcel locker at 12:39 pm on December 23, 2019 in RIVERDALE, ND 58565.

<b>⊘</b> Delivered	2 5
December 23, 2019 at 12:39 pm Delivered, Parcel Locker RIVERDALE, ND 58565	
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 12 of 48

10/19/2020

## **USPS Tracking®**

FAQs >

### Track Another Package +

5010

**Tracking Number:** 9505511429339354241339

Remove X

Your item was picked up at the post office at 10:05 am on December 24, 2019 in LAKE NEBAGAMON, WI 54849.

<b>⊘</b> Delivered	T 00
December 24, 2019 at 10:05 am Delivered, Individual Picked Up at Post Office LAKE NEBAGAMON, WI 54849	reedback
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.

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10/19/2020



### CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

**Cass County** Joint Water

April 6, 2020

Resource

Cheryl Evert

District

23168 Oak Leaf Lane Battle Lake, MN 56515

Certified No. 7019 1640 0002 0398 8002

Dan Jacobson Chairman West Fargo, North Dakota

Mary Nerby P.O. Box 553

Riverdale, ND 58565

Rodger Olson Manager Leonard, North Dakota

Certified No. 7019 1640 0002 0398 8019

Ken Lougheed Manager Gardner, North Dakota **Beverly Wolf** P.O. Box 293

Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849

Certified No. 7019 1640 0002 0398 8026

Jacob Gust Manager Fargo, North Dakota

Greetings:

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: 5016

Parcel No.: 55-0000-09662-010

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

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 and temporary easement 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 55-0000-09662-010. The legal description of the property to be acquired is:

### Right of Way:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, Township 137 North, Range 50 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Cass County. North Dakota, described as follows:

Cheryl Evert Mary Nerby Beverly Wolf April 6, 2020 Page 2

Beginning at a found iron monument which designates the northeast corner of said Section 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds West along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 111.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 7.53 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 Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds East along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 49.86 feet; thence South 86 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 2488.60 feet; thence South 87 degrees 49 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 162.15 feet to the west line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds West along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 47.71 feet to the point of beginning. Said tract contains 2.96 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

Cheryl Evert Mary Nerby Beverly Wolf April 6, 2020 Page 3

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 \$41,415.00, and the temporary easement is \$2,960.00, for a total purchase price of \$44,375.00, rounded to \$44,500.00. The District approved the appraisal and this letter is the District's offer to you in the amount of \$44,500.00 as just compensation to purchase right of way and a 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 and a temporary easement from you for the Project.

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.

Cheryl Evert Mary Nerby Beverly Wolf April 6, 2020 Page 4

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. 12 6 19 Agent ■ Print your name and address on the reverse ☐ Addressee so that we can return the card to you. B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, 18/20 (OM 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: CHERYL EVERT 23168 DAK LEAF LANE BATTLE LAKE MN 56515 3. Service Type ☐ Priority Mail Express® ☐ Registered Mail<sup>TM</sup> ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery □ Adult Signature □ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery Certified Mail® Certified Mail Restricted Delivery ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise □ Certinied Mail Restricted Delivery □ Collect on Delivery □ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery □ Insured Mail □ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500) 9590 9402 3806 8032 1549 01 ☐ Signature Confirmation™ 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery 7019 1640 0002 0398 8002

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

Domestic Return Receipt

Service of the servic	10 26 N 1 1 1	
SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON I	DELIVERY
<ul> <li>Complete items 1, 2, and 3.</li> <li>Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</li> </ul>	A Signature  X Bleed D. W.  B. Received by (Printed Name)	Agent Addressee C. Date of Delivery 5 15 2020 The item 12 Yes
1. Article Addressed to: BEVERLY WOLF PO BOX 293 LAKE NEBAGAMON WI 5484	D. Is delivery address different from If YES, enter delivery address	II Itolii ii —
9590 9402 3806 8032 1545 29  2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)  7019 1640 0002 0398 8415	3. Service Type  Adult Signature  Adult Signature Restricted Delivery  Certified Mail®  Certified Mail Restricted Delivery  Collect on Delivery  Insured Mail Insured Mail Restricted Delivery  (over \$500)	☐ Priority Mail Express®☐ Registered Mail™☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery☐
PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053		Domestic Return Receipt

#### **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. B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, |21|2020 □Yes or on the front if space permits. 1. Article Addressed to: D. Is delivery address different from item 1? MARY NERBY If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No PO BOX 553 RIVERDALE ND 58565 3. Service Type ☐ Priority Mail Express® □ Priority Mail Express® □ Registered Mail™ □ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery □ Return Receipt for Merchandise □ Signature Confirmation™ □ Signature Confirmation ☐ Adult Signature ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery □ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery □ Collect on Delivery □ Collect on Delivery □ Insured Mail □ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500) 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7019 1640 0002 0398 8422 Restricted Delivery

PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-006-9053

Domestic Return Receipt



### CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED AND UPS DELIVERY

June 17, 2020

Cass County Joint Water Resource District

Cheryl Evert 23168 Oak Leaf Lane Battle Lake, MN 56515 Certified No. 7020 0090 0000 7648 2553

Dan Jacobson Chairman West Fargo, North Dakota Mary Nerby 410 3rd Street PO Box 553 Riverdale, ND 58565

Rodger Olson Manager Leonard, North Dakota Certified No. 7020 0090 0000 7648 2560

Ken Lougheed Manager Gardner, North Dakota Beverly Wolf 11615 East County Road B PO Box 293 Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849 Certified No. 7020 0090 0000 7648 2577

Jacob Gust Manager Fargo, North Dakota Greetings:

Keith Weston Manager Fargo, North Dakota RE: Cass County Joint Water Resource District Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project

Request for Meeting

OIN: 5016

Parcel No.: 55-0000-09662-010

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 April 6, 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.

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 The District requests your attendance at a meeting to discuss the District's offer to purchase right of way and temporary easement from you. The District is meeting at 8:00 a.m. on June 25, 2020, and July 9, 2020. Over the next several months, District meetings will be conducted via conference call and District board members will not be attending in person. The requirements that a meeting room be available to the public and that a speakerphone or monitor be provided at a physical location under NDCC § 44-04-19 have been suspended indefinitely pursuant to Governor Burgum's Executive Order 2020-16; therefore, we request your attendance by telephone.

Cheryl Evert Mary Nerby Beverly Wolf OIN 5016 June 17, 2020 Page 2

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 one of the meetings 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.

Please continue to maintain contact and negotiate with the land agent assigned to your property. Lisa Kilde of SRF Consulting Group, Inc. is your point of contact for getting answers to any questions you have about the Project. Lisa can be reached at (701) 893-7437 or Ikilde@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: Lisa Kilde, 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

#### 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 so that we can return the card to you. Received by (Printed Name) Date of Delivery ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, 6/800 (01) or on the front if space permits. D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No 1. Article Addressed to: CHERYL EVERT 23168 DAK LEAF LANE BATTLE LAKE MN 51515 3. Service Type ☐ Priority Mail Express® □ Registered Mail™ □ Registered Mail Restricted □ Relivery □ Return Receipt for Merchandise ☐ Adult Signature Adult Signature Restricted Delivery Certified Mail® Certified Mail Restricted Delivery 9590 9402 5989 0062 9068 15 Collect on Delivery Collect on Delivery Insured Mail ☐ Signature Confirmation™☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery 2 Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7020 0090 0000 7648 2553 ☐ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)

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

Domestic Return Receipt

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	A. Signature  X. Berry D. Wald   Agent   Addressee  B. Received by (Printed Name)   C. Date of Delivery   G. 19/10/10  D. Is delivery address different from item 1?   Yes   If YES, enter delivery address below:   No	
<ul> <li>Complete items 1, 2, and 3.</li> <li>Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</li> <li>Article Addressed to:</li> <li>BEJERLY WOLF</li> <li>BOX 293</li> <li>LAKE NEBA CAMON WI 54849</li> </ul>		
9590 9402 5989 0062 9067 92  2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7020 0090 0000 7648 2577	3. Service Type  Adult Signature  Adult Signature Restricted Delivery Certified Mail®  Certified Mail® Collect on Delivery Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery Insured Mail Insured Mail (over \$500)	□ Priority Mail Express®     □ Registered Mail™     □ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery     □ Return Receipt for Merchandise     □ Signature Confirmation™     □ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

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

Domestic Return Receipt

#### 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 so that we can return the card to you. B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, NERB or on the front if space permits. D. Is delivery address different from item 1? 1 Yes 1. Article Addressed to: MARY NERBY If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No PO BOX 553 RWERDALE ND ERSES ☐ Priority Mail Express® 3. Service Type □ Priority Midia Expresso □ 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 5989 0062 9068 08 □ Collect on Delivery □ Collect on Delivery □ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery □ Insured Mail □ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500) 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery 7020 0090 0000 7648 2560 Domestic Return Receipt

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



### CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED AND UPS DELIVERY

Cass County Joint Water Resource

July 27, 2020

District

Cheryl Evert 23168 Oak Leaf Lane Battle Lake, MN 56515

Certified No. 7020 0090 0000 7648 3437

Dan Jacobson Chairman West Fargo, North Dakota

Mary Nerby 410 3rd Street PO Box 553

Rodger Olson Manager Leonard, North Dakota

Riverdale, ND 58565 Certified No. 7020 0090 0000 7648 3444

Ken Lougheed Manager Gardner, North Dakota Beverly Wolf 11615 East County Road B PO Box 293

Jacob Gust Manager Fargo, North Dakota Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849 Certified No. 7020 0090 0000 7648 3451

Keith Weston Manager Fargo, North Dakota Greetings:

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

NOTICE OF INTENT TO TAKE POSSESSION OF RIGHT OF WAY

OIN: 5016

Parcel No. 55-0000-09662-010

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 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 April 6, 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 compensation to purchase the right of way and temporary easement from you. In addition, I also provided you a letter dated June 17, 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 mutually-acceptable agreement regarding compensation for the District's purchase of the right of way and temporary easement from you to accommodate the Project.

Cheryl Evert Mary Nerby Beverly Wolf OIN 5016 July 27, 2020 Page 2

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.

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

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 a 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

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

#### SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY A. Signature ■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. ■ Print your name and address on the reverse Agent so that we can return the card to you. ☐ Addressee B. Received by (Printed Name) ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, C. Date of Delivery or on the front if space permits. 6515 9002 7-29-2020 1. Article Addressed to: D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes CHERYL EVERT If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No OAK LEAF LANE LAKE MN 56515 3. Service Type □ Priority Mail Express® □ Registered Mail™ Adult Signature Adult Signature Restricted Delivery Certified Mail® Certified Mail Restricted Delivery Registered Mail Restricted Delivery Return Receipt for Merchandise 9590 9402 5989 0062 9065 87 Collect on Delivery Collect on Delivery Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery Insured Mail ☐ Signature Confirmation™ ☐ Signature Confirmation 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7020 0090 0000 7648 3437 Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500) Restricted Delivery

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	
<ul> <li>Complete items 1, 2, and 3.</li> <li>Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</li> <li>Article Addressed to:</li> <li>BEVERLY WIF</li> <li>Po Box 293</li> <li>LAKE NEBAGAMON WI 54949</li> </ul>	A. Signature  X. Burel Defined Name   Agent   Addressee   B. Received by (Printed Name)   Description   Agent   Addressee   D. Is delivery address different from item 1?   Yes   If YES, enter delivery address below:   No	
9590 9402 5989 0062 9065 63  2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7020 0090 0000 7648 3451	3. Service Type	

Page 29 of 48

Domestic Return Receipt

### SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY ■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. gent ■ Print your name and address on the reverse ☐ Addressee so that we can return the card to you. B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. 8-3-2020 1. Article Addressed to: MARZY NER-BY If YES, enter delivery address below: PO BOX 553 RIVERDALE NO 58565 3. Service Type ☐ Priority Mail Express® ☐ Registered Mail™ □ Adult Signature □ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery □ Certified Mail® □ Certified Mail® □ Certified Mail® □ Collect on Delivery □ Collect on Delivery Registered Mail Restricted Delivery Return Receipt for Merchandise 9590 9402 5989 0062 9065 70 ☐ Signature Confirmation™☐ Signature Confirmation☐ Restricted Delivery 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) ☐ Insured Mail ☐ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500) 7020 0090 0000 7648 3444

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

Domestic Return Receipt



### SENT VIA EMAIL wilsonro@casscountynd.gov

**Cass County** Joint Water Resource

September 2, 2020

District

Robert Wilson

Cass County Administrator Cass County Commission

Dan Jacobson Chairman West Fargo, North Dakota 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: 5016

Jacob Gust Manager Fargo, North Dakota Parcel No.: 55-0000-09662-010

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 Cheryl Evert, Mary Nerby and Beverly Wolf (the "Landowners"):

- Letters dated April 6, 2020, and May 12, 2020, enclosing the District's appraisal for the acquisition of the right of way and temporary easement from the Landowners and a proposed Purchase Agreement;
- Letter dated June 17, 2020, inviting the Landowners to meet with the District for purposes of negotiating compensation for the right of way and temporary easement to be acquired; and
- Letter dated July 27, 2020, notifying the Landowners 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 September 2, 2020 Page 2

The District has conducted months of negotiations with the Landowners 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 Landowners, as required under N.D. Cent. Code § 61-16.1-09(2)(b), in an effort to reach agreement regarding fair compensation to the Landowners for the acquisition of the necessary right of way and temporary easement in, on, over, across, and through certain property owned by the Landowners in Cass County, North Dakota. The legal description of the necessary right of way and temporary easement is as follows:

### Right of Way Easement:

### OIN 5016

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds West along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 111.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 7.53 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

### Temporary Easement:

### OIN 5016

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of

Robert Wilson September 2, 2020 Page 3

2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds East along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 49.86 feet; thence South 86 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 2488.60 feet; thence South 87 degrees 49 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 162.15 feet to the west line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds West along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 47.71 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 2.96 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 Landowners 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 Landowners' 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 Landowners with the District's appraisal as the starting point for negotiations, then attempted to negotiate further with the Landowners 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 Landowners to avoid this process. Despite the District's efforts to be fair, friendly, and flexible in both the informal and formal negotiations with the Landowners, unfortunately, the parties have not reached a mutually acceptable agreement for the acquisition of the right of way and temporary easement.

Robert Wilson September 2, 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 Landowners 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 Commissioners

September 11, 2020

## VIA UPS - DELIVERY CONFIRMATION

Cheryl Evert

23168 Oak Leaf Lane Battle Lake, MN 56515

UPS Tracking No. 1Z RT8 7R1 25 2033 1726

Chad M. Peterson Fargo, North Dakota

Rick Steen

Fargo, North Dakota

Ken Pawluk Fargo, North Dakota

Duane Breitling West Fargo, North Dakota

Mary Scherling Stanley Township, North Dakota Mary Nerby 410 3<sup>rd</sup> Street PO Box 553

Riverdale, ND 58565

UPS Tracking No. 1Z RT8 7R1 25 2023 5938

**Beverly Wolf** 

11615 East County Road B

PO Box 293

Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849

UPS Tracking No. 1Z RT8 7R1 25 0354 0943

Re:

**Cass County Commission** 

Fargo-Moorhead Area Diversion Project

Invitation to Attend Public Meeting

OIN: 5016

Parcel No: 55-0000-09662-010

# Greetings:

As you know, the METRO FLOOD DIVERSION 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 and temporary easements necessary to accommodate the Project. You have been in negotiations with the District and its agents regarding the right of way and temporary easement the District must acquire from you for the Project. The District copied the Commission on the following letters the District sent to you regarding the District's negotiations with you:

Heather Worden Commission Assistant

P.O. Box 2806 211 9th Street South Fargo, North Dakota 58108 701-241-5609 www.casscountynd.gov  Letters dated April 6, 2020 and May 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; Cheryl Evert Mary Nerby Beverly Wolf September 11, 2020 Page 2

- Letter dated June 17, 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 July 27, 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. The legal description of the necessary right of way and temporary easement is as follows:

# Right of Way Easement:

### OIN 5016

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds West along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 111.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 7.53 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any;

AND

Cheryl Evert Mary Nerby Beverly Wolf September 11, 2020 Page 3

# Temporary Easement:

OIN 5016

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds East along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 49.86 feet; thence South 86 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 2488.60 feet; thence South 87 degrees 49 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 162.15 feet to the west line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds West along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 47.71 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 2.96 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 October 19, 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, 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 and temporary easement over your property.

If you wish to participate in the Commission's October 19, 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 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

Cheryl Evert Mary Nerby Beverly Wolf September 11, 2020 Page 4

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 and temporary easement. 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**

1ZRT87R12520235938

## Weight

1.00 LBS

### **Service**

UPS Next Day Air® with UPS Carbon Neutral Ø

# Shipped / Billed On

09/10/2020

#### **Delivered On**

09/14/2020 3:33 P.M.

### **Delivered To**

410 3RD ST RIVERDALE, ND, 58565, US

### Received By

DRIVER RELEASE

#### Left At

Front Door

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: 09/15/2020 9:38 A.M. EST

# **Proof of Delivery**

Dear Customer,

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

# **Tracking Number**

1ZRT87R12503540943

# Weight

1.00 LBS

#### **Service**

UPS Next Day Air® with UPS Carbon Neutral 𝒯

# Shipped / Billed On

09/10/2020

### Delivered On

09/14/2020 1:36 P.M.

### **Delivered To**

11615 E COUNTY ROAD B LAKE NEBAGAMON, WI, 54849, US

## **Received By**

**DRIVER RELEASE** 

### **Left At**

Front Door

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: 09/15/2020 9:39 A.M. EST

# Proof of Delivery

Dear Customer,

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

# **Tracking Number**

1ZRT87R12520331726

### Weight

1.00 LBS

### **Service**

UPS Next Day Air® with UPS Carbon Neutral Ø

# Shipped / Billed On

09/10/2020

### **Delivered On**

09/14/2020 11:45 A.M.

# **Delivered To**

23168 OAK LEAF LN BATTLE LAKE, MN, 56515, US

### **Received By**

**DRIVER RELEASE** 

### Left At

Met Customer Man

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: 09/15/2020 9:37 A.M. EST

# AFFIDAVIT OF LAND AGENT

COUNTY OF HE MAPIN ) 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 Cheryl Evert, Mary Nerby and Beverly Wolf ("Landowners") for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project.
- [¶4] Landowners' 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 5016

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds West along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 111.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 7.53 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

### AND

# **Temporary Easement**

OIN 5016

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds East along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 49.86 feet; thence South 86 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 2488.60 feet; thence South 87 degrees 49 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 162.15 feet to the west line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds West along the west line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds West along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 47.71 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 2.96 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 Landowners to acquire the Necessary Property. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a log of all contacts SRF Consulting Group, Inc. has had with Landowners.
- [¶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.	edge, 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 Landowners during negotiations since August 1, 2017.		
Dated this 1/2 day of October, 2020.		
Subscribed to and sworn to before me th	Ken Helvey SRF Consulting Group, Inc. is	
TAMMY K GUDERIAN NOTARY PUBLIC MINNESOTA My Commission Expires Jan. 31, 2024	TAMMY GULERIAN  Notary Public, County of Hennepin  State of Minnesota  My Commission Expires: 1/31/2024	

(SEAL)

## "Exhibit A"

# **OIN 5016 - Evert Contact Attempts**

Date	Note
12/20/2019	Appraisal and offer letter sent
3/12/2020	Spoke to Cheryl. Asked to call back end of the month
4/1/2020	Spoke to Cheryl. Asked to call back following week
4/6/2020	Called and LM
4/6/2020	Formal offer sent
4/14/2020	Spoke to Cheryl & Chuck (husband). Questions about height of road, drainage, impact to renter
4/23/2020	Jamie called Cheryl and informed her he would be providing a revised offer for her property
4/29/2020	Jamie called Cheryl and left a message to call back
4/30/2020	Cheryl returned Jamie's call. She had numerous questions about the project
5/12/2020	Jamie called and left a message for Cheryl
5/26/2020	Jamie called Cheryl and Chuck and they had more questions about the negotiations
6/10/2020	Spoke to Cheryl about setting up a call to include Lisa Kilde
6/12/2020	Lisa and Jamie called Cheryl to discuss their questions as to the flowage easement and drainage on their proper
6/17/2020	CCJWRD invite sent
6/22/2020	CCJWRD invite sent
6/30/2020	Called and LM
7/2/2020	Missed a call from Everts.
7/17/2020	Spoke to Cheryl briefly. Cheryl still at \$10k/acre
7/22/2020	Spoke with Cheryl and her husband Chuck. Discussed flowage easement with the idea that we could come to a
,,,	agreement on both the SE-1 property and flowage easement.
8/5/2020	Spoke to Chuck. Cheryl was gone. Informed Chuck I would be presenting a new offer. Will try to check back in
	August 17
9/3/2020	Spoke to Cheryl. Provided new offer of \$7k/acre contingent on CCJWRD approval. She will discuss with sisters an answer in a timely manner
9/14/2020	Spoke to Cheryl. Informed her offer of \$7k/acre was accepted by CCJWRD. She will check with sisters to verify agreement on the price. Informed Cheryl a purchase agreement will be mailed to each property owner (3 siste given the go ahead by Cheryl
9/15/2020	mailed purchase agreement to Cheryl, Beverly & Mary
9/29/2020	Spoke to Cheryl. Property owner costs discussed. Language to remove responsibility of property owner remov purchase agreement. Discussion on right of first offer language.
10/1/2020	Spoke to Cheryl. Worried about restoration of temporary construction easement property back to farmable coprovide additional language in purchase agreement to satisfy her concerns.
10/7/2020	Spoke to Cheryl. Explained revisions to purchase agreement. Will resent revised purchase agreement later in t

### 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 a Right of Way and Temporary Easement in and to real property owned by Cheryl Evert, Mary Nerby and Beverley Wolf ("Landowners") is necessary for the Project.
  - [¶5] State and federal funds have been made available for the Project.
- [¶6] The real property owned by Landowners 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 5016

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds West along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 111.69 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 7.53 acres, more or less, and is subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations and rights of way of record, if any.

**AND** 

## **Temporary Easement**

### OIN 5016

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, 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 12; thence South 87 degrees 13 minutes 43 seconds West on an assumed bearing along the north line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 2650.31 feet to the northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 132.67 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 31 seconds East for a distance of 160.92 feet; thence North 86 degrees 42 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 2489.79 feet to the east line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 02 degrees 30 minutes 17 seconds East along the east line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 49.86 feet; thence South 86 degrees 45 minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 2488.60 feet; thence South 87 degrees 49 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 162.15 feet to the west line of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 02 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds West along the west line of said Northeast Quarter for a distance of 47.71 feet to the point of beginning.

Said tract contains 2.96 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 of just compensation to Landowners by certified mail, along with an appraisal and purchase agreement, on April 6, 2020 and May 12, 2020. A copy of the offer (without the appraisal that was included) is attached as **Exhibit 1**.
- [¶9] On June 17, 2020, the District sent Landowners a written request for a meeting, by certified mail and commercial delivery; the District and Landowners have not reached an agreement regarding compensation, and more than fifteen days have passed since Landowners'

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 Landowners have not reached an agreement regarding compensation, and more than thirty days have passed since Landowners' receipt of the request for a meeting.

[¶11] On July 27, 2020, the District sent Landowners a written notice of intent to take possession of the Right of Way and Temporary Easement, by certified mail and commercial delivery. 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 Landowners. 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 Landowners 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 8th day of October , 2020.

Dan Jacobson, Chair

Cass County Joint Water Resource District

Subscribed to and sworn to before me this 8th day of October, 2020.

NINA M. STONE

NINA M. STONE

(SEAL)

NINA M. STONE