



**MEMORANDUM**

**Highway  
Department**

Jason Benson, P.E.  
County Engineer

Richard S. Sieg  
Superintendent

Thomas B. Soucy, P.E.  
Design and Construction  
Engineer

TO: Cass County Road Advisory Committee  
FROM: Jason Benson, Cass County Engineer *JB*  
DATE: November 10, 2012  
SUBJECT: Road Advisory Committee Meeting  
November 19, 2012 2:00 p.m.

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A Road Advisory Committee meeting has been scheduled for Monday, November 19, 2012 2:00 pm in the Cass County Commission Room. The agenda is as follows:

2:00 – 2:05	Introduction and Recognition of Outstanding Highway Employees	<b>Information</b>
2:05 – 2:20	Review 2012 Completed Construction Projects	<b>Information</b>
2:20 – 2:30	Update of 2013 Construction Projects	<b>Information</b>
2:30 – 2:40	Update and demonstration of AVL/GPS Tracking System	<b>Information</b>
2:40 – 2:45	Review ongoing Asset Management and GIS initiatives	<b>Information</b>
2:45 – 2:50	Bid Express – Online Bidding	<b>Information</b>
2:50 – 2:55	Warren Township Bridge Removal	<b>Information/ Action</b>
2:55 – 3:00	Other Business	
3:00	Adjourn	

1201 Main Avenue West  
West Fargo, North Dakota  
58078-1301

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## Highway Department

Jason Benson, P.E.  
County Engineer

Richard S. Sieg  
Superintendent

Thomas B. Soucy, P.E.  
Design and Construction  
Engineer

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Cass County Road Advisory Committee

FROM: Jason Benson, Cass County Engineer *JAB*

DATE: November 14, 2012

SUBJECT: Road Advisory Committee Meeting November 19, 2012  
Removal of Sheyenne River Bridge in Warren Township  
Section 25/36

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It is recommended that the Township Bridge #9137350 located at sections 25/36 Warren Township be removed.

During the 2009 Flood this bridge was closed due to significant damage. The bridge has continued to deteriorate from the 2010 and 2011 Floods and due to continued flood damage and debris issues at this bridge. This is made up of three spans, of which the center span is a historic "Pony Truss" bridge. It was originally built in 1922 and was moved to its current site in 1959.

There are several reasons for why this bridge should be removed:

1. The structural damage of the both the east and west abutments would require significant work to repair.
2. Failure to remove the bridge this winter will most likely result in the bridge falling into the river sometime in the next year. This would make its removal more costly and would reduce the ability to salvage the historic "Pony Truss" section.
3. This bridge's proximity to a large curve in the river makes it prone to future stability issues.
4. Cass County Highways 14 and 16 are only one mile north and south of this bridge and both bridges on these highways are in excellent condition.
5. This bridge only services one farmstead on the west side of the bridge and the farmstead has access from the west to Cass County Highway's 14 and 16.
6. When the FM Diversion is built it will sever the Township Road to the east of the bridge and may require the removal of this bridge.
7. Warren Township voted to have the bridge removed. Their vote was based on the lack of a need for this bridge, safety issues, and the significant garbage/public nuisance issues on both sides of the bridge.

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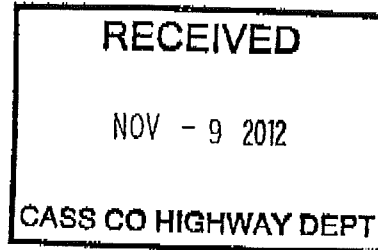
The estimated cost for the bridge removal would be \$50,000 due to the steel structure and its length. The intent would be to have this bridge removed this winter and complete any reshaping of the abutment and roadway areas next spring.

Besides our normal process for demolishing a bridge, we are also looking into options for salvaging the "Pony Truss" portion. Due to the size and limitations of this bridge it is not feasible to utilize it on another Cass County bridge site. The Cass County Highway Department was approached by Mr. Jason Albertson who is resident of Horace and lives east of the bridge. Mr. Albertson is former bridge worker/crane operator of Industrial Builders, Inc. and is a supporter of historic bridges. Mr. Albertson has requested that he be authorized to remove the bridge and salvage it to be moved to a new site on private property. This would eliminate the cost of paying for the bridge removal and would allow for the historic portion of the bridge to be utilized. This option will be analyzed further once the bridge has been approved for removal.

**SUGGESTED MOTION:** Move that the Cass County Board of Commissioners grant approval of the removal of the Township Bridge #9137350 located at sections 25/36 Warren Township in Cass County, North Dakota.

**Warren Township  
Horace, ND**

**November 7, 2012**



**Jason Benson  
Cass County Highway Dept  
1201 Main West  
West Fargo, ND 58078-1301**

**Re: Removal of bridge over Sheyenne River between Sections  
36 & 25 in Warren Township**

**At the monthly meeting held November 6, 2012, the Board of  
Supervisors of Warren Township OK'd the removal of said  
bridge. The motion was made by Terry Huffman and  
seconded by Randy Hajek. Motion passed.**

**A discussion was held on cleaning up or removing roadway in  
area of bridge. It was decided to wait until bridge is removed.**

**Please contact the Board if you have any questions.**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wally Fuchs".

**Wally Fuchs, Clerk**