**FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES**

**Wednesday, August 28, 2024; 11AM Fargo Sports Center Board Room**

* **Permission to apply for: Garrison Diversion Conservancy District Recreation Grant**
* **and an Outdoor Heritage Fun Grant.**

Tony Schmitt, presented. Tony discussed that he applied for both of these grants and needs consent from the board. The first grant is the Garrison Diversion. This grant is for projects located within the Garrison Diversion boundaries that may be eligible to receive up to 25% of the non-federal share of the cost of the project. Fargo Parks is planning to upgrade the dugouts at fields #3 and #4, and to add a picnic shelter at Anderson Softball Complex in 2025, that would qualify for this grant. The second grant is the Outdoor Heritage grant. Fargo Parks plans to submit the Southwest Regional Pond Recreation Area enhancement project for consideration. The project would include concrete trails, gravel trails, native plantings along the stormwater ponds and park benches. If awarded, it would take place in 2026. Total cost estimate is just over $4.6 million from Houston Engineering. Fargo Parks is asking for $3.2 million for the grant to help create this area. Deadline is September 1st.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

**Bring to the Full Board: September 10, 2024**

* **Review MOU agreements with the City of Fargo for construction of the Red River Phase 2 Trail and Drain 27 Trail Crossing projects.**

Tony Schmitt, presented. Tony stated that as part of the City of Fargo city paths they are planning to construct segments of two shared used paths in 2025. The two segments are a portion of the Red River Trail from River Dr. S from 35th Ave to 40th Ave. and Drain 27 Trail crossing from 25th St to Timberline Trail. The city and Fargo Parks own parcels on which the shared paths will be constructed. The park district’s estimated cost will be $143,122 for the Red River Trail and $151,558 for Drain 27 project.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

**Bring to the Full Board: September 10, 2024**

* **Rheault Farm Fencing Replacement Project**

Tony Schmitt, presented. Tony stated we received bids for the Rheault Farm Fencing replacement project. Dakota Fence total bid for $76,787.00 and American Security & Gate Company total bid for $61,450.00. The bid met all specifications and is within the budgeted amount of $116,500. There are encroachment issues, there were 16 neighbors, Fargo Parks sent letters regarding having an open house to sign agreements and discuss the replacement of the fence. We received 15 out of 16 agreements back after the 2nd notice.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

**Bring to the Full Board: September 10, 2024**

**2025 Budget Update**

Broc Lietz, presented. Discussed the 2025 Budget. The commissioners approved the 2025 preliminary budget, the budget called for a mill levy increase of 2.05 mills. Broc stated they will continue to review to reduce the mill levy, if possible, to minimize the impact to the taxpayer. This was submitted to the county. The finance team and directors reviewed the budget again, while doing this, Fargo Parks received a tax notice from the county. The notice stated that the request that we made for the increase in the general fund, bumped us up to the statutory 12% cap of increases. The total estimated mill reduction from the preliminary budget recommendation is .54 mills, reflecting a mill levy increase in 2025 of 1.51 mills. These figures are estimations and subject to change once final mill valuation is certified by the county.

 Notes submitted by Carmen Johnson, Executive Assistant