

**Flood Control Committee**  
**February 17, 2015**

The **Flood Control Committee** met Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Present were Committee Members John Hollowell, Dwayne Andrews, Ken Gardner and Sheena Martin. Also present was Floodplain Administrator Sam Malenovsky, KLJ Engineer Project Manager Carl Jackson, County Commissioner Jason Strouf and Recorder HR/Payroll Officer Billie Burkhalter.

**1. Election of Chairperson:**

*\*\* Committee Member Andrews moved to nominate Committee Member John Hollowell for Chairperson of the Flood Control Committee. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Gardner.*

After hearing no further nominations:

*\*\* Motion then passed unanimously.*

**2. Request of Citizens/Public Comment:**

-None.

**3. Committee Members Comments:**

-None.

**4. Recommendation to Council for approval of Flood Hazard Mitigation contract:**

Administrator Malenovsky explained the City already has the FEMA Grant for the Flood Hazard Mitigation contract; it just needs to be approved by the City Council. This contract will help towards points for the CRS (Community Rating System). The purpose of this contract is to help determine what the City currently has for weak points along the dike. KLJ Project Manager Carl Jackson added that there is not any out of pocket expense for the City.

*\*\* Committee Member Martin moved to recommend to Council to approve the Flood Mitigation Contract. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Gardner and, on roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.*

**5. Recommendation to Council for option of Flood Assessment Study:**

Administrator Malenovsky explained there are five options for the City to choose from:

1. Do Nothing
2. LOMRs – Letter of Map Revision
3. Letter of Map Change by using a 2D model
4. 100-Year Flood Control Structure
5. 500- Year Flood Control Structure

She explained the response she has received from the public has been in support of the levee being constructed. Committee Member Gardner stated he has talked to his constituents and that most are in favor of rebuilding the levee. Committee Member Andrews stated after reviewing the study it only made sense to go with the 500 year levee. He added that it may cost more, but it offers more protection to the City. Committee Member Martin agreed.

Administrator Malenovsky noted that there is always a potential that the Federal government could change the requirements for the levee and the 500 year option would give the City more flexibility to modify or extend the dike.

Administrator Malenovsky stated she has a meeting with representatives from Congressman Ryan Zinke's office and will exhaust all avenues of funding sources to be able to complete this project.

County Commissioner Jason Strouf stated he has met with Administrator Malenovsky and KLJ Project Manager Carl Jackson concerning the floodplain issue in Miles City. He explained the County Commissioners believe that it would be beneficial if the City and County did a joint resolution in support of the proposed levee and that it would only make sense financially to go with the 500 year levee option. He further stated that the County has a grant writer who would be very willing to look at available grants once the option has been chosen.

*\*\* Committee Member Andrews moved to recommend to Council to approve and move forward with the option of: "500- Year Flood Control Structure". The motion was seconded by Committee Member Martin and, on roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

#### **6. Recommendation to Council for Ad hoc Committee to oversee option chosen:**

Chairperson Hollowell explained that this Ad hoc Committee would be set up to oversee the recommendation the Council approved and to explore funding options.

Administrator Malenovsky stated this committee would be made up of agencies that the City has to work and collaborate with to accomplish the project. The potential members would include, but are not limited to, people from DNRC, KLJ, City, County, FEMA, Army Corp, Fish Wildlife and Parks, and the Conversation District. This committee would develop a plan, purpose and objective to oversee the option chosen.

Project Manager Jackson explained that it is going to take a lot of heavy financial lifting to get this kind of project going. He would recommend the Flood Committee members start thinking about people in the Community that would passionately champion this project. These people would need to be willing to write letters of support to the Senator's office and the Governor's office, as well as be willing to go to political meetings to represent Miles City and

be an advocate for the project and the City.

\*\* *Committee Member Gardner moved to recommend to Council to have Floodplain Administrator Malenovsky organize an Ad hoc Committee to oversee the 500 Year structure option. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Andrews and on roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.*

**7. Recommendation to Council to pursue a contract with KLJ for chosen Flood option, funding options:**

Chairperson Hollowell explained this is a request to pursue a contract with KLJ and their Government Relations Specialist, Becky Bey, for the chosen flood option.

\*\* *Committee Member Martin moved to recommend to Council to pursue a contract with KLJ for the flood and funding options in regards to the chosen 500 year levee option. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Andrews.*

Administrator Malenovsky explained that KLJ's Government Relations Group would help search for funding for the 500 year flood control structure. She stated that this group would be a great resource to the City, saving time and money, as they already have established contacts for funding options.

KLJ Project Manager Jackson explained that the Government Relations group would work in collaboration with the City to find funding sources. He stated this group has been very successful in the past, bringing tens of millions of dollars to KLJ clients through their proactive grant writing and networking.

\*\* *On roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.*

**8. Adjournment**

KLJ Engineer Project Manager Jackson stated that he could not thank Administrator Malenovsky enough for all of her hard work. He explained that the contract with his firm and the City is almost complete and hopes this partnership continues in the future. He thanked the Committee for the support and trust that they placed in KLJ.

\*\* *Committee Member Andrews moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Gardner and passed unanimously, 4-0.*

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Flood Control Committee Chairperson

  
Billie D. Burkhalter, Recorder

  
John Hollowell, Chairperson