

## **Manufacturer's Round Table**

November 13, 2019

Southwest Water Authority

Meeting Record

**Present:** Thomas Mitzel, DSU; Craig Kubas, City of Dickinson; Mary Urlacher, Job Service ND; Mary Massad, Southwest Water Authority; Shirley Dukart, Home and Land Company; Guy Moos, Baker Boy; Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation and Danita Tysver, Stark Development Corporation.

### **Business – Go – Round:**

Shirley Dukart, Home and Land Company – Real estate has picked up. Back to 2014 numbers. (see attached handout)

Mary Massad, SWA – Have over 4,000 potential customers according to the 911 addressing system. Currently serve over 7,300 customers. Have over 700 on a waiting list. Have 29 storage tanks. Southwest water serves 33 communities. Continually upgrading and working to increase water capacity. Water rates will be increasing. Provided a presentation of their projects.

Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation – Working with VUK Multimedia on a series of videos. Will be releasing the first business spotlight soon featuring Baker Boy. The workforce recruitment committee has met. Will be completing a strategic plan to better define the mission of the committee and their challenges. The Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census has met.

Discussion took place regarding the upcoming Census and the challenges of getting everyone counted.

Mary Urlacher, Job Service ND – The region has 893 job openings. The CDL truck driver training school has left the area due to rent increase of their facility. Hope to see DSU continue the CNA training program. (see attached handout)

Craig Kubas, City of Dickinson – Preparing for 2020 projects. Will be restriping State Avenue south. Jacked up the bridge on State Avenue south. Will be installing water lines along State Avenue. Will be connecting the Crooked Crane Trail from Lake Patterson to State Avenue which will be funded through Outdoor Heritage Funds. The airport runway has been approved to receive \$400,000 a year for several years. A landfill study has been completed. The life expectancy is longer than first predicted. Will be running a reuse water line to help serve Meridian Refinery. MDU is installing a new gas line along Broadway. City Hall plans to move into the old American Insurance Center building and the Downtown Square will be located to the north.

Tom Mitzel, DSU – State funding should begin to increase following the decline of funding over the last couple bienniums. Dual Mission is a positive for the community. The higher learning committee gave a positive report. The Centennial Plaza is almost complete. Thank you to Stark Development Corporation for the grant to assist in the plaza. The interim president will be announced tomorrow.

Guy Moos, Baker Boy – Sales are strong. Working overtime and adding a second shift. Sue Roller has semi-retired. She is mentoring Amber Beld to replace her. The new line of thaw and

serve donuts is going well. Filling open positions and still receiving applications. Entering their slow season. Has been a good year.

**Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 2:30 PM, Medora Corporation.**