

# Lake Agassiz Water Authority Bulletin

Volume VII, Issue V

Fall 2009

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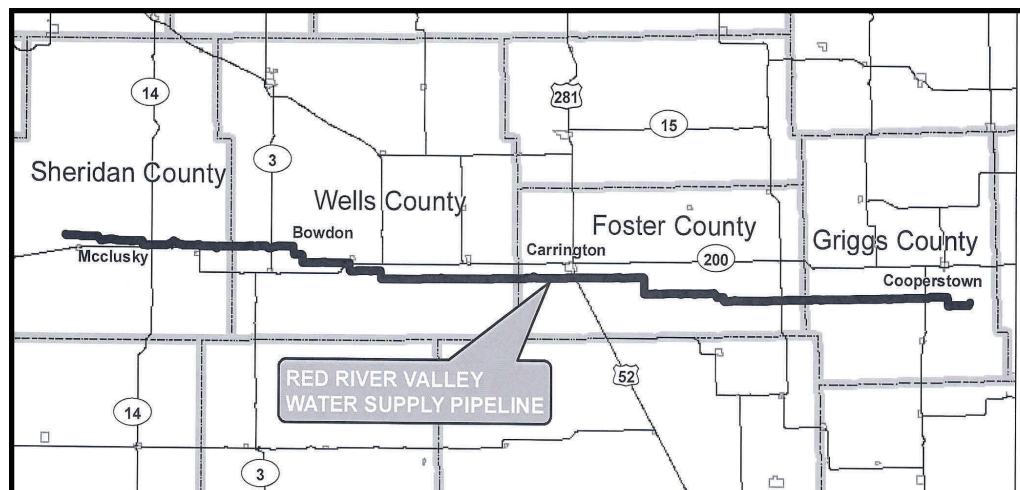
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## Red River Valley Water Supply Project— Right-of-Way Update

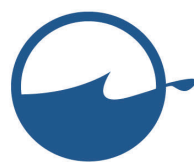
All offers to purchase an option for an easement have been mailed to landowners along the pipeline route. To date, 110 of 173 (64%) landowners have signed option agreements.

After listening to concerns from landowners, revisions were made to the Crop Damage Payment and Land Surface Alteration Policy and the proposed Permanent Easement. This is being done to clarify Garrison Diversion's intentions and commitments to assure that the project is constructed in a way that minimizes impacts to agricultural lands. These revisions were presented to the Garrison Diversion Board of Directors and approved on October 16, 2009.

Three small adjustments to the pipeline route are currently being considered based on environmental conditions.



Pipeline route from the McClusky Canal through Sheridan, Wells, Foster and Griggs Counties to Lake Ashtabula



**Lake Agassiz  
Water Authority**  
Securing our Future Today

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## Election Held for City Representation on Lake Agassiz



Cities from eastern North Dakota held elections for representation to the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (Lake Agassiz) Board of Directors at the recent North Dakota League of Cities Conference in Minot.

The group elected the City of Hunter as the newest member of the Board of Directors. Carol Siegert, City Council member, will be the city's representative on the Board. The City of Hunter replaced the City of Hillsboro on the Board.

Re-elected to represent the City of Valley City on the Board of Directors is City Commissioner Ken Evenson.

Continuing to serve on the Board of Directors representing cities are: former Mayor Bruce Furness, for the City of Fargo; City Council member Curt Kreun, for the City of Grand Forks; and Moorhead Public Service Commissioner Kelli Poehls, for the City of Moorhead.

The Board consists of 10 elected members, each serving a two-year term. Five of the members represent cities, while the other five members represent rural water districts.

Lake Agassiz is comprised of cities and water districts in the Red River Valley, consisting of the eastern 13 counties in North Dakota and three cities in Minnesota. The water authority was created by the North Dakota state legislature. Its purpose is to supply and distribute water to the Red River Valley with a focus on the economic welfare of the people and finding a reliable supply of high quality water.

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### City of Hunter Board Member

Carol Siegert of Hunter, ND, is the newest member of the Lake Agassiz Water Authority Board of Directors. She has been a City Council member in Hunter for two years.

She is well aware that the Red River Valley could be without adequate water in the near future. "If we do not continue to support water projects, the results could be very disturbing. We need to be concerned about the future," says Ms. Siegert.

Now retired, Ms. Siegert brings both knowledge and experience to the board as she spent 16 years working in various capacities in state government.

Ms. Siegert lives in Hunter with her husband, Kermit. Even in retirement, she remains active with many organizations. Her main interests are spending time with her six grandchildren and politics.

**"IF WE DO NOT CONTINUE TO SUPPORT WATER PROJECTS, THE RESULTS COULD BE VERY DISTURBING. WE NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUTURE."**

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## Regional Drought Conditions

Following one of the wettest springs on record, below normal precipitation was the norm for most of North Dakota in July. July's below normal precipitation levels worsened drought conditions throughout the state, expanding abnormal dryness in both southwestern and east-central North Dakota. Throughout August, much of the state was abnormally dry, while a small portion of east-central North Dakota saw moderate drought conditions.

After seeing below average temperatures throughout the summer, warm weather finally arrived in September, when temperatures across the state ran above normal for the majority of the month. According to the High Plains Regional Climate Center, the warm monthly average temperatures broke two long-standing records in Williston and Grand Forks. Isolated areas of North Dakota received above average precipitation in September. Enough precipitation was received to bring the southwest corner out of abnormally dry conditions, eliminating the last of the dry conditions in North Dakota.

October followed with below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. The combination of precipitation and low temperatures led to snowfall across much of the state in the second week of October.

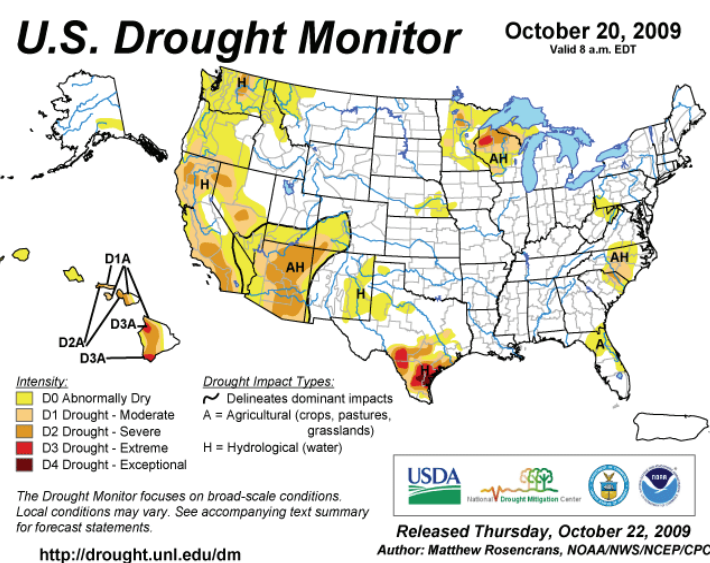
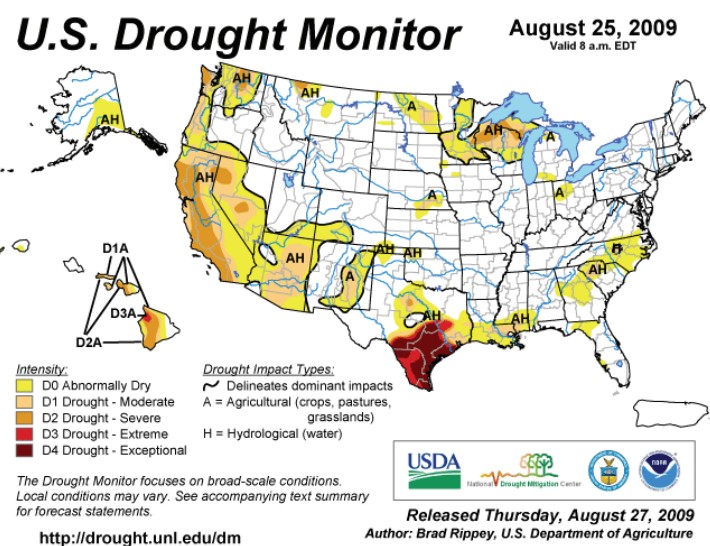
Even with above normal precipitation in the spring and record flooding, the month of July showed just how quickly drought conditions can occur.

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## Meeting Update

At the October board meeting, the Lake Agassiz Water Authority Board of Directors voted to meet quarterly for 2010, replacing their monthly schedule. The board will re-evaluate their meeting schedule for 2011 at which time they may resume monthly meetings. The next meeting will take place on December 8 in Bismarck, in conjunction with the North Dakota Water Convention. Beginning in 2010, meetings will be held in March, June, September and December on the second Tuesday of each month.

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Water Authority**

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## **LAWA Board of Directors**

Chairman Bruce Furness—City of Fargo

Vice Chairman Keith Burley—Cass Rural Water Users

Secretary/Treasurer Dave Koland—Garrison Diversion

Curt Kreun—City of Grand Forks

LaVonne Althoff—Southeast Water Users

Clark Cronquist—Agassiz Water Users

Kenneth Evenson—City of Valley City

Rick Bigwood—North Valley Water District

John Drees—Grand Forks-Trail Water District

Kelli Poehls—City of Moorhead

Carol Siegert—City of Hunter

## **Upcoming Meeting**

Lake Agassiz Water Authority Board of Directors and Red River Valley Water Supply Project Work Group

**December 8, 2009, 1:00 PM, Best Western Ramkota Hotel— Bismarck, ND**

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