

North Dakota Game and Fish Department



Land Acquisition Proposal of Approximately 7 Acres of Land along the James River Adjacent to the City of LaMoure, in LaMoure County



BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

Last fall the Department was contacted by LaMoure County Commissioner Robert Flath concerning an interest by the community of LaMoure to make substantial improvements to a small recreation area on the west side of the town of LaMoure. The area is on the James River and has been leased on a year-to-year basis by the City of LaMoure and the James River Sportsman's Club from an aging area landowner for a long period of time. There is a concern as to the future of the area as the owner is aging and there has been talk of using the area for a residential lot. The community would like to make substantial improvements to the area, but because of the questionable status of the property's ownership these plans are on hold. The communities would have the funding for either the development or maintenance of the area or the purchase of the area, but not both.

It appears as this could be a very successful partnership between the Department and the community of LaMoure. Shore fishing is one of the primary draws for this area as there is a low head dam on the property that concentrates fish on this stretch of the river. The dam is owned by the LaMoure County Water Resource District and is maintained by them and the State Water Commission. Because of its location next to the City of LaMoure and being adjacent to Highway #13 the area gets extensive use by the youth of LaMoure and surrounding area as well as older citizens. The Department has explored the idea of improving the safety and ease of access to the shoreline, but because of the long-term status of the property we have been reluctant to make the investment. The long-term plan is for the Department to purchase the property, improve the area for shore fishing and enter into an agreement with the City of LaMoure and the James River Wildlife Club for the development and maintenance of the area.

An agreement has been reached with the owners, Lyle and Alida Albertson of Lamoure, to purchase approximately 7 acres from them, pending appropriate approvals. The purchase price is \$36,000 which is slightly above the appraisal price of \$30,000. The appraisal was completed by Raymond Thielges of LaMoure. Legislation authorizing land acquisition in our current budget allows for paying up to double the appraised price for land parcels less than 40 acres. In accordance with state law Governor John Hoeven has reviewed and approved the purchase.

MICHIAL H. JOHNSON
AUDITOR

SANDRA K. DATHE
DEPUTY

LAMOURE COUNTY AUDITOR

BOX 128 • 202 4TH AVE. NE
LAMOURE, NORTH DAKOTA 58458
TELEPHONE (701) 883-5301

June 3, 2010
N D Game & Fish Department
100 N. Bismarck Express Way
Bismarck, ND 58501-6300

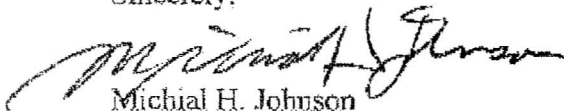
RE: Purchase of property in LaMoure County

To whom it may concern,

On June 3rd at the first monthly meeting of the LaMoure County Commission a motion was passed to support the acquisition of a plot of land on the west side of the Dam located on the James River west of the City of LaMoure. Having the area available for use by the public for recreation purposes will be appreciated by not only the citizens of LaMoure County but by individuals from other counties and states as well.

Thank you for your fore site regarding area and state citizens in enjoying out door activities and the resources of the State of North Dakota.

Sincerely,



Michial H. Johnson
LaMoure County Auditor/Secretary LaMoure County Board of Commissioners

CITY OF LAMOURE



PO BOX 215 ♦ 33 CENTER AVE EAST ♦ LAMOURE ND 58458
Phone (701)883-5957 ♦ Fax 701-883-5605

DATE: June 8, 2010
FROM: City of LaMoure
TO: ND Game & Fish Dept
100 N Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND
SUBJECT: LaMoure Dam Site

Dear Sir:

At the June 7, 2010 city council meeting, the council made a motion to support the purchase of land known as the LaMoure Dam Site.

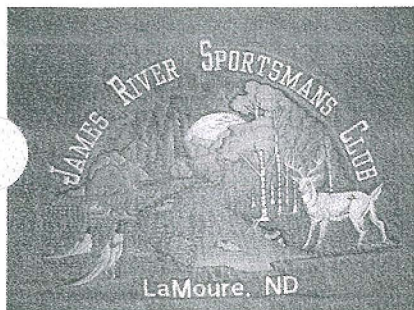
The motion also included the city taking responsibility for the mowing of the area.

The City of LaMoure would like to thank the Game & Fish Dept for purchasing this land and maintaining an active presence with local sportsman and women.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carmen Klein".

Carmen Klein
City Auditor
City of LaMoure
PO Box 215
LaMoure, ND 58458
701-883-5957



James River Sportsman Club
504 3rd Avenue SE
LaMoure, North Dakota

Board Members
Bob Flath
James Warcken
Mark Shockman
Cindy Worrel
Kory Christensen

June 4, 2010

North Dakota Game & Fish
100 N Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501

This letter is in support of the North Dakota Game & Fish Department purchasing the property known as the LaMoure Dam site, located at Highway 13 and the James River.

This site is extensively used and enjoyed by the public. It is habitat for a variety of wildlife and fish. The site needs to have continued resources and access in order to maintain the area to make necessary improvements in the future. State ownership would allow permanent improvements to this area.

The James River Sportsman Club has supported endeavors in the past, but due to limited resources, we feel the assistance of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department would be beneficial in developing this site. This property would adhere to the mission of the Game and Fish Department to protect, conserve and enhance wildlife and fish populations and their habitat for sustained public consumptive and appreciative use.

Therefore, the James River Sportsman Club fully supports the purchase of the LaMoure Dam Site by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department in order to develop the site to the fullest potential.

Respectfully submitted

James River Sportsman Club



Subject

