

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1985 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE
CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION, 8149 KENNEDY, HIGHLAND, INDIANA.

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chairman William Tanke. Ten Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared. Visitors were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

William Tanke
Michael Doyne
Doyle Niemeyer
Philip Jaynes
George Carlson
Charles Agnew
Clyde Baughard
John DeMeo
Arlene Colvin

Visitors:

Robert L. Frum Jr. - Portage East
Nancy Banks - The Times
Mike VanderHeyden - Dyer Const.
Marv Whitmore - Driggs Haas Hyndman
& Warren - Michigan City
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Mary Jane Zak - South Shore Marina
Roland Fabian
Dan Rodriguez - Cong. Visclosky's
Office

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Sandy Mordus

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 15th meeting was made by Clyde Baughard; seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Tanke referred to legislation which increased the board membership from 10 to 11 members. He then introduced the City of Gary's appointment, Arlene Colvin, Director of Planning & Development in Gary and announced George Carlson being reappointed as the Mayor of Hammond's appointment.

Finance Committee - Doyle Niemeyer presented the financial status report. A motion to approve the claims for the month of August was made by Doyle Niemeyer; seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously. He announced the memo outlining State Travel Regulations given to Commissioners will be in effect for the Board members.

Land Acquisition - Chuck Agnew made a motion to advertise for bids for the electrical/water/gas service lines for Lake Etta pending final receipt of plans and specifications from engineer; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

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Chuck Agnew made a motion authorizing attorney to proceed with quiet title action in regards to properties on 29th Avenue adjacent to Lake Etta; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Chuck Agnew made a motion authorizing attorney to proceed with quiet title action on transferred Porter County Commissioners lots; seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. Attorney has received letter from the title company stating they would pay incurred expense.

Chuck Agnew made a motion to advertise for bids for excavation and removal of sand located on Brock property upon receipt of final specs from engineer; seconded by Phil Jaynes; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Chuck Agnew to offer \$43,450 purchase price for properties DC54-55 (Weyhe property); seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Considering that the previous offer was not accepted, a motion made by Chuck Agnew to authorize attorney to commence eminent domain action working to acquire DC83 (Ewen property). A copy of the legal description is made part of these minutes; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Dan Gardner reported that staff is looking into relocation responsibilities and assistance in regards to MacIntosh situation and will work toward seeking relocation adjustments. It is a sub-standard dwelling and uninhabitable and for that reason the action was taken for the eviction of the tenants.

Chuck Agnew announced the "sneak preview" of Lake Etta which will be held Sunday, September 22nd. Ceremony is at 1 p.m. and Commissioners are encouraged to attend. 1,000 flyers were distributed and a high attendance is expected.

Chuck Agnew announced that the deeds have been received & recorded from the 39 lots that were transferred to the Commission by the Lake County Commissioners.

Legislative Committee - Chairman Phil Jaynes reported that he has talked to the Congressional staff and it is anticipated that the Water Resources bill will be passed by this session of Congress. He requested the committee members have a short legislative meeting upon conclusion of the Commission meeting. Dan Gardner reported that the bill (H.R.6) has passed out of committee in the House and is awaiting floor consideration. Hopefully, all problems with the Senate version have been worked out and feelings are optimistic about its passage.

Chairman Tanke speculated on staff forming an ad-hoc committee of those parties that also have projects awaiting passage in the bill.

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Breakwater/Marina Committee - Dan Gardner reported that 2 potential groups are interested in the development of the marina (1 local and 1 from Ohio). At this point, there are no formal proposals - only letters of interest.

Breakwater project is proceeding on schedule; it will be completed by this fall.

Staff sent out a letter of inquiry to architectural/engineering firms soliciting whether or not they would be interested in the design of a marina. One firm has responded with a proposal thus far (to be reviewed by Marina Committee).

Jerry Pagac reported on his attendance at the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission meetings. He stated that an economic analysis is probably going to be done for each site and that study would help in the development of the marina in Portage.

Mike Doyme announced he and Dan Gardner attended the State Finance and Policy Hearing in Indianapolis. The issue was the boat tax. They were encouraged by the great deal of support that was shown, especially by the chairman, Senator Borst. Representative Mary Kay Budak led local input to the hearing; she was instructed to prepare a bill for the next legislative session that would put Indiana in equity with the other states. A lengthy discussion was held in regards to the boat tax issue. It was debated whether a summary of the tax issue should be sent to interested parties; i.e. mayors, marina owners, legislators. It was decided that a draft letter will be prepared for the next meeting and then it will be decided whether or not it will be mailed.

River Maintenance - Dan Gardner reported the sediment removal project has been completed on the Gary stretch of the river (including the \$25,000 from the Lake County Commissioners). Dried material on the banks still has to be picked up and taken to disposal sites; seeding of banks still has to be done. A clear channel is now present from Grant Street to Broadway. Hopefully, with 1986 monies, dredging will be extended to Chase St. next year.

State Highway Dept. is expected to clear obstructions at Indianapolis Blvd. bridge in Highland in October.

Attorney Casale brought Commission up to date on status of lawsuit filed by Lefty's Coho. Suit was filed prior to opening of proposals asking for injunction to prevent Commission from constructing a marina or condemning land owned on east side of the ditch; monetary damages were also asked for. Attorney counter filed motion to dismiss suit contending intentional interference with the Corps contract, motion for change of venue from the county and a motion to join in the United States of America as a necessary party to the action. No further status at this time.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 24th.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.