

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1987
AT THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Chairman Galambos. Roll call was taken and 8 Commissioners were present. A quorum was declared. Vistors were acknowledged.

Basin Commissioners:

Richard Galambos
Ed Fetterer
Robert Huffman
Frank Howard
Elizabeth Williamson
Don Bengel
Steve Collins
Edith Root

Visitors:

R. Frum - Lake Station
Bob Kasarda - The Times
Denarie Kane - City of Hammond
Charles Dickard - Ten Ech
Don Ewen - Volunteer

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Sandy Mordus

Edith Root made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 1987 meeting; seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Dan Gardner presented the current financial status of the Commission as of March, 1987. He reported that total income thus far in 1987 is \$40,982.07; investment is \$92,760.04; checking account balance is presently at \$36,205.47. He referred to the 1987 budget shares received as of April 13 - most communities have paid. There are only five communities which have not. Mr. Gardner presented the monthly claims for April. Don Bengel made a motion to approve the claims as presented; Bob Huffman seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Galambos reported on the state bill authorizing Commission funding continuation. Dan Gardner referred to a copy of the bill included in the agenda packet which was amended to include funding of the Commission. Status is that it has passed both houses; it has been assigned to a conference committee. Staff has been in contact with legislators and will continue to monitor the progress.

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Dan Gardner reported that the sediment removal at Indianapolis Blvd. bridge area has been completed. Dredging has been completed; levee material has been compacted; it has been seeded. The Corps has inspected it on April 15 and found it satisfactory. Don Ewen added that he has re-seeded the banks. Mr. Huffman inquired about the river elevation at Indpls. Ten Ech will provide available elevations for next meeting.

Specifications for rip rap prepared by Ten Ech for the Lake County Drainage Board were distributed. Cost would be about \$15,000.

Discussion took place on the Erie bridge cleaning/removal. Dan Gardner explained that a meeting was held on March 3 at which representatives from the city of Hammond, surveyor's office, engineering firm and Dept. of Natural Resources, Div. of Water attended. Denarie Kane spoke and offered information pertaining to the grant that Hammond had received based upon the bridge being a linkage between Hammond and Highland and should not be removed. Chuck Dickerd from Ten Ech reported that they had accumulated information regarding partial removal of bridge. He stated that removing 2 center piers of the bridge for a 54' clearance would cost about \$15,000; removing 3 center piers for a 72' clearance would cost about \$18,500. Mr. Huffman asked Ten Ech to provide whatever information they had gathered on the Erie bridge in case the issue surfaced again at a later date. Chairman Galambos suggested they table the issue.

Specifications on the river clearing/snagging project from Indianapolis to Kennedy Ave. were distributed to members. The Corps permit has been applied for but not received yet. There is \$35,000 in the Drainage Board's budget to cover this cost.

Chairman Galambos stated that the monies available in the Little Calumet River watershed were re-prioritized. \$50,000 is now available for the Little Cal drain.

Penn Central R.R. culverts Improvement - A study by Ten Ech Engineering was previously authorized because no data was available to prepare and support a permit for the culverts. The data gathered by Ten Ech should justify to the Corps that the elevation of the water downstream would not be affected and that it would be feasible to enlarge Penn Central culverts. Chuck Dickard and Mike Kerr from Ten Ech Engineering gave their

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presentation/request to perform engineering for the additional modeling required to apply for a permit. The proposal for this additional study would be segmented into five tasks for a total amount of \$11,109.00. A lengthy discussion was held on the presentation/request. Ten Ech was authorized to prepare specifications and have report in complete final form pursuing information from the Corps to include the area east of Penn Central to Deep River in order to obtain a permit from the Corps by a motion from Don Bengel; seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner stated he had been in contact with Frank DeRisi, superintendent for Lake County Highway Dept. He stressed again to them that there was a commitment by the Highway Dept. to remove the Taft St. culverts. Regarding the Chase Street culvert removal and bridge reconstruction, the Highway Dept. has stated that they would review plans as proposed by the Corps but they do not have any funds available for reconstruction of the bridge. Mr. Gardner stated he will try to schedule another meeting with the Highway Dept. as well as the Surveyor's Office.

Don Ewen distributed a letter written to him by the Lake County Drainage agent outlining volunteer proposals that have merit and complimenting him and fellow volunteers for the time and effort expended on these activities.

Chairman Galambos asked Commissioners to think about potential projects for expending the upcoming year's Drainage Board and Basin Commission's funds.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

/sjm