

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1987 AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Michael Doyne. Nine Commissioners were present. Guests were recognized and quorum was declared.

Development Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Sandy Mordus
Bruce Stouffer

Visitors:

Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Mary Jane Zak - " "
Barry Saunders - Post Tribune
Don & Elinor Ewen
Bob Kasarda - The Times
Richard Bundy - Salmon
Unlimited
R. Frum - Lefty's
Nancy Christoph - Lake County
Parks Dept.
Elaine Chandler - Lake County
Parks Dept.
Bob Hechlinski - N.W. Forum
Col. Frank Finch & Staff -
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 7th, meeting was made by Clyde Baughard; seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Mike Doyne introduced Col. Finch who have a presentation on the Little Calumet River Project implementation. He stated that the Corps has been proceeding with limited planning & design on the Western reach. Work will proceed this summer on the eastern reach. The President's fiscal budget for 1988 contains \$250,000 to be used to complete general design memorandum and initiate design of the first construction features of the project. He stated that the controversy over the authorized plan versus the Corps recommended plan is nearing resolution. Attempts are being made to find cost cutting measures for the authorized plan while at the same time keeping the level of protection authorized.

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Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Doyle Niemeyer presented the financial status sheet for April as presented with one additional claim for \$60.00 for Maruszczak's; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson reported that the Oxbow area has been traded between the city of Hammond and the town of Highland.

Dan Gardner added that the Governor has called for a special session for the General Assembly to resolve several issues, one being the monies requested for the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission. The \$2 million is remaining in the budget for the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to purchase snow fencing and posts at a cost of \$537 to construct on marina site in Portage to keep sand from blowing. The city of Portage had received complaints of blowing sand. Constructing snow fencing was the most reasonable way of alleviating the problem. The motion was seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew reported that a bid opening was held this morning on leasing the 113.8 acre farm land, DC83. One bid was received from Jeff Ewen for \$770.50 an acre. Mr. Agnew made a motion to accept the bid and lease the land to Mr. Ewen for one year only; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously. Farm land was properly advertised and bid was properly prepared.

Elaine Chandler and Nancy Christoph from Lake County Parks Dept. gave a presentation to the Commission on a plan to develop the recently acquired Cat Fish Bay area. After presenting a map and a description of suggested improvements, the Commission voted to accept only some of the improvements presented. The Commission did not feel a parking lot could be funded at this time. Bill Tanke made a motion that landscaping of evergreen and deciduous tree buffer along perimeter of property and the l.f. to a 3:1 slope be funded at this time. The motion was seconded by George Carlson. The motion was then amended to also fund the purchase of a guardrail between the existing gravel road and Catfish Bay pond. Motion passed unanimously. It was suggested that the price of a wood guardrail over a metal one be investigated. Funding of these three items total \$7,640.

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Chuck Agnew made a motion that the Cat Gish Bay plan be conceptually accepted by the Commission; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Interium Flood Control Planning Committee - Committee Chairman Arlene Colvin stated that the Indianapolis Blvd. bridge area river work has been completed. The levees have been graded, compacted and seeded. Army Corps of Engineers have inspected the area and found it acceptable. She distributed specifications prepared by Ten Ech for the rip-rap project and the specifications for river clearing from Indianapolis to Kennedy. Permits for this project are now being applied for.

She added that a complaint from a resident in the Black Oak area was received in regard to obstructions at the Chase Street culvert. Cleaning of that culvert falls in the jurisdiction of the city of Gary. Ms. Colvin contacted Gary General Services to perform this work as soon as possible.

Dan Gardner stated that the Little Calumet River Basin Commission met last week and discussion took place regarding the Penn Central Railroad culverts. The Basin Commission has authorized Ten Ech Engineering to pursue modeling to allow permit issuance. They will also look at the channel all the way to Deep River. Any work that would be performed would be compatible with the long range plan.

George Carlson stated that there is some \$19,000 in the city of Hammond's Community Block Grant budget that may be used to remove some of the pilings from under the Erie bridge at Indianapolis Blvd. Removal of some of the pilings would improve the water flow in that area.

Breakwater/Marina Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke reported that the budget passed with \$4 million appropriated to the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission to be divided among the five cities. \$8.6 million is to be appropriated as a loan to the Marina Commission.

Mr. Tanke reported that appraisals on the 14 NIPSCO lots needed for the marina site are being made.

The handrails on the breakwaters are in place.

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Mr. Gardner added that the boat excise tax bill did not pass this session. The bill was very complicated and there seemed to be many misunderstandings about it.

Richard Bundy, Salmon Unlimited, questioned the quality of the rip rap to be used for placement on the banks at Indianapolis Blvd. bridge. He also commended on the pumping of water into the river by the southeast pump station in Hammond.

Bob Frum from Lefty's Coho questioned whether a final site had been determined for the marina and whether or not a traffic impact study had been made. He was informed that several parcels of property have been purchased to date for a site and the remainder of the needed property is in the process of being acquired. Mr. Gardner stated the site was chosen through a master plan study and was submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers.

The next meeting was scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 28, 1987.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

/sjm

