

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1987 AT THE COMMISSION
OFFICES 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Michael Doyne. Nine Commissioners were present. Guests were recognized and quorum was declared. Chairman Doyne introduced and welcomed Jack R. Swike, newest member to the Development Commission and an appointment of the Lake County Commissioners.

Development Commissioners:

Jack Swike
Charles Agnew
William Tanke
Don Duran
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 - " "
Elnora Duran
Don Ewen
Sherylin Freeland - Congress-
man Visclosky's Office
Richard Bundy - Salmon
Unlimited
Tim Sanders - Senators Lugar
& Quayle's Office
Andrew Beckman - Lake County
Park & Recreation, Planning

There were several corrections to the minutes of the April 30th meeting. On page 2, paragraph 2, under Land Acquisition/Management Committee, an incorrect amount of "\$770.50 an acre" was stated. The correct amount is "\$77.50 an acre". On page 4, paragraph 2, the word "Interim" was incorrectly spelled "interium". On page 5, paragraph 2, the word "commented" was incorrectly spelled "commended". Clyde Baughard made a motion to accept the minutes of April 30th as amended; George Carlson seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Dna Gardner referred to a letter in the packet informing the Commission of Col. Frank Finch's departure from the Chicago District and his replacement being LTC Jess J. Franco.

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Finance/Policy Committee - In Treasurer Doyle Niemeyer's absence, Dan Gardner presented the financial status for May. He stated the reason the Investment line decreased this month was due to the fact that the \$100,000 for Phase III development of Lake Etta park was paid to Lake County Parks. Clyde Baughard made a motion to approve the claims for May as presented; seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson referred to the State Budget Act listing the Commission as receiving \$2 million. He also announced that staff had sent letters to all legislators thanking them for their continued support. Mr. Gardner gave a brief explanation of the letter contained in the packet addressed to Col. Finch from DRN regarding the SCS Thornton Reservoir.

Dan Gardner stated that he will be receiving a copy of the questionnaire that is to be mailed to the possible affected people in the Small Farms area regarding relocation as presented by the Corps. He will forward that to Commissioners upon receipt. Discussion was held on a trip to Washington to further support the 3A plan and to find out exactly why the Washington Corps is not following the language in the signed bill by the President. The directive comes from Washington - not Chicago District. Although the trip was supported by Commissioners, George Carlson recommended an on-site visit of the affected properties/homes in Gary (and first-hand knowledge of where the proposed levee changes would be located) be taken first so a better understanding of the proposal would be afforded. Dan Gardner stated he would obtain as much information from the Corps as he can, including photographs and aerials, and a trip to the site would be scheduled very soon.

Clyde Baughard made a motion that a committee be formed to travel to Washington, with law in hand, to state the Commission's position; seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew announced that three properties had closed this month: Cain property (DC206), Guidry (DC151) and Spencer (DC171). Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve up to \$1100 for a change order needed by the Lake County Parks Dept. for the development of Catfish Bay (additional bank regrading and hydroseeding of the banks); motion seconded by Jerry Pagac; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Agnew also made a motion to approve a change order in the existing fencing contract to include an additional 66' of fencing that is needed now that the Cain property is acquired. This additional fencing will close off the property. Motion was

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seconded by Jerry Pagac; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew reported that the north and west fencing bids will be opened at 10 a.m. on June 15. Snow fencing has been installed at the marina property for sand control.

Interium Flood Control Planning Committee - Committee Chairman Arlene Colvin commented on the recent storms and rainfall. Black Oak was especially flooded but it was because of the lack of sewers - not river flooding. Discussion was held on the actual ownership of the Erie bridge railroad right-of-way. It seems that Erie Lackawanna turned ownership over to L. B. Foster who likewise turned ownership over to Dept. of Natural Resources. The DNR refused ownership and turned it over to the County for determination of owner. The Auditor's Office reports that they are awaiting an opinion from the Indiana Attorney General's Office. Jerry Pagac will send to the attorney all paperwork the Department has regarding the property issue.

A 10-minute film was shown on the restoration of wetlands along the Des Plaines River.

Mr. Gardner brought the Commission up to date on what the Basin Commission has been doing. He stated that the amendment in this General Assenbly did pass allowing for another three years with funding at \$50,000 per year for the continuation of the Basin Commission. Their efforts are compatible with the long range plan. Their primary target area has been river dredging as far west as Cline to Chase Street and culvert replacement, especially Chase St. which the Lake County Highway Dept. is responsible for and Taft St. culvert removal, which is hampered by a NIPSCO roadway for access. Meetings will be scheduled on both issues.

Indianapolis Blvd. bridge replacement has been put on the Program of Improvements at the State Highway Dept. as well as Grant Street bridge replacement.

Another project will be to extend the dredging project limits from Indianapolis Blvd., with a clearing and snagging project to Kennedy Avenue. That project is currently funded by the Lake County Drainage Board and is awaiting permits.

Breakwater/Marina Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke reported that the dredging is completed at the breakwater and a final project cost accounting will be forthcoming. The Development Commission will participate.

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Mr. Tanke made a motion not to renew the existing lease with R. Frum for slips that are located on Commission property; seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously. The lease was originally between Frum and Brock but when the Commission purchased the Brock property, the lease transferred to the Commission.

Bill Tanké made a motion directing the attorney to send a letter to Marquette Boat Club and Tom Webber (attorney for Frum d/b/a Lefty's Coho Landing) stating that the Commission will request rental from them for the boat slips they are using which are on Commission property (previously belonging to Porter County Commissioners). These rental spaces will be appraised first. Motion was seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

State Highway Department land transfer has been completed for excess property along old Crisman Road in Portage.

Richard Bundy, Salmon Unlimited, suggested the Commission have further meetings with interested parties concerned with wetlands, river dredging, volunteer efforts to clean along the river, etc.

The next meeting was scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 24, 1987.

The trip into the affected areas of Small Farms, Gary to see area proposed for relocation and levee construction was scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 1987.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

/sjm

