

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1988  
 AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES  
 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

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The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chairman Michael Doyne. Nine Commissioners were present. Guests were recognized and quorum was declared.

Development Commissioners:

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

Visitors:

Jacqueline Swike  
 Dorothy Swike  
 Rickey Austin - Black Oak  
 Citizens for Better  
 Government  
 J. Blee - Black Oak  
 Barry Saunders - Post Tribune  
 John Jage - WLTH

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
 Bruce Stouffer  
 Lou Casale  
 Sandy Mordus

The minutes of the December 3, 1987 meeting were approved by a motion from John DeMeo; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Doyne announced a new Commission member, Mr. David E. Springman from Crown Point, has been appointed by the Governor's Office. He will serve the unfilled term left by the death of Don Duran through 12/31/89.

Chairman Doyne also announced the receipt of two letters from the Governor's Office announcing the reappointments of Charles Agnew and Doyle Niemeyer. Both terms are four-year appointments through December 31, 1991.

The 1988 Nominating Committee consisting of William Tanke, Arlene Colvin and Chairman Charles Agnew presented the slate of officers for 1988. Mr. Agnew made a motion to elect John DeMeo for Chairman; Jerry Pagac seconded the motion; motion passed. Mr. DeMeo proceeded to take over the chair.



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Newly elected John DeMeo presented an outgoing plaque to Mike Doyne for his outstanding service as Chairman for 1986 & 1987.

Mr. Agnew made a motion to elect Doyle Niemeyer as Vice Chairman; Mike Doyne seconded the motion; motion passed. Mr. Agnew made a motion to elect Arlene Colvin as Treasurer; Jerry Pagac seconded the motion; motion passed. Mr. Agnew made a motion to elect Clyde Baughard as Secretary; motion seconded by Mike Doyne; motion passed. There were no other nominations for any office. George Carlson made a motion to declare all votes unanimous; seconded by Jack Swike; motion passed unanimously.

Dan Gardner distributed a summary of the progress highlights for 1986-87. Through the team effort and dedicated service of this existing Commission Board, he reported the significant progress that has been made. Mr. Swike suggested that these progress highlights be put in the form of a news release and sent to area news media.

Finance/Policy Committee - Doyle Niemeyer presented the financial report for November as well as the claims for November. Mr. Niemeyer made a motion to approve the claims as presented; seconded by Mike Doyne; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Niemeyer presented the current interest rates that area banks in Lake and Porter county were offering. The Commission now has two banks; Mercantile National Bank in Lake county and the Northern Indiana Bank in Porter county. Since Gainer Bank has now taken over the Northern Indiana Bank and, at present, is offering a lower interest rate, it was recommended that a meeting be scheduled to discuss the feasibility of changing banks to maximize interest payments.

Mr. Niemeyer presented the 1988 Operating Budget and pointed out changes to the Board. Administrative Budget remains the same. Under Land Acquisition/Development Budget, Line 411 (Legal Services) is \$50,000. Line 413 (Land Purchase Costs) shows the full appropriated funds. Line 416 (Structures Capital Improvements) is \$40,000. Line 417 (Property/Structures Insurance) is \$25,000. \$10,000 was transferred from Line 416 to 417 to anticipate possible higher insurance rates. Doyle Niemeyer made a motion that the 1988 Operating Budget as presented be adopted; seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Niemeyer then presented the contract for general services with NIRPC. Changes that differ from the 1987 contract include (1) an increase from \$14 to \$15 per hour for printing and graphic support, (2) an increase from 5 cents to 7 cents per xerox copy and (3) establishing a \$150 per month fee for financial accounting services. Mr. Niemeyer made a motion to accept and sign the

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1988 contract with NIRPC; motion seconded by Mike Doyne; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Niemeyer stated that evaluations were performed on staff using NIRPC evaluation forms and the Finance/Policy Committee met and recommended an 8% increase in staff's salaries.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson announced the passage of the Federal Appropriations Bill for FY88. It contains provisions of \$250,000 for final planning and design of the Little Calumet River flood control and recreation project and \$100,000 for the Burns Small Boat Harbor. Both were requested by the Corps.

Mr. Carlson stated that the draft of the Local Cooperation Agreement will be forthcoming very shortly from the Corps. This agreement must be signed with the Corps prior to the construction project beginning. It will contain our financial responsibilities and legal obligations necessary to act as local sponsor for the project.

Mike Doyne stated that he had attended a meeting in Indianapolis concerning the boat excise tax. A House Bill has been submitted establishing the tax on the length of a boat. Discussion ensued.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew gave the land acquisition report. He reported that properties DC71-75 (Foster Trailer Court) and DC125 (Monarch Oil Company) have closed.

Mr. Agnew presented a property report of land acquisition for 1987. There were 41 tracts (31.17 acres) for a total of \$77,932 that closed. 13 tracts (22.23 acres) for a total of \$24,474 are in the acquisition process. Special acquisition includes 2 tracts (8.5+ acres). Five quit claim deeds were recorded to establish north line at Lake Etta and one property exchange with IXL. Four contract projects totaling \$33,550 were managed in 87 and thirteen leases for 1988 were signed for a total revenue of \$42,264.

Mr. Agnew referred to a letter from Mobile Communications requesting leasing Commission property for construction of a tower. Two sites are being considered.

Mr. Agnew stated that tenants on Mrs. Foster's Trailer Park wish to remain through the winter. Committee feels this is acceptable as it is to our advantage that someone be on the premises.

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Interim Flood Control Planning Committee - Committee Chairman Arlene Colvin reported that a 1987 progress summary report is listed in the packet along with a report of the recommended 1988 priorities.

Discussion was held on the Erie R.R. bridge ownership. Lou Casale has received copies of quit claim deeds from the title company and details are being sought to identify valid ownership. Attorney will contact Jerry Pagac who will explore DNR records. Determination of ownership is underway; will report at next month's meeting.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke stated that Lefty's Coho Landing is in arrears for \$3,500 in regard to lease we assumed on Brock property. Mr. Tanke made a motion that attorney take necessary legal action to collect the \$3,500 from the Frum's; motion seconded by Doyle Niemeyer; motion passed. Mike Doyne abstained from voting.

Dan Gardner reported that he has been in communication with the Coast Guard this week. They report they are unable at this point to furnish a written response to the Commission. Their initial response was that they thought the lights on the breakwaters were sufficient. However, they will be responding in writing. The Coast Guard does have the sole responsibility in determining the brightness of the lights and their replacement if needed.

Mr. Gardner reported that handrails on the breakwaters have been stored for the winter. Mr. Zak had informed staff that some parts had to be replaced due to damage over the season; he will proceed with replacement so the handrails will be ready for installation in the spring.

Members of the audience, John Blee and John Jage, addressed the Board with questions and statements they had.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 1988. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

/sjm

