

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1988
 AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

In Chairman John DeMeo's absence, the meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Doyle Niemeyer. Ten Commissioners were present. Guests were recognized and quorum was declared.

Development Commissioners:

William Critser
 George Carlson
 Jack Swike
 Charles Agnew
 William Tanke
 Arlene Colvin
 Clyde Baughard
 Doyle Niemeyer
 Jerry Pagac
 David Springman

Visitors:

Edward Lukowski - Hammond
 Rob Pleva - Lake County Parks
 Dept. Planning
 Dorothy Swike
 Stephen Davis - Indiana DNR
 J. Blee - Black Oak
 Robert Frum Jr. - Lefty's
 Coho Landing
 Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
 Mary Jane Zak - " "

Staff:

Dan Gardner
 Bruce Stouffer
 Lou Casale
 Sandy Mordus

A correction to the minutes of February 4th was made. Jerry Pagac was incorrectly listed as being present at the meeting; Clyde Baughard was incorrectly omitted as being present. Clyde Baughard made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected; that is, listing him as present and Jerry Pagac as not being present. Motion was seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman Niemeyer referred to the appointment letters contained in the packet. John DeMeo was reappointed by the Governor's Office through 12/31/91 and William Critser was appointed to the Commission by the Governor's Office through 12/31/90.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Arlene Colvin presented the financial report for January as well as the claims. One additional claim was added to the claim sheet. A claim for \$176 was received from Don Powers Insurance Agency for coverage on the Garcia residence. Arlene Colvin made a motion to approve the claims as presented; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Colvin distributed a current financial investment listing to each Commissioner. In First Federal Bank of Indiana, there is a \$350,000 C.D. note at 6.85% on a 12 month rollover; in Mercantile National Bank, there is a \$350,000 C.D. note at 6.6% on a 12 month rollover, a \$188,500 C.D. note at 6.2% on a 30 day rollover and \$82,350 checking account balance earning interest at 5-1/4%.

Legislative Committee - Although the final Local Cooperation Agreement with the Corps of Engineers will not be signed until the first construction contract is to be implemented, Committee Chairman George Carlson reported that staff has been involved in several meetings with the Corps to finalize an acceptable draft to forward to their Headquarters in Washington for their review and approval. Once the draft has been finalized, Commissioners will receive a copy. Legislative Committee will review and report back to full Board. After the draft LCA has been finalized, a meeting will be scheduled in Indianapolis (the Corps will be present) with the state agencies (the Governor's Office, State Budget Agency, DNR, State Highway Dept.) to discuss the implications of the Commission's signing of the Agreement and to discuss the future non-Federal financial requirements required of them.

Mr. Carlson referred to a letter written by Congressman Visclosky to Washington Corps reiterating the importance of the 3A plan and requesting all Corps efforts on the Little Calumet River project be directed toward the realization of this particular plan.

Acting Chairman Doyle Niemeyer took this opportunity to publicly thank the Congressman's efforts in taking this stance and taking the time to again write Washington in support of 3A.

Mr. Gardner stated that the boat excise tax bill did not pass this short legislative session. It will be resubmitted next session. Mr. Gardner attended a Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission work session this morning where Rep. Dobis spoke in behalf of the boat excise tax bill stating there would be more time in the longer session for its passage and that would work to the bill's advantage.

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Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Chairman Chuck Agnew reported that a revised sales agreement from EJ&E Railroad had been received which the committee approved. Mr. Agnew made a motion for Dan Gardner to be authorized to sign the agreement; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve the updated appraisal on DC208; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

At the last meeting, the attorney was asked to take whatever action necessary to rid property DC57 of personal belongings left by previous owner. Mr. Casale has prepared a lease valid for 90 days @ \$50 per month with the provision of insurance provided. If items are not removed in that 90 day period, legal action would be taken at that time. Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve the lease and authorize Dan Gardner to sign it; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner reported that staff met with Lake County Park Dept. staff to discuss future development at Lake Etta. The Ensweller property is now available. Lake Etta could expand to include that land and some surrounding parcels now owned by the Development Commission.

Mr. Agnew reported that he and Mr. Gardner made a presentation to Lake Station Park Dept. on February 11 regarding land on Clay Street owned by the Development Commission for future park development.

On March 1, local park superintendents and city planners met with the Corps to hear the presentation of the recreation planned for the cities/towns along the river. This was the final opportunity given to the park people for their input. Any changes they wish to see happen must be given to the Corps for consideration within a 2 week period.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that the Corps met with Indiana University Northwest economists at a project design meeting on February 23.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Committee Chairman Clyde Baughard reported that, at a request from Commissioner Bill Tanke, a letter had been received from the Corps (Hydraulic Engineer Frank Cook and Chief, Flood Control Section John Morgan) stating that it is the opinion of the Corps that the proposed Harrison Street bridge construction will not have an adverse impact on the flood stages on the Little Calumet River.

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Mr. Baughard also reported that the legal description had been obtained on Erie R.R. bridge property. Attorney Casale is in the process of obtaining quit claim deeds from L.B. Foster and DNR to allow the Development Commission to assume ownership. Commissioner Jack Swike stated that he had learned Foster had requested permission from the Lake County Commissioners to construct a fence in that vicinity. Staff will pursue more information. A motion from Clyde Baughard was made to refer the issue of Erie bridge ownership to the Land Acquisition Committee for further pursuance. Staff will also investigate what the impact would be on the Commission's liability insurance if they assumed ownership. Motion was seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner stated he has met with the new administration in Gary to discuss flood control/recreation in Gary. He stressed to Gary officials the importance and need for internal drainage within the Black Oak area.

A response letter in the agenda packet from the State Highway Dept. states the culvert at Fairbanks St. under the Borman is open. It had been previously brought to the Commission's attention that the culvert was clogged.

Clyde Baughard stated that staff would be meeting with Munster Town Board on March 7 and Hammond Park Board on March 8 to give a presentation on the flood control/recreation plan. Any Commissioner wishing to attend may do so.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke deferred to the attorney for his announcement that the Frums' have appealed the Appellate court action on the Commission's right to take to the Supreme Court.

At the last meeting, it was stated that Lefty's Coho Landing was in arrears for the final \$3,500 payment to the Commission for lease of boat slips located on Commission property. Mr. Tanke made a motion authorizing the attorney to take whatever legal action is necessary to collect the money; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke further stated the Commission is continuing to work with the city of Portage in regard to marina development issues.

Mr. Gardner reported that the Coast Guard was again contacted in regard to increasing the navigation aid lights on the breakwaters. They will respond to the Commission with a letter.

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In response to a request made at the last meeting in regards to what should be included as part of the minutes, Attorney Casale informed the Commission and audience that, although motions and official actions are basically required to be kept in minutes, the Commission secretary will record and enter into minutes the brief concise comments of the audience. A motion to that effect was made by Jerry Pagac; seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

With regard to a prior discussion taken place at the last meeting, Commissioner Jack Swike stated that any problems occurring within a city regarding hazardous waste should be referred to the Lake County Civil Defense Dept. He stated that Trooper Graber, a master sargent of the Indiana State Police trained in Hazardous Waste, is the contact person and authority. John Blee replied that it was very important to establish a contact person because of the area we live in.

The next meeting was scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 7, 1988. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

/sjm