

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1988  
 AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES  
 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

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Chairman John DeMeo called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. There were ten Commissioners present. Guests were recognized and quorum was declared.

Development Commissioners:

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

Visitors:

Harold Mauger - Gary  
 Barry Saunders - Post Tribune  
 Rob Pleva - Lake County Parks  
 Planning Dept.  
 Larry Illingworth - Munster  
 M/M Pete Zak - South Shore  
 Marina, Portage  
 Jerry Pearson - The Times

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
 Bruce Stouffer  
 Lou Casale  
 Sandy Mordus

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

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Arlene Colvin presented the financial report for March as well as the claims. Arlene Colvin made a motion to approve the claims as presented; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

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Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson reported on his attendance, along with Dan Gardner and attorney Lou Casale at a meeting in Indianapolis on April 28th with the State Budget Agency staff. Also in attendance were representatives from the Governor's Office, DNR, Dept. of Commerce, Senator Lugar & Qualye's Office and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. The topic was discussing the implications of the Commission's signing of the Agreement and discussing the future non-Federal financial requirements. Since the State Highway Dept. was not represented, another meeting will be scheduled to stress their much needed support and commitment.

Regarding the Local Cooperation Agreement, language is still in the process of being worked out to both the Corps and the Development Commission's satisfaction.

Mr. Carlson referred to the testimony given by Congressman Peter Visclosky before the House Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development Committee on Appropriations held April 12, 1988 (testimony was contained in agenda packet).

Dan Gardner spoke on the critical need to obtain a commitment from the State Highway Dept. on the scheduling of bridge replacements. These bridge replacements must be phased in at the same time as the levee systems are constructed. Mr. Gardner will work toward scheduling a meeting with the Highway Dept.

Staff was directed to do a mailing to legislators informing them of the latest project developments and status which was discussed at the meeting with the Budget staff.

Mr. Gardner referred to the handout distributed at the meeting in Indianapolis (contained in packet). He continued to explain the amount of monies needed over the next four bienniums, which will be a minimum of \$2 million each biennium. Jerry Pagac commented that right now the legislators are putting together their budget for the next two years. Therefore, contact with them should be made as soon as possible.

Mr. Gardner met with the Northwest Indiana Forum to update them on the project and enlist their support.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew reported the property closing of DC65 and announced the upcoming closing of DC208 (EJ&E) on May 27th.

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Attorney is working toward obtaining quit claim deeds to assume ownership of the Erie R.R. bridge at Indpls. Blvd. George Carlson stated that \$6,000 is remaining in Community Block Grant funds that may still be available to remove 3 piers from the Erie bridge. Mr. Carlson will pursue this possibility with the city of Hammond.

Mr. Agnew reported that a reply has been received from the Gary Park Dept. attorney, Julian Allen, in regard to lands that have been acquired by Gary Park Dept. and those lands remaining to be acquired needed for the flood control/recreation project.

Mr. Agnew reported that the small pump on farm land previously owned by Don Ewen has been repaired at a cost of \$900 and is now working satisfactorily.

A motion was made by Chuck Agnew to authorize staff to send Permission to Appraise forms to those property owners in Tolleston Club Properties and to assign an appraiser to perform those appraisals.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Committee Chairman Clyde Baughard reported that the Northcote Avenue bridge will be replaced, probably this year. Congdon Engineering Associates is the engineering firm performing the preliminary plans for the new bridge structure. Jerry Pagac inquired about sidewalk width. The proposed sidewalk structure is 5'6". Since the trail width is 8', he suggested that possibly the sidewalk should be the same. Staff will investigate the possibility of making the sidewalk wider.

Mr. Baughard reported that the Lake County Drainage Board is pursuing obtaining a Corps permit for the dredging from Indianapolis to Kennedy.

Mr. Baughard also reported that the project of securing a Corps permit for Penn Central culverts removal is ongoing. This project is spearheaded by the Little Calumet River Basin Commission.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - Dan Gardner reported that he and Bill Tanke met with Mayor Maletta. Discussion was centered on the city's position concerning Portage money from the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission, NIPSCO lots and relocation of telephone lines. (A copy of a letter has been received from the Portage attorney that was sent to General Telephone requesting relocation of the line.)

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The city of Portage has engaged a firm, TESKA, to perform a land use study for the Portage marina zone.

Doyle Niemeyer reported that he attended a reception sponsored by the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission hosted for the State Budget Committee on April 21st. The Committee met in northwest Indiana and toured a few of the sites that were funded with State money. The reception was held at the new Pastrick East Chicago marina. Northwest Indiana legislators were invited. The mayors each spoke in support of marinas; Mayor Maletta represented the Development Commission as well as Portage.

Mr. Gardner indicated his desire to organize a briefing/update session on the flood control/recreation project for the legislators late this summer.

Mr. Gardner reported that Lefty's Coho Landing petitioned the Portage Plan Commission to have rights-of-way vacated west of the waterway and was granted the petition. The Development Commission is not affected at all by this vacation of rights-of-way.

A letter is contained in the packet from Midwest Steel relating their concern regarding the water intake pipe that goes under the breakwater to their plant.

Mr. Gardner announced he would attend an informational meeting concerning the recent activity at National Steel's green belt landfill.

Mr. Gardner stated that Dave Hunter, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, informed him that Congressman Visclosky had met with Sec. of Army for Civil Works Page and had strongly voiced spending dollars only for design of the 3A plan. Sec. Page is concerned about reducing the overall cost of the project; Congressman Visclosky is concerned about implementing the plan which was authorized and signed by the President, that being 3A, which provides complete flood protection for Gary.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 2.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m. by a motion from Clyde Baughard; seconded by George Carlson.

/sjm