

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1989
 AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Chairman John DeMeo called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. There were nine (9) Commissioners present. Guests were recognized and quorum was declared.

Development Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Dan Gardner
 Sandy Mordus
 Lou Casale

Visitors:

Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
 Harold Mauger - Gary
 C. A. Turnbull - Marquette
 Yacht Club
 P. G. Tully - Marquette
 G. P. Baker - Marquette
 Steve Davis - IDNR
 Dick Wawrzyniak - IDNR
 Robert Huffman - Chairman,
 Basin Commission
 L. Illingworth - Munster Town
 Board
 Jody Melton - NIRPC
 Tim Sanders - Senators Lugar &
 Coats Office

A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the March 2nd meeting; seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Colvin referred to the letter contained in the packet requesting the Commission be placed on the next State Budget Committee agenda to seek approval to allocate for claim drawdown the remaining unallocated \$1,500,000 appropriated to the Commission in the 85/86 State Capital Budget. Mr. Gardner added we have received confirmation that we are on the agenda for 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 12th. Jan Miller from the Chicago Corps office will accompany Dan to the Budget Committee hearing.

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Legislative Committee - Dan Gardner referred to the letter from Robert E. Grady, Associate Director of the Office of Management and Budget in Washington. The letter stated that the Administration supports implementation of the project (Plan 3A) through the budget process. Mr. Gardner portrayed the letter as being critical in announcing OMB support and will make the appropriations of Federal dollars much easier. It is anticipated that Col. Franco will be at the next Development Commission meeting to give a schedule of events and to outline Development Commission responsibilities.

Mr. Gardner announced he would be attending a public forum meeting that would be held in Highland in which the Congressman makes himself available to the public for statements/questions.

Mr. Gardner took this opportunity to publicly thank Congressman Visclosky, Senators Lugar and Coats and past Senator Quayle for their continuing support of the 3A plan. It was through their hard work and preserverance that the 3A plan was approved.

Mr. Gardner reiterated that the State money is up in the air at this point. The State budget has been sent onto the Governor for approval. There were many local projects that have not gotten into the budget. The Development Commission was fortunate. There is \$2 million in the House version and the Senate version. Mr. Gardner stressed that the continuity of State funding is critical to a successful project.

Mr. Gardner referred to a letter that was sent to all northwest Indiana legislators, Ways & Means Committee, Budget Committee members, etc. informing them of the positive support/approval of the 3A project design by the Federal Office of Management and Budget and stressing the critical need of continued funding by the State for a successful project.

Tim Sanders, representing Senators Lugar & Coats, commended the public citizens of northwest Indiana for their support.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew reported that DC67 (Edwards) property closed.

Mr. Agnew stated that Marquette Yacht Club has requested additional rental space from the Commission to allow for four (4) more slips for their use. Mr. Agnew made a motion that an area allowing for 4 additional spaces be made available to them at the

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same rate as the previous spaces with the condition that the Development Commission be held harmless from any litigation resulting from this rental; seconded by Jack Swike; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew reported that the appraisal has been received on the Erie R.R. bridge. The appraised price is \$2,750. Attorney Lou Casale read Resolution 89-1 which allows the Commission to pursue acquiring ownership. Arlene Colvin made a motion that the resolution be approved and appropriate steps be taken to acquire ownership; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Casale stated he has dismissed the hearing regarding Curran's property. He will still pursue the matter of lease monies due us.

Mr. Agnew reported that the Directors & Officers insurance policy has been renewed for another year.

Interim Flood Control/Planning Committee - Committee Chairman Clyde Baughard reported that the Northcote Bridge reconstruction is almost complete and the road should be opened shortly.

The continuation of the sediment removal project from Indpls. to Kennedy should begin shortly. At the request of Bill Henderson, Lake County Surveyor's Office, staff has put Surveyor's Office/ Drainage Board in contact with Tony Abidula, Superintendent of the Hammond Street Dept., to coordinate the removal of debris that has accumulated under the bridge. There may be some necessity to pay for tipping fees for disposal of debris - funding needs to be identified.

Mr. Baughard introduced Robert Huffman who is Chairman of the Basin Commission.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - In Committee Chairman William Tanke's absence, Dan Gardner reported some that drawings have been received from Cole Engineering that show how the NIPSCO lots can be accessed. Efforts will resume to schedule a meeting with NIPSCO officials to pursue purchase of the NIPSCO lots.

Effort is underway to work out problems encountered with the State Highway Dept. in obtaining a permit from them for the GTE relocation.

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Mr. Gardner stated staff has been approached by several interested parties who are in need of sand. He will meet with parties and pursue the issue of sand removal.

The fact was stated that the Commission needs to identify a person/persons/firm who can assist the Commission with developing a financial plan for marina development. A Marina Committee meeting will be scheduled shortly to address the issue.

Mr. Gardner stated that the boat excise tax bill has passed the House. It is currently up for its third reading in the Senate. The passage of the bill looks good. He also stated that the free public access bill has passed the House and Senate. It will go to conference committee. The bill mandates free access in Lake County marinas accepting State funding.

Mr. Gardner stated that there is no funding identified in the budget for marinas at this point. Efforts for funding are continuing.

Statements from the floor - Commodore Cutty Turnbull thanked the Commission for the extension of property to allow him to add an additional four slips.

Harold Mauger expressed concern that the river was not going down as fast as usual. He has contacted the Drainage Board. They have stated they will follow through with checking blockage.

Mr. Gardner added that an engineering firm has been selected to prepare plans for the reconstruction of the Grant St. bridge.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 4, 1989.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/sjm