

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1989  
 AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES  
 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

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Chairman John DeMeo called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. There were six (6) Commissioners present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

John DeMeo  
 George Carlson  
 Charles Agnew  
 Doyle Niemeyer  
 Clyde Baughard  
 William Tanke

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
 Lou Casale, Attorney  
 Sandy Mordus  
 Bruce Stouffer

Visitors:

Richard Bundy - Salmon Unltd.  
 Don Ewen - Gary  
 Harold Mauger - Gary  
 Richard Wawrzyniak - IDNR  
 Steve Davis - IDNR  
 Bob Huffman - LCRBC  
 Mrs. Huffman  
 Pete Zak - South Shore Marina  
 Sharon Bohling - The TIMES

A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the July 6th meeting; seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Finance/Policy Committee - In Treasurer Arlene Colvin's absence, Dan Gardner presented the financial report for June as well as the claims. William Tanke made a motion to approve the claims after he ammended Line 412 Johnson, Johnson & Roy claim to read \$2,990.47 (instead of total contract price of \$10,000). Motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson referred to a press release contained in the packet issued by Senator Dan Coats's office announcing inclusion of the Little Calumet River flood control project in the Senate Appropriations bill. The Senate and House have now both included \$2.4 million for the construction start in their funding bills. Passage in this legislative session would allow construction groundbreaking in May 1990.

Mr. Gardner stated that he and Bob Huffman, Chairman of the Basin Commission, appeared before the Sunset Committee on July 14th. The consensus was that there be a single body; that is, one Little Calumet River agency. Mr. Huffman supported the concept by which the Basin Commission would cease to exist. Mr. Carlson then referred to a letter that staff sent to Senator Greg Server, Chairman of the Sunset Committee, outlining a process by which the Little Calumet River Basin Commission will cease to exist as a commission but rather as an advisory committee under the Development Commission. Proposal steps listed: (1) The Little Calumet River Basin Commission would, as presently allowed in their legislation, receive funding of \$50,000 from local sources for the year 1990. This would be the last funding of the Commission. (2) The Basin Commission would work to commit all existing and 1990 funding to implementation projects underway. Key project is the Conrail culverts improvement project estimated to use all of available Basin Commission funds to implement. (3) No new funding authorization would be requested of the legislature for the Basin Commission and any remaining uncommitted funds would be transferred to the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission at the conclusion of calendar year 1990. (4) No new legislation life extension for the Basin Commission would be sought and under current Sunset provisions, this would effectuate a termination of the Basin Commission as an entity at the conclusion of calendar year 1990. (5) For the purpose of continued local community involvement, coordination, and representation in the implementation of the flood control/recreation project; at the end of calendar year 1990, the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission would seek appointments from each local community and county in the river drainage basin (as is the structure with the current Basin Commission) to serve as a local advisory committee to the Development Commission. The appointments would be made by the County, City or Town Council of each jurisdiction in the basin area in Lake and Porter counties. The advisory committee would then meet at a minimum quarterly and be supported by the administrative budget and staff of the Development Commission.

Mr. Carlson further stated that staff and attorney has been working with the Corps to develop a workable Local Cooperation Agreement. Staff is waiting for Corps approval on the last revisions made to the Agreement.

A location has not yet been determined as to where the Corps' local office would be located. It is still hopeful that it may be an office located in the Homestead Plaza (where Commission offices reside).

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Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to offer a compromised figure of \$10,000 on parcel DC214 (Commission's appraisal was \$7,900 and Hutchinson's appraisal was \$11,800); motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew informed the Commission that a request to lease an additional 2 acres on 35th St. was received from G. W. Berkheimer. They wish to expand their parking lot. The additional acreage is now being leased to Harold Evers. Mr. Agnew made a motion that staff and attorney work out details agreeable to all parties concerned to allow Berkheimer to lease the acreage (it presently is not being farmed). Motion seconded by Doyle Niemeyer; motion passed unanimously. It was stated that an appraisal would be necessary to establish a rental price.

Mr. Agnew stated that he and Bruce Stouffer met with Dewey Lemley, Superintendent of Lake Station, and inspected the Commission-owned property on Clay St. for a possible park site. Staff has authorized the Lake Station Fire Dept. to burn the house down in a practice exercise (house is unliveable). Staff has also ordered survey work on property.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Dan Gardner stated he has been in contact with Bob Lamprecht, Lake County Civil Defense, regarding a flood warning system. It is a distinct possibility that the Commission could contract with the Lake County Civil Defense for maintenance/operation of the warning system once it is in place. He also reported that the Civil Defense is now taking applications for low interest loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration related to the recent June flooding damages.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - Committee Chairman William Tanke reported that a marina committee meeting had been held earlier to discuss marina development plan figures provided by JJ&R.

Discussion ensued on the statement that the Governor had issued on sand removal from the Indiana Dunes. Staff drafted a letter to the Governor stating the Commission's position on the critical need we had to dispose of the sand and urged a meeting to be scheduled for discussion purposes. Steve Davis, IDNR, is working to try to get some sand borings to determine the quality of the sand. He stated that the topsoil appears to be too fine for ideal beach nourishment sand but it may be coarser underneath. Dan Gardner stated he has been in contact with and will continue to be in contact with Bart Peterson, Governor's staff.

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Mr. Gardner mentioned that Jerry Pagac of IDNR has informed us that the DNR may be able to help fund boat launch lanes. Issue will be pursued.

Richard Bundy, Salmon Unltd., inquired about the dredging project at Indianapolis Blvd. bridge. He was informed that the project was completed to the point of spending the \$25,000 allotted for it by the Drainage Board. Work still needs to be done in that area when monies become available. He was also informed that staff is aware of the ongoing Borman interchange meetings.

Harold Mauger stated that clean up work at Chase St. still needs to be done. He inquired about Grant St. culverts. He was told that it was a State Highway project and is slated for 1991 replacement. He also referred to dumping going on in Gary on Commission property. Staff will investigate area of dumping.

Don Ewen addressed the Commission to state his opposition to the 3A plan. He stated he does not agree with the Corps and proceeded to read a letter he was sending to the Grace Commission stating his points of concern. Mr. Ewen submitted a copy of his letter to the Commission.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting date was scheduled for September 7, 1989.

/sjm