

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1990  
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES  
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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Chairperson Arlene Colvin called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Ten (10) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

**Development Commissioners:**

Charles Agnew  
Clyde Baughard  
Dave Springman  
Steve Davis  
Arlene Colvin  
Nathaniel Leonard  
William Critser  
John DeMeo  
William Tanke  
George Carlson

**Staff:**

Dan Gardner  
Lou Casale, Attorney  
Bruce Stouffer  
Sandy Mordus

**Visitors:**

Cynthia Graham - Dixon Dev.  
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina  
Alice Williams - 4111 W. 31st  
Jodi Dickey - LCPRD  
Bob Huffman - LCRBC  
Dick Wawrzyniak - IDNR  
Tom Browne - Rep. Visclosky's Of.  
Bob Bittke - Gary  
Sherylin Freeland - Visclosky's  
Office  
Kath Conroy - consultant  
Jerry Castle - Castle Estates,  
Munster

With of resignation of Doyle Niemeyer and the appointment of Arlene Colvin as Chairman, the Vice Chairman position was left vacant. Bill Tanke made a motion to elect George Carlson as Vice Chairman; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Bill Critser to approve the minutes of the July 5 meeting; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Clyde Baughard presented the financial status report for June as well as the claims. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Baughard reported that requests for quotes in the solicitation of an escrow account were sent to the three largest banks in our area. Three quotes were received. They are:

INB - \$50  
Mercantile - \$350  
Gainer - \$750

Mr. Baughard made a motion for staff and attorney to negotiate with INB Bank (since they were the lowest) and make sure the charge is a one-time charge; motion seconded by Bill Critser; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Gardner referred to the Corps schedule that estimates how much money would be put into the escrow account over the construction period.

Legislative Committee - Dan Gardner announced that the signing ceremony with the Corps will be held Thursday, August 16. Details have been worked out and invitations are in the mail. Invitees include area legislators, elected officials, state officials, DNR, Budget Committee, Basin Commission, local environmental groups, etc. It is anticipated that the Governor and Congressman, along with a representative from the Senators' Office, will speak at the ceremony.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commissioners that he has talked with Partners in Contracting, an agency which helps contractors secure local federal contracts, and it is hoped that local contractors will participate in some of the construction contracts to be let.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that the State Budget Agency is sending out forms for requests for the 1991/92 biennial budget. We will parallel our other request for \$3 million that was previously made to the Build Indiana Fund. \$3 million is reflected in the construction schedule for FY91, 93 and 95. Staff will attend budget hearing when scheduled. Mr. Gardner referred to the Corps construction schedule contained in the agenda packet. It projects the Commission's financial capability in order for the Commission to be able to sign the Local Cooperation Agreement.

Clyde Baughard made a motion authorizing staff to submit a \$3 million request to the Budget Agency for the FY91 biennial budget for the continuing funding of the Little Calumet River Flood Control/Recreation Project; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Gardner announced that the Governor's assistants would be visiting northwest Indiana to receive a briefing on current projects. Mr. Gardner will inform them of the flood control project again so they will have a clear understanding and appreciation of the project.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew reported that there were 4 property closings - DC229, DC265, DC330 and DC308. Total is up to 80 lots with 40% being acquired.

Mr. Agnew stated that after August 16th, the Corps will let a demolition contract for 3 properties in Tolleston Club. ✓

Chuck Agnew made a motion authorizing the attorney to institute collection procedures to collect money due us by a previous farm lessee. Money owed is over \$2,900; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

A second previous farm lessee also owes the Commission money. Staff has received a letter from him stating he intends to pay just as soon as he can. Total amount outstanding from him is \$12,157.

Mr. Gardner discussed the Schererville borrow site property. The Commission is required to purchase property for the Corps for the purpose of removing the soil for levee construction. The Schererville site seems to be the best site as the soil meets the Corps specifications and the town of Schererville was interested in the property eventually being used as a town park (upon project completion). As of this date, no offers to purchase have been made nor has the property even been appraised. It appears that the current owner does not wish to sell so there are problems with the site. Mr. Gardner is hopeful that it can be worked out to everyone's satisfaction; however, there are alternatives to explore if this property becomes too expensive.

Several area meetings have been held with Kath Conroy, recreation consultant, and the Corps meeting with the towns/cities along the river. There are some problems with the current recreation plan - such as trail crossings. We will continue to work with the Corps and individual towns to resolve any problems.

Mr. Gardner referred to a letter to Rich Carlson that was sent regarding levee protection for Burr Street. Once we receive confirmation from the Corps that this will be included in the project, we will send notification to property owners along Burr St. We have every indication they will accept it but it is not in writing as of this date.

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Interim Flood Control Committee - Attorney Lou Casale stated that he has received a revised contract from ConRail in regard to culvert replacement at Penn Central at Martin Luther King Dr. He is in the process of revising it. A meeting date needs to be identified for both the Little Calumet River Basin Commission and Development Commission to meet.

Mr. Gardner stated he had met with Greg Cvitovich, North Township Trustee, Wicker Park officials, Surveyor's Office, and the Corps to talk about protection for Wicker Park. A follow-up meeting date of September 5th was established. In the meantime, the Corps needs to identify the right-of-way in the Wicker Park area.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - Committee Chairman William Tanke referred to letter in packet from the U.S. Marine Corps stating that the Marine Corps would not be able to do move the sand on the marina site without written approval from the local union. Thus far, the Commission has not been able to obtain that written approval. Staff had also sent the Governor a letter informing him of our failed efforts to effectuate sand removal and requested a meeting be set between the Governor's Office, DNR, Corps, city of Portage and the Development Commission to explore future options on how to meet the commitment of a public use marina development in Portage. Mr. Gardner stated he had met recently with Mayor Maletta and Bart Peterson. His concern is that the State must keep in mind the commitment to the Corps of the public marina, especially since there are approximately 2,000 slips requested in the four different permit applications before DNR at present.

Commissioner Steve Davis (also Lake Michigan specialist) met with John Hannon (city engineer of Portage), the Corps and JJ&R. JJ&R is undertaking a study on traffic capacity of boats in the waterway. Results should be ready soon.

Statements from the floor - Debbie Schubert of Black Oak presented a signed petition from homeowners along the river in the 7200 block of Gary. They are requesting first priority in the forthcoming floodproofing project. The petition will be forwarded to the Corps.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for September 6, 1990.

/sjm