

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1991  
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES  
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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Chairperson Arlene Colvin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Eight (8) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
Lou Casale, Attorney  
Bruce Stouffer  
Sandy Mordus

Visitors:

C. D. Green - Crown Point  
Pete & M.J. Zak-S. Shore Marina  
Bobby Wright - Griffith Izaak  
Walton League  
Mike Kerr - Tenney Pavoni  
Rada Indjich - The TIMES  
George Bunce - Griffith IWLA  
Janet Moran - Hammond City  
Council  
Herb Read - Porter Cty. IWLA  
Dick Wawrzyniak - DNR  
Bill Leets - Hobart  
Ed Beatty - North Township  
Lake Cty Drainge Brd.  
Advisory  
Adam Adams - Cong. Visclosky's  
Office

A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the January 3rd meeting; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Baughard referred to the two graphs in the packet showing how the two notes of \$216,500 and \$700,000 are deposited. The first graph depicts the varying interest rates for Commission's \$216,500 note that is rolled over every 30 days. A competitive bidding procedure is in place in which we solicit highest



interest rates from interested banks. The bank offering the highest rate for that 30 day period gets the note for the next 30 days. The same procedure is followed for the \$700,000 note for every 90 days rollover. The graphs referred to show the solicited interest rates and how close they are to each other. Detailed records are kept to substantiate our selection of a bank.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson reported that there was a date set for February 19th to appear before the Ways and Means Committee to request \$3 million in this years' biennium; however, that date has been canceled. In a letter from Pat Bauer, Ways and Means Chairman, it was stated that a budget hearing for our agency was not necessary. Staff will answer Mr. Bauer in letter form strongly pushing the Commission's \$3 million request. A mailing is also being sent to all northwest IN legislators soliciting support for the \$3 million request. Mr. Gardner stated that the Budget Committee's budget has been released and it contained "0" dollars for the flood control project. Evidently, all capital projects have not been put into the budget this biennium. In this critical time with the actual construction beginning, it is more important than ever to keep continuity of state funds. Mr. Carlson referred to the Times article stating that the Corps has asked Congress for an appropriation of \$6.5 million of 1992 monies to be used for the flood control project. This amount is in President Bush's budget, which is viewed as a very positive indication.

In other legislative business, Mr. Carlson spoke of the Local Cooperation Agreement supplement received from the Corps last month. Attorney Casale is reviewing it. The supplement deals with the Burr Street levee protection addition versus Burr Street floodproofing. The Commission previously voted to add levee protection on Burr Street. Action on the supplement will be deferred until next meeting, after the attorney has completely reviewed it.

Mr. Carlson made a motion for staff to seek the amount of \$2 million from 1987/89 biennium to be made available for drawdown purposes; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Attorney Casale reported that the Erie R.R. bridge pier removal application with fee has been submitted to DNR for approval. Discussion was held on pier removal at Indpls. Blvd. Mr. Gardner indicated he had talked to city of Hammond relative to the questionable \$18,000 of city funds to do the removal. As indicated once before, the \$18,000 may be used in other work for Hammond but not pier removal.

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Mike Kerr from Tenney Pavoni Associates was present to present to the Commission the bid specifications and maps regarding culvert enlargement at Penn Central. All work is approved and permits are in place by the Corps, DNR and Conrail. The project is ready for advertisement.

Mr. Gardner reported that the Commission has received the State Governor's Report on the flooding situation at Wicker Park Manor.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew gave committee report. Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve \$1,550 for moving expenses for Howard Marion; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew also made a motion for approval of the revised appraisal of DC318 (Charles Riggins & Robin Butler) from \$1,015 to \$3,640; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew made a motion ratifying the awarded farm leases to Bult & Sons for \$68/acre for L100, L100A and L112 and a separate lease to Jerry Ewen for \$77/acre for L101; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner reported to members that he just recently met with Gary park staff again working toward satisfactory plans to both parties as to what can be built/developed on park land. Several pieces of correspondence are contained in agenda packet relative to meetings. Staff will continue to meet with Gary park staff.

Mr. Gardner referred to letter from DNR to the Corps relative to a probable timing problem for DNR permits for levee construction. The DNR process is time consuming and the Corps is requiring the Commission to have a permit for each segment. Staff will continue to work with DNR and coordinate the timing.

Marina/Breakwaters Committee - In Committee Chairman Bill Tanke's absence, Mr. Gardner gave the report. He reported that we have received the Commission's share of the total cost incurred from GTE for the relocation of the telephone line on the marina property. The Commission's share was \$21,358. Also sharing one third of the cost was GTE and the city of Portage.

Mr. Gardner also reported the boat capacity study undertaken by the city of Portage has now been completed.

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Discussion was held on the need for dredging the mouth of Burns Waterway. Although it is the Corps responsibility, they have not requested budgeted monies to allow them to dredge because there is still not yet a public marina facility in place. The channel area up to U.S. 12 is starting to create a problem. Mr. Gardner has met with Portage mayor and discussed the situation. He will attend the next Portage Port Authority meeting.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner introduced C. D. Green and Bill Leets, past members of the Basin Commission and Ed Beatty, North Township committee member for the Lake County Drainage Board.

Mr. Gardner reported to Commission that he met with some flood victims who live on the north side of River Drive. The meeting was prompted by some citizens who had called the office inquiring whether the Corps is planning to buy out the houses that abut the levee for the flood control project. Representatives from the DNR and the Corps were available to talk with them and they heard from officials that there are no plans to buy out houses in the affected area for the flood control project.

Mr. Gardner referred to the revised agreement between DNR and the Development Commission for the state to build the sheet piling flood wall and the Commission to maintain it. It was suggested that a change be made in the last paragraph of the last page on the steel sheet piling. It should read that the barriers shall be placed a proper distance from the steel sheet piling wall as agreed to by the parties. With that change, Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve the agreement; Clyde Baughard seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner referred to the letter received from Lake Ralph, Ass't State Director for Senators Lugar & Coats, thanking the Commission for assisting the Urban League in discussions of maximizing procurement opportunities for upcoming work on major public works construction projects.

Statements from the floor - George Bunce, IWLA, talked about the enlargement of the culverts at Penn Central. He referred to all the development and building that has been going on, much of it without proper septic systems and sewers to address the additional growth. He stated that Deep River at one time was relatively clean water but now, with all the development, the water is polluted. He felt that the Commission should use their influence to induce all the other agencies with responsibility to clean up the tributaries feeding into the Little Calumet River.

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Herb Read, IWLA, inquired what is the next step with the marina situation. He was told we had either of two options: 1) build the public marina or 2) pay back the \$1.8 million to the Federal government. Mr. Gardner stated we are pursuing all options with the city of Portage.

When asked of the Commission if anyone was going after the engineer who represented Tri State, Mr. Casale answered that there are two pending lawsuits at present.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for March 7, 1991.

/sjm