

140

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1991
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Vice Chairman George Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Six (6) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

George Carlson
Clyde Baughard
Charles Agnew
Dave Springman
Nathaniel Leonard
Steve Davis

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Bruce Stouffer
Sandy Mordus
Betty Burrus

Visitors:

Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Mary Ann Zak - " "
Robert Lamprecht - Lake County
Emergency Management
Ola Kennedy - Lake County
Park Dept.
Mike Vander Heyden - Dyer
Construction Co.
Bob Huffman - Munster
Bill Leets - Hobart
Beldon McPheron - Corps office
John Simpson - IDNR
Dean Ogan - SEMA
William Powers - FEMA
John Bach - Highland Public
Works
Frank Mrvan - Lake Cty.
Senator
Dominic Noce - Town of
Highland

The minutes of the July 31st meeting were approved by a motion from Clyde Baughard; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Gardner reported that the commission previously met with the State Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, IDNR and the Corps to discuss funding options for the construction of a new levee to protect Wicker Park Manor area in order to allow residents to be classified out of floodplain. A motion was made by Chuck Agnew to authorize the Commission to apply for approval to enter into an agreement under Section 215 for construction of the Wicker Park Manor interim levee project subject to the four (4) conditions previously outlined (4 conditions attached hereto and made part of these minutes); motion seconded by David Springman; motion passed unanimously.

LCRBDC Minutes
September 5, 1991
Page 2

Mr. Gardner read the correspondence from the town of Highland regarding the sediment buildup in the river at Indianapolis Blvd. It was discussed that the area needed to be declared an emergency area so immediate steps could be taken for cleanup. SEMA stated that there may be some mitigation monies available. That will be pursued. If some monies could be made available, then Hammond and Highland would jointly share the remaining cost. The Development Commission recognizes the immediate need for the sediment cleanup and supports the funding plan. No monies from the Commission will be expended for this project.

Mr. Gardner stated that several meetings have been held with the selected project engineering firm, R. W. Armstrong. The attorney has finalized a contract with a 7-day termination notice which authorizes firm for the monitoring and other services as deemed necessary. Mr. Agnew made a motion to engage R.W. Armstrong on retainer subject to contract approval; motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Nathaniel Leonard to approve the "Memorandum of Understanding" for Burr Street levee segment; motion seconded by Dave Springman; motion passed unanimously. Originally, flood-proofing was in the Corps plan to Burr Street homeowners. This was not acceptable to the Commission. The Commission opted for full levee protection instead.

An agreement with the Gary Park Board for use of Gary property in Gleason Park needs to be formalized. As part of a mutual agreement between the Gary Parks and the Commission, a consultant has been retained to prepare a plan utilizing this park land to the best of its potential. Earthsource has been selected as the firm to prepare this plan. The Commission will incur the cost. A motion was made by Chuck Agnew to approve the expenditure for Earthsource upon attorney's review of contract; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

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

LCRBDC Minutes
September 5, 1991
Page 3

Mr. Gardner referred to the letter from Conrail granting approval for a simple open cut method of construction. Mr. Anew made a motion to award the Conrail culvert reconstruction project to Dyer Construction (low bidder) subject to a reduction of \$87,500 due to revised method of cutting, bringing contract award down from \$341,000 to \$253,500; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner also referred to a proposal letter from TPA to provide for construction engineering services to oversee Conrail project for a total cost of \$5,508. Mr. Baughard made a motion to engage the services of TPA for monitoring the project at a cap of \$5,508; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously. If cost is to exceed the cap, TPA will have to request the additional monies from the Commission.

It was also reported that Dyer Construction has been awarded the federal contract for first phase construction of the project. A news release from Senator Dan Coats office stated that the award was for \$350,158.75. Discussion took place on the scheduling of a groundbreaking ceremony in the near future.

Legislative Committee - Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that he will appear before the State Budget Committee on Sept. 6 for release of additional \$2 million from the '87 monies appropriated from the General Assembly.

Marina Committee - In Committee Chairman Bill Tanke's absence, Mr. Gardner gave the marina report. He stated that the Joint Venture agreement between the city of Portage and the Commission for public marina development was approved last Tuesday by the Portage City Council. It will next have to be approved by the Portage Board of Public Works on Monday. We will receive a signed copy of the agreement after that date.

Sandmining is ongoing. The Commission has received its first payment of sand from Superior-Dyer for the amount of \$3,351.60. Mr. Gardner also reported that Portage has been approved for LMMDC funds of \$776,000 for raising of the bridge over the waterway.

LCRBDC Minutes
September 5, 1991
Page 4

Statements from floor - Dominic Noce, Highland Town Council, inquired as to the Commission's position on the Indianapolis Blvd. sediment removal. He was told that, although the Development Commission will not expend their monies for dredging work, the Commission fully supports and recognizes the need for the dredging and sediment removal at Indpls. The Commission has just expended funds for cleaning of Erie R.R. bridge because we own the bridge but do not feel the Commission should expend the funds for Indpls. If some mitigation money can be found, it should be used for this purpose, along with equal sharing by Hammond and Highland. The Commission supports the declaration of the area being emergency.

Bill Leets from Hobart discussed his concern that cleaning out sediment at Indpls and enlarging culverts at Conrail will increase the water flow downstream. He was assured that the Corps and DNR has to certify that there will be no increased flood stages downstream.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting date was set for October 3, 1991.

/sjm

