

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1992  
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. Seven (7) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

George Carlson  
Charles Agnew  
Dave Springman  
Nathaniel Leonard  
Steve Davis  
Arlene Colvin  
John DeMeo

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
Lou Casale  
Sandy Mordus  
Bruce Stouffer  
Brian Blackmore

Visitors:

Pete Zak - South Shore Marina  
Mary Ann Zak - " "  
Bob Huffman - Munster  
Donald Shapiro - Highland  
Dick Wawrzyniak - DNR, Div. of Water  
David Cole - Abonmarche Group  
Chuck Eckenstahler-Abonmarche  
Richard Bundy-Salmon Unlimited  
Pete Zolkes-Tenney Pavoni  
Dan Ogan-SEMA  
Siavash Beik-DNR, Div. of Water  
John Bach - Town of Highland  
Dick Bell - SEMA  
Les Miller-Governor's Office  
Nick Simmons-Precinct Commit-  
teeman of Gary  
Rickey Austin - Gary  
Leon Wells-Lake Co. Highway

The minutes of the December 5th, 1991 meeting were approved by a motion from John DeMeo; seconded by Dave Springman; motion passed unanimously.

Chuck Agnew, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers for 1992. Mr. Agnew made a motion for Arlene Colvin to be retained as Chairperson, motion seconded by John DeMeo, motion passed unanimously; Mr. Agnew made a motion for George Carlson to be retained as Vice Chairman, motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard, motion passed unanimously; Mr. Agnew made a motion for Clyde Baughard to be retained as Treasurer, motion seconded by John DeMeo, motion passed unanimously; Mr. Agnew made a motion for William Critser to be retained as Secretary, motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard, motion passed unanimously.

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Construction of the first phase segment is being performed by Dyer Construction and is ongoing. The provided borrow site that the Lake County Parks Dept. owns probably will not be used in this first phase. Dyer Construction appears to have found another site suitable for levee material that is more to their advantage to use. The Commission borrow site still remains to be used a later time.

Discussion was held on the Wicker Park Manor interim levee. Dean Ogan from the State Emergency Management Agency was present as well as Les Miller from the Governor's staff to address Commission. Mr. Miller thanked the Commission for addressing the situation and for proceeding to draft a letter to the Corps under Section 215. Mr. Miller indicated that although the state cannot commit itself for future funding, he reiterated that there is a history of over \$16 million to the Commission thus far and a commitment to the project. They will continue to act in good faith to keep the project rolling. He stated that there is a need to move ahead quickly.

A contract between IDNR (funding the design of the interim levee) and SEG (engineering firm doing the design work) is in the process of being signed. Mr. Gardner discussed the draft letter to the Corps requesting them to investigate the eligibility of the levee reconstruction project for the Section 215 designation and credit/reimbursement. Under Section 215, the Commission will receive credit from the Corps for monies expended. The draft letter is based upon the 4 conditions adopted by the Board earlier and wrote the letter within the constraints the Board authorized. Discussion ensued on how complete the letter was as it now exists. Mr. Carlson indicated he felt more support material would be requested by the Corps. Mr. Gardner indicated the letter was the starting point to at least get the issue before them. In light of new correspondence received and made known to us lately, some update may have to be done. Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve the concept of the letter and forward it to the Corps with whatever necessary updated changes need to be made. Mr. Carlson added that any future information to supplement the document be provided to the Commission prior to submission to the Corps; motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wawrzyniak from DNR presented a copy of a Memorandum of Understanding between INDOT and DNR to change the construction schedule of the U.S. Hwy #41 bridge over the river from 1995 to 1993.

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Mr. Miller stated to the Board members that the Governor's Office is also looking at the vacancies and lapsed appointment dates for Board members. We should hear something in the near future.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commissioners that Congressman Visclosky now sits on the Appropriations Committee. The Congressman stressed to Dan his continued support and push for funding.

The legislature is now in session. This is the short session and is not a budget year.

Finance/Policy Committee - In Treasurer Clyde Baughard's absence, Mr. Gardner presented the financial status report for December as well as the claims. Nathaniel Leonard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on completion of Conrail R.R. culvert reconstruction. Pete Zolkes from Tenney Pavoni confirmed that 90% of the contract work by Dyer Construction has been completed. The remaining 10% work should be completed within the next two weeks. The bill that Dyer has submitted is valid and agreed to by TPA so payment to Dyer can be made. At the next meeting, there should be a slide presentation of the work performed. Mr. Zolkes stated that Conrail personnel have inspected the work on a regular basis. The open cut method has saved the Commission many dollars that otherwise would have been spent for a temporary bridge.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew gave the land acquisition report. Mr. Agnew made a motion authorizing Chairman to sign agreement with NIPSCO for a levee easement pending some final wording being worked out by attorney; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously. Approving the agreement now will alleviate the waiting period for our next meeting.

The Commission has received a Corps letter regarding the passing of a resolution and the Memorandum of Agreement for Burr Street betterment. The Commission has previously authorized the Corps to proceed with the design of a levee to provide equal protection to Burr Street residents. Approximate cost would be \$2 million. This cost will be the responsibility of the Commission. Mr. Carlson made a motion to adopt Resolution 92-1 which authorizes

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and directs the Chairman to sign on the Commission's behalf the Memorandum of Agreement and Escrow agreement and any other documents needed to effectuate same; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Interim Flood Committee - John Bach from town of Highland reported to Commission that the dredging project at Indianapolis Blvd. is basically complete. Minor work only remains to be done. He thanked the Commission and thanked Mr. Ogan from SEMA, who was very instrumental in helping fund the project. Mr. Carlson expressed concern that the slope of the dike was not left at the elevation it was prior. Mr. Bach stated he would send the town engineer to inspect it and verify the elevation and it will be corrected. Mr. Bach stated that Dyer Construction did a fine job of dredging.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - In Committee Chairman Bill Tanke's absence, Mr. Gardner reported that the Commission has received the final environmental assessment from Portage of the proposed marina projects, including the public marina.

Mr. Gardner referred to the NIPSCO letter in packet stating their support for the project and their willingness to work with us. Mr. Gardner informed Commissioners that a meeting is scheduled with the city, Abonmarche, NIPSCO, etc. to work out a scope of services Abonmarche will provide. Attorney Casale has drafted up a contract with Abonmarche (copy to be given to them for their review). After a kickoff meeting, the contract is expected to be signed.

Statements from the floor - Richard Bundy, Salmon Unlimited, reminded Commission that the marina is a public marina. As such, no one should be denied access.

Mr. Bundy also expressed his opinion that the river at Kennedy Ave. is clean on the east side but has debris and buildup on the west side. Stated there is also dumping going out along the service road by the Oxbow area. Someone has been dozing it over to the river side and it needs cleanup.

Leon Wells from the Lake County Highway Dept. introduced himself to the Commission and stated he would periodically attend the meetings. The County Highway is concerned with Burr St. bridge.

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Its replacement is the responsibility of the County. Mr. Gardner stated that the County authorized engineering of Burr St. bridge replacement in 1992. It was stated to be the second highest bridge construction priority in Lake County.

There was no other business. The next Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m.

/sjm

