

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1996  
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE  
6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

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Chairman William Tanke called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Ten (10) Commissioners were present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

Robert Huffman  
William Tanke  
Robert Trelo  
Steve Davis  
Roger Chiabai  
Charles Agnew  
George Carlson  
Arlene Colvin  
John DeMeo  
Emerson Delaney

Visitors:

Jim Flora - RWarmstrong  
Karen Flora  
Denis Buksa -15 River Dr, Munster  
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina  
Mara Candelaria - Congressman  
Visclosky's Office  
R. L. Frum - Lefty's Coho  
Chris Huffman  
E. Vamos  
Shirley DeMeo  
Barbara Trelo

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
Lou Casale  
Melissa Stefanovich  
James Pokrajac  
Judy Vamos  
Sandy Mordus

The minutes of the November 7, 1996 meeting were approved by a motion from George Carlson; motion seconded by Roger Chiabai; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report - Chairman Bill Tanke referred to Chuck Agnew, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Agnew stated that he and committee members John DeMeo and Arlene Colvin met and they are prepared to present a slate of officers for 1997 at the January Board meeting.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner informed the Board that he accompanied the COE to a briefing and tour of the construction project given for Col. Van Epps, Chicago Division Commander. About 15 COE personnel attended. They were very encouraged by the progress of the construction.

Mr. Gardner also reported that a series of meetings are continuing with the city of Gary. A meeting with the City Council has been

postponed until after the holidays. We are attempting to have the Colonel here, along with other COE staff, to give a presentation to the Gary City Council members.

Mr. Gardner also stated that we have had an analysis done of the population residing within one mile of the river corridor. It is under 100,000 and since annual dues are only \$400 per year for populations under 100,000, he has recommended that the Commission join the NAFSMA (National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agency). Arlene Colvin made a motion approving membership into the organization; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commissioners that he will attend a meeting with INDOT in Indianapolis on Monday, 12/9, addressing several issues, such as the Gary pumping stations, drainage in Gary and Burr Street interchange reconstruction. Although the city wanted a full interchange reconstruction, the design is for a modified diamond with one full loop.

Land Acquisition Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to approve increased offers on DC142 for \$1500 and DC161 for \$2550 to avoid condemnation; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew then made a motion approving condemnations on properties either for non-acceptance or because owners cannot be located. They are DC142, DC160, DC161, DC190, DC348 and DC349; motion seconded by Bob Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew then made a motion awarding a the lowest and best bid for the construction of a greenhouse at M. C. Bennett Park in Gary to Chester, Inc. for a bid amount of \$174,248 contingent upon written concurrence from architect concurring with the terms of the contract; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering Committee - Committee Chairman Bob Huffman gave the engineering report and reported on meetings held this last month. There was a meeting with Mayor and City attorney on 11/13 to discuss east reach remediation area. A technical review meeting with the COE was held on 11/20 to review ongoing construction issues. A meeting was also held 11/26 with the Gary Common Council President and their attorney to review our request for lands needed.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman Robert Trelo informed the Board that a mailing would be going out to the legislators before the budget session begins to update them on the project construction, scheduling and monies available.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke referred to a summary sheet provided by Abonmarche which shows all contracts that are completed and paid for. Only two items remain unpaid: the bath house and landscaping. The contracts are with the city - not the Commission. Mr. Tanke would like to set up a meeting with the city. There are still some issues that need to be talked about. At this point, we do not know what the Commission's obligation is for the next phase of construction. The City did receive about \$150,000 for adding some additional development. Final tabulations from boat rentals and launches are not in yet. The Mayor has requested \$1.5 million from the State in this biennium. Mr. Tanke feels that we should be moving ahead with the engineering consultant firm for further development. Staff will pursue setting up a meeting.

Mr. Tanke also stated that the City is working on their plaque. As soon as it is complete, both plaques will go up at the same time.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer George Carlson gave the financial report. Mr. Carlson made a motion to approve the financial status statement for October and approve the claims for payment totaling \$50,068.60; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion approved unanimously.

Mr. Carlson also made a motion authorizing a performance bonus to be paid to Executive Director Dan Gardner in the amount of \$3,500 and Business Coordinator Sandy Mordus in the amount of \$2,500 for their services rendered in 1996 - to be payable in 1997. Motion was seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Carlson also stated that the Finance Committee met on 12/3 to discuss if and how a benefit package could be paid to contract employees. No conclusions were made at this time. Further investigation is needed.

Other Business - There was none.

Statements from the floor - There was none.

There being no further business, the next regular Commission meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 7, 1997 in Portage. Please note the date change.