

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1996  
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE  
6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD  
PORTAGE, INDIANA

-----  
Chairman William Tanke called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Eight (8) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

Charles Agnew  
William Tanke  
Robert Trelo  
Steve Davis  
Robert Huffman  
Emerson Delaney  
Arlene Colvin  
George Carlson

Visitors:

Jim Flora - RWArmstrong  
Denis Buksa - Munster  
Ken Smith - IDNR, Div.of Water  
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina

Staff:

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

Visitors were recognized and quorum was declared.

A correction to the minutes on page 1 listing the Commissioners present at the January meeting was made - Commissioner George Carlson did attend the Jan. meeting but his name was omitted and Commissioner Nathaniel Leonard was listed twice as attending. The minutes of the January 4, 1996 meeting were then approved by a motion from Chuck Agnew; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report - Chairman Bill Tanke congratulated Commissioner Steve Davis on his re-appointment letter received from the Dept. of Natural Resources.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner reported that the Community Forum held at I.U.N. on January 11th regarding the proposed levee in the east remediation area was held. About 25 people were in attendance. The Corps gave a presentation of the project with a time schedule. The purpose of the meeting was to

allow public input into the COE process to formulate acceptable remediation to obtain an IDNR permit for continued levee construction. No final decision has been reached as to the extent of remediation required.

Mr. Gardner reported that he, along with attorney Casale and Commissioners Tanke and Colvin, will meet with Mayor King tomorrow to brief him on various items involving the Commission, i.e. levee construction, east remediation area, 179 acre plat owned in Gary, timing of the construction, compensation to Gary Park Department, Grant Street interchange reconstruction issue, etc. He will report back at next meeting.

Land Acquisition Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew referred to attorney Casale who brought the Commission members up to date on the court proceedings of Chase Street Produce. Court action has been taken; we have a judgement against them; a receivership has been appointed and the business is currently operating. A short term lease is in the process of being worked out and we are trying to collect against the judgement. Mr. Agnew made a motion that staff proceed to take whatever action is necessary to satisfy the judgement and release the premises for the short term; motion seconded by Robert Trelo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew reported that additional exploratory soil testing needs to be done off Chase Street on the Commission-owned property to determine the suitability to use it as a borrow site. Mr. Agnew then proceeded to make a motion approving the signing of a right-of-entry for the COE to do the additional exploratory work; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Agnew then made a motion authorizing the expenditure of \$33,000 to pay for the testing; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering Committee - Committee Chairman Bob Huffman gave the report. He reported that a meeting had been held on January 25 with staff, R. W. Armstrong and Commissioner Emerson Delaney concerning the issue of value engineering. Value engineering features that can be approved by the COE will ultimately save the Commission money. We have subsequently passed our comments/recommendations onto the COE in hope of their approval.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman Robert Trelo gave the Legislative report. He indicated that staff has submitted the forms necessary to secure the \$2 million in '89 Build Indiana Funds that were recently approved for release by the State Budget Agency.

Once the forms are approved and signed by the Budget Agency, we can begin drawing on them.

Mr. Gardner informed the Board members that he has recently returned from a trip to Washington where he went on behalf of NIRPC to the NARC (National Assoc. of Regional Councils) convention. He was able to meet with the Congressman and Senator Lugar and Coats staff. He reported that the Little Calumet River project continues to be one of priority Federal projects in N.W. IN. With Federal funds being cut everywhere, the advice he was given regarding the project was to keep the project as close to schedule as possible and close to budget as possible. New construction starts seem more at risk than ongoing projects.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke gave the Marina report. He referred to the addendum (copy in agenda packet) to the Inter-local Agreement with the city of Portage and recommended approval. A motion was made by Steve Davis to approve and sign the Addendum; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Tanke then referred to the bid tabulation sheet for the construction of the Floating Dockage System. He reported that Ellas Construction was the low bidder and that the contract had been awarded to them. He indicated that boat slip signing up has been ongoing with the City.

Discussion ensued on signage at the marina site. Staff passed around a few hand-drawn samples of what the sign might look like. Mr. Gardner thought it should be a temporary sign while construction was going on. Mr. Tanke thought it should be more of a permanent V-shaped sign placed at the southeast corner of S.R. 249 and 20. Staff will explore further. City would pay half the cost of the sign.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer George Carlson gave the financial report. Mr. Carlson made a motion to approve the financial status statement; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Carlson then made a motion to approve the claims for payment totaling \$60,298.79; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Other Business - Commissioner Bob Huffman inquired whether there were any more signups for the marina. Mr. Gardner replied that about 29 people have actually paid money and reserved a boat slip. He said there were about 99 slips in the first phase of marina construction.

Statements from the floor - There being no further business, the next regular Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 1996 in Portage.