

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:00 P.M. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1997
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE
6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Chairman Bob Huffman called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Nine (9) Commissioners were present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

Robert Huffman
John DeMeo
William Tanke
Steve Davis
Robert Trelo
Charles Agnew
George Carlson
Emerson Delaney
Marion Williams

Visitors:

Jim Flora - RWArmstrong
Jomary Crary - IDNR, Div. Water
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Mary Jane Zak - South Shore

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
James Pokrajac
Sandy Mordus
Judy Vamos

The minutes of the August 7, 1997 meeting were approved by a motion from George Carlson; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner informed the Board members that just today COE personnel including Col. Gerber and General Van Winkle met here for a briefing presentation of the project area. They toured the area and brought the General up to date on construction issues. He will be giving the presentation to Congress next year for continuing funding of the project. Chairman Bob Huffman attended also. Mr. Gardner added authorization re-confirmation of the project will have to be pursued because the project cost has exceeded the maximum original funding that was identified.

Mr. Huffman added that there was discussion about the PAC agreement and what caused the discrepancy in HEC modeling that made us have to include the east reach remediation area within the project scope. Even though the discrepancy was only .14 increase of flooding downstream, it had to be addressed in order to secure the permit applications.

Mr. Gardner referred to a letter in packet inviting him to attend a meeting held in the Congressman's office regarding the Deep River dam in Lake Station. Maintenance of the dam has become an issue. Although we do not own the property at the dam, we were invited to help work out issues regarding the responsibility and funding for the clean up and regular maintenance of the dam.

Mr. Gardner referred back to the letter we wrote to the COE and then their letter to Rausch regarding further clarification of minority participation in the construction contracts. We have not had any further communication regarding this. Hopefully, we will be receiving something soon.

Land Acquisition Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion authorizing the increase of offers on DC348 to \$800; DC349 to \$1500 and DC482 to \$950; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Agnew then made a motion to file eminent domain proceedings against DC484, DC495, DC518, and DC542; motion seconded by Bob Trelo; motion passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued on the roadway at Deep River borrow site as part of Big Maple Lake development. The Commission has committed a maximum participation of \$150,800 toward the total cost of an estimate of \$261,750. A MOA has been prepared to address this project. Although it appears that the COE now has a problem with the legal, the attorney would still like a motion to enter into the MOA with the COE in hopes of the legal problem being solved. Mr. Agnew made a motion to enter into the MOA contingent upon COE approval and all details being worked out satisfactory to all parties; motion seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously.

At a previous meeting, the Board voted to extend for 90 days the finalizing of a business license agreement for Chase Street Produce. Since then, several things have changed. The option of a trailer purchase to store some flood equipment rather than the remodeling of their building and the possibility of obtaining fill at no charge for a parking lot addition have just become known. In light of these details, Mr. Agnew made a motion to extend the finalization of a business license agreement until the end of 1997; motion seconded by Emerson Delaney; motion passed unanimously. The new owners have already put quite a bit of work into the place on their own. They have been up to date on all their rent payments to us.

Mr. Agnew made a motion to enter into an agreement with I.U. Northwest for the erection of an I.U. sign on property the Commission owns near Broadway and the expressway. IU is taking full responsibility, holding us harmless, obtaining insurance and securing whatever permits are necessary. No income will be derived from it. The agreement will be for a 5 year term with renewable clauses. Motion seconded by Emerson Delaney; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering Committee - Committee Chairman Bob Huffman reported that construction has begun at the OxBow area in Hammond. Clearing and grubbing is going on now. It is hoped that work will be started at Lake Etta later this fall. A dedication event will be planned for about mid-October at OxBow. Groundbreaking ceremonies will probably also take place at Lake Etta and Gleason Park later.

Mr. Huffman also reported that a pre-construction meeting was held for Stage IV Phase 2B and for Stage II Phase 3C.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson informed the Board members that the State Budget Committee met in northwest Indiana on August 19-21. They viewed the Portage Public Marina site. The Mayor was hoping to be on their agenda for budget approval of \$2 million of Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission funds. That did not happen. They are now hoping for approval at the next Budget meeting. Two Commissioners, Chuck Agnew and John DeMeo, as well as Dan Gardner, were at the marina site when the Committee toured there. They commented that the marina looked great and they thought the Mayor did a great job of selling Phase II development.

Marina Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke added that he attended the business portion of the Budget Committee meeting the next day. He feels that in light of the Mayor not receiving the \$2 million and the Commission needing to take a stand on what their position is relative to Phase II development, he would like to schedule an executive session meeting to discuss the marina issues. Attorney Casale stated that it probably did not need to be an executive session but rather a Marina Committee meeting of the whole, with notification going to media. With that acceptable, Mr. Tanke made a motion to set a meeting at 5:30 p.m. September 17th; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Gardner reported Mayor Maletta's commitment to Phase II development would be \$1.4 million with the remaining amount used in the marina district.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Chuck Agnew gave the financial report. Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve a budget transfer of \$250,000 from Budget Code 5882 into Budget Code 5883 to allow for the \$150,800 at Deep River borrow site; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Agnew then made a motion to approve the financial status statement for July and approve the claims for payment totaling \$215,465.03; motion seconded by Bob Trelo; motion approved unanimously.

Mr. Agnew then made a motion to allow for reimbursement of expenses or payment of expenses for both contract employees when conducting Commission business or when Executive Director deems necessary; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Other Business - Chairman Bob Huffman referred back to the COE briefing that was held today in our office. He complimented Mr. Gardner on a job well done in his presentation to the General.

Mr. Tanke asked for a committee meeting to discuss the video making that was previously authorized but not yet completed. That committee consists of Marion Williams, Chuck Agnew, Arlene Colvin, Bob Huffman and himself. They scheduled a meeting time of 6:30 on Wednesday, September 24, 1997.

Statements from the floor - There were none.

There being no further business, the next regular Commission meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 2, 1997.