

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1998
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE
6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD
HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

Chairman Robert Trelo called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Seven (7) Commissioners were present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

Robert Trelo
Emerson Delaney
William Tanke
Charles Agnew
Robert Huffman
John DeMeo
Steve Davis

Visitors:

Pete Zak – South Shore Marina
Mary Jane Zak - “ “
Jim Flora – R.W.Armstrong Co.
Jomary Crary – IDNR, Div. Water
Dale Gick – IDNR, Div. Water
Spencer Cortwright – I.U. Northwest
Rebecca Kuhr – Burns & McDonnell
Laura McGovern-Burns & McDonnell

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Jim Pokrajac
Judy Vamos
Sandy Mordus

The minutes of the September 3, 1998 meeting were approved by a motion from William Tanke after a correction was made by Bob Huffman changing the total of \$17,810 to \$17,810,000 under the Marina Committee report on Page 3; motion seconded by Emerson Delaney; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report – Chairman Bob Trelo talked a little on the NAFSMA conference that was recently held and thanked those members who attended.

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Gardner referred to the letter in the agenda packet given to the COE office for use in their transmittal of the mitigation plan to IDNR. He stated that he believes we need to meet with DNR and the COE to discuss this issue.

Mr. Gardner referred to several notices from the Lake County Surveyor's Office regarding some public meetings they are sponsoring relative to stormwater drainage concerns. Mr.

Gardner will attend the meetings. The Surveyor's Office is doing a comprehensive stormwater master plan.

Land Acquisition Committee – Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew stated there are no condemnations or increased offers to be made this month. Mr. Agnew made a motion granting right-of-entry onto our property near Chase and Grant to a trapper to eliminate the problem of beavers building dams in the ditch; motion was seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously. Discussion ensued in how the beavers were to be eliminated. Mr. Huffman added that he would like to see it done in a humane way.

Mr. Agnew announced the van tour that is scheduled for Saturday October 17th at 8:30 a.m. We will meet in the Highland municipal parking lot at Highway and Kennedy.

Mr. Agnew introduced Spencer Cortwright from I.U.N. who gave a slide presentation on what he and his students are proposing for the ½ acre levee area on the west side of Broadway leading up to the top of the levee westward to the old greenhouse area. He is proposing a high quality prairie area that would be planted there requiring little or no maintenance. After the presentation, Bob Huffman made a motion in support of the prairie concept in that area; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. Chairman Trelo thanked Mr. Cortwright for his well-presented program.

Project Engineering Committee – Committee Chairman Bob Huffman made a motion to add Congress Enterprises to the Commission's list of qualified contractors; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Huffman then made a motion to add K&S Testing to the Commission's list of qualified environmental firms; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Huffman also reported that a walk-through of completed and ongoing levees to review technical review issues and O&M concerns was held on Sept. 17th. Also discussed was trail alignment and how it crosses the roadways and railroads.

Legislative Committee – In Committee Chairperson Arlene Colvin's absence, Mr. Gardner gave the report. He referred to the newspaper article announcing \$7 million of federal monies approved for the flood control project.

Mr. Gardner also referred to the letter signed by the Governor transmitting our latest state draw to us. This draw consisted of \$1,000,000, which represents a 5% cash contribution for FY1999.

Mr. Agnew made a motion for staff to seek the appropriated \$2 million of 97/98 state funds to be transferred over so we are able to draw on it; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Marina Committee – Committee Chairman Bill Tanke informed the Board that the October bond payment has been paid. He stated the corner marina sign is under construction and should be going up shortly.

Finance Committee – Committee Chairman George Carlson referred to the financial status report and claim approval list. He made a motion to accept the financial report and approve claims totaling \$86,890.58; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Carlson referred to the COE letter requesting the \$1 million as representing 5% cash contribution of the costs estimated to be incurred through the federal fiscal year of September 1999.

Recreational Development Committee – Committee Chairman Emerson Delaney reported the George W. Carlson Oxbow Park dedication that took place earlier today was a wonderful event. Everyone was very proud of the accomplishment of the park facilities and the honor that was bestowed upon fellow Board member George Carlson was indeed deserving.

Mr. Delaney announced that dedication of the Gleason Park recreational facilities is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday October 27th. All are invited.

Final inspection at Lake Etta is scheduled for October 22nd. A final punch list will be discussed. Mr. Gardner thanked Jim Pokrajac for his hard work coordinating all the details of the recreational features.

Minority Contracting Committee – In Committee Chairman Marion Williams' absence, Mr. Gardner stated that the committee, along with the COE, met on September 15th. He felt it was a very good meeting and thought we really made an impact with the COE. Imad will be getting us some additional information regarding minority participation in the contracts. The COE portrayed to us that the completed levee contracts had a higher minority participation rate than we expected to see.

Other Business – Chairman Bob Trelo thanked staff for organizing and making arrangements for the NAFSMA trip.

Judy Vamos thanked the Board members for their good wishes to her while she was in the hospital. She also informed them of a wetlands banking conference on Sept. 16th that she

attended. In attendance were private organizations, environmental groups, and public officials and COE representatives. Very interesting conference.

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, November 5, 1998.**