

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
HELD AT 6:00 P.M. TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1999  
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE  
6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD  
PORTAGE, INDIANA**

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

**Development Commissioners:**

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

**Visitors:**

G. W.Hodges – Portage Port Authority  
Kerry Keith – S.E.H., Griffith  
Jomary Crary – IDNR, Div. of Water

**Staff:**

Lou Casale  
Dan Gardner  
Jim Pokrajac  
Judy Vamos  
Sandy Mordus

The minutes of the May 6th, 1999 meeting were approved by a motion from George Carlson; motion was seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

**Chairman's Report** – Chairman Emerson Delaney referred to the van tour that the Commission took on May 15<sup>th</sup>. He felt it was very successful. They visited Coffee Creek development in Chesterton and the proposed handicapped park in Lake Station. Mr. Agnew added that he was glad members got to see where the handicapped park is proposed. Mr. Gardner added that perhaps they could go again in the fall to view Gleason Park, Lake Etta, and the proposed spot for the driving range in Gary.

**Executive Director's Report** – Executive Director Dan Gardner referred to a letter sent to Senator Lugar from Peggy Boehm, State Budget Director. He felt the letter had a negative overtone to it and found it very disturbing. Although it is true that the Commission did not have a line item, Mr. Gardner has talked to some legislators and they have indicated that the \$10 million "Special Fund" is indeed real and has up to \$4 million for the Development Commission to keep federal contracts on schedule. That was not mentioned in Peggy Bohem's letter to the Senator.

**Land Acquisition Committee** – Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew spoke about the May 5<sup>th</sup> public meeting held for the Marshalltown Subdivision residents in which the proposed levee was discussed. The people aired what he thought legitimate questions and concerns. After lengthy discussions, it was decided that another meeting would be scheduled for the Marshalltown area residents in which appropriate people could be invited to address these concerns, i.e. sanitary and storm drainage problems, mosquito control, dumping in river and along roadways, and NIPSCO right-of-way cleanup. Staff will follow up with mailings to interested parties.

**Recreational Development Committee** – Committee Chairman George Carlson referred to the Times article in the agenda packet on the Carlson Oxbow Park improvements. The utility building will be going up at the Park this week. Mr. Huffman inquired whether a cut had been made yet between the two lakes to join them together. Mr. Carlson stated that it has not been done yet because the DNR person who is suppose to inspect it/approve it has not been available. Hopefully, he will inspect it soon and the cut will be made.

Mr. Carlson also stated that the recreation to this point is about 85% complete. He also stated that we have received a recreation (project-type) map for the east and west reach project areas. Jim Pokrajac has the maps for viewing, if interested.

**Minority Contracting Committee** – In Committee Chairman Marion Williams' absence, Mr. Gardner referred to a letter from A. J. Construction Company requesting construction projects be set-aside for 8(A) programs. Mr. Gardner stated that the east reach remediation area, Burr Street Phase 1 and Stage IV Phase 1 has already been slated for this construction season. He will work with the COE to identify a future contract for the 8(A) program. Also, he stated that a pre-bid meeting had been held for the east reach remediation area, where one bid was received (Dyer Construction). That lone bid was 38% over the government estimate. The Commission will ask the COE to negotiate with Dyer to try to bring the bid in line with the Government estimate.

**Other Business** – Bill Tanke asked staff to look into closing out the marina construction fund that was previously set up when we were receiving marina-related bills regarding construction. Staff will follow up.

Bob Huffman passed around a colored shot of people biking on the trail. The trail is being used extensively by families.

Mr. Gardner added that District Engineer Rich Carlson's replacement, Mr. John Sirles, would like to meet the Board members some time. Staff will follow up and invite him to one of our meetings.

**Statements to the Board** – Chairman Delaney referred to Kerry Keith from S.E.H. in the audience. That firm will do the plans & specs for Stage VIII in the west reach. Mr. Keith expressed to the Board that they are looking forward to working with us and stated they have expertise in the public relations field, also. Mr. Pokrajac added that we are trying to get a little more involved in preliminary planning and design. We will be meeting with the COE to discuss this in the near future.

Jomary Crary from IDNR stated that the permit is moving along. The environmental review is being one and it is currently being reviewed by the Dam Section of DNR.

There being no further business, the next regular Commission meeting was scheduled for **6:00 p.m. Thursday, July 1, 1999.**

Wednesday, June 30, 1999  
4:00 p.m.

In attendance:

Dan Gardner, Executive Director  
Lou Casale, Commission attorney  
Sandy Mordus, Business Coordinator  
Don Ewoldt, Lake Erie Land Company

**BID OPENING**

One (1) proposal received from:

Lake Erie Land Company  
1010 Sand Creek Drive South  
Chesterton, Indiana 46304  
Contact person: Don Ewoldt

The proposal contains numerous documents. Attorney will review for completeness and it will be presented to the Board at the monthly Commission meeting held July 1, 1999 at 6:00 p.m.