

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
HELD AT 5:00 P.M. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2008
at the LCRBDC Commission Office
6100 Southport Road
Portage, IN

Chairman Bill Biller called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Eight (8) Commissioners were present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chairman Biller thanked the members for attending the Special meeting on short notice.

Development Commissioners:

William Biller
Robert Marszalek
Kent Gurley
Mark Gordish
William Baker
Arlene Colvin
Robert Huffman
John Mroczkowski

Staff:

Lou Casale, Attorney
Jody Melton, Interim Director
Sandy Mordus, Business Coordinator

Chairman Biller announced that the Special meeting was held to address one item. The Finance committee has met and this meeting was called as a result of the committee meeting. He proceeded to turn the meeting over to Treasurer Kent Gurley.

Mr. Gurley reminded the members that he had attempted to pass a budget at the last Commission meeting but that did not happen. He had attempted to identify budget figures for the end of year 2008 and budget figures until the end State fiscal year June 09. Additional budget figures to the project end was not identified at that time. Mark Lopez, from the Congressman's Office, did not approve that approach. He was adamant, as well as Senator Mrvan, that cost figures be identified to the project end immediately. Mr. Gurley further indicated that he is not comfortable with some of the costs that out there and some costs are not known at this time. He felt that project costs have been difficult for the staff to capture and he is recommending an outside person be brought in to prepare a project end budget for the Commission. It would be a short term contract for a cost not to exceed \$20,000; the person is experienced in project management. This is the recommendation of the Finance Committee. William Baker questioned why the committee did not consider a firm to do the budget, rather than an individual person. He was informed that the RFP is still going forward and is being finalized and will be released for advertising before the December meeting. The committee did not consider waiting for a firm to be selected; they wanted to move forward quickly. Since this meeting was called, Mark Lopez indicated that he wanted to meet with staff and the Corps first, before we spend additional money, to see what kind of budget figures could be assembled to do a budget ourselves. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Kent Gurley to appropriate up to \$20,000 for engaging a consultant, be it a person or a firm, on a limited basis to assist the Commission in preparing an interim and long term budget, with the Chairman and Treasurer having the authority to make the offer; motion was seconded by Bob Huffman; motion passed unanimously. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.