

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1993  
 AT THE NIRPC COMMISSION OFFICE  
 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE  
 HIGHLAND, INDIANA

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Chairman George Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Eight (8) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

George Carlson  
 Charles Agnew  
 Steve Davis  
 Robert Huffman  
 Nathaniel Leonard  
 Robert Trelo  
 John DeMeo  
 William Tanke

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
 Lou Casale  
 Sandy Mordus  
 Jim Pokrajac

Visitors:

Virgil Meier - Highland  
 Dominic Vasile - Highland  
 Ted Iallegio - Ogden Dunes  
 Allison Galusich - Highland  
 News  
 Jim Flora - R.W. Armstrong  
 Joe Mika - Lake County  
 Highway Dept.  
 Rick Markley - The Times  
 Jon LaTurner - IDNR Div. of  
 Water  
 Donald Shapiro - Highland  
 Brigit Gold - Merrillville  
 Buzz Lee - Ogden Dunes, Town  
 Council President  
 Jonathon Swanson - WJOB News  
 Emerson DeLaney - Hammond  
 Virgil Meier - Highland

The minutes of the November 4, 1993 meeting were approved by a motion from William Tanke; seconded by Robert Trelo; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman George Carlson announced he has been reappointed as the Hammond representative to the Commission by Mayor Dedelow for a 4 year term through 1997.

Mr. Carlson appointed a Nominating Committee to consist of Arlene Colvin (Chairman), John DeMeo and Robert Trelo to meet and present a slate of officers for 1994 at the next meeting.



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Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner announced that the President signed the federal bill on October 28, 1993. He also stated that the state draw for the next cash contribution to the Corps in the amount of \$1.242 million has been drawn.

Regarding the construction phase of Wicker Park Manor, Mr. Gardner stated that an informational letter was going out to the residents living on River Drive. He highlighted the main interest points in the letter: (1) for the most part, the new levee is being built along the existing levee and construction is being staged so a line of protection remains between the residents and the river, (2) the contractor is restricted to a specified work area, the boundary of which has been agreed to by area property owners through agreement with the Commission, (3) the contractor will not begin operation before 7 a.m. Equipment will be warming up after 6:30 a.m. Generally, the contractor will operate on weekdays but some Saturday operations may be necessary, (4) landscape plantings along the new levee system will be done after the levee contract is completed. Corps will work with individual property owners along the levee to develop the types of shrubbery to be planted and (5) plans to remove portions of the old levees (facing homes) will be developed with the landscaping planting design. Mr. Gardner stressed that it not only has been frustrating to the home owners along River Drive but frustrating to us as well in regard to the legalities that have slowed down the progress. It was hoped that some substantial construction would have been started this last summer but that just did not happen.

Mr. Gardner met with the Corps who stressed that a crisis was looming because of Grant St. not moving. Mayor Barnes has stated he has sent INDOT a letter declaring Grant Street bridge reconstruction is a city priority. Mr. Gardner then stated that Frank DeRisi, district engineer for LaPorte District of INDOT, has stated verbally that Grant St. will be placed on the transportation projects list. With that happening, it will complete the line of protection on the north side. We are now awaiting an actual letter of commitment. An engineering schedule of the Corps and INDOT needs to be set.

Land Acquisition Committee - Land Acquisition Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion for staff to have some repair work done on the wall at Gary Meat Market (hole will be left after they have a freezer removed) with cost not exceeding \$700; motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard ; motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Agnew stated that Mr. Gardner was going to be meeting with the Gary Park Board and staff, with I.U. Northwest Chancellor Hilda Richards.

Project Engineering Committee - Mr. Huffman stated that Stage III (from Chase St. to Grant St.) was almost complete. He referred to a letter from the Corps to Lake County Parks & Recreation asking them to review the Corps recreation plan for county parks and respond back. The recreation plans are a 50-50 cost share.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke announced that sandmining is still ongoing.

Mr. Tanke added that the NIPSCO lease is still being reviewed. The attorney is working with NIPSCO's attorney to work out a suitable agreement. NIPSCO has stated they will have the lease back to us by mid December. Staff will follow up.

Town Trustee Ted Ialeggio reported that the sand moving is about 2/3 complete. The original plan was to complete the sand moving and then bill the Commission. Mr. Ialeggio has said that the town has hired a smaller contractor who is requesting payment at 2 week intervals. Mr. Ialeggio presented the Commission with a second bill. Mr. Tanke made a motion to amend the agreement from one lump sum to a as-needed basis when presented with bills to be approved at the Commission meetings; motion seconded by Bob Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke then made a motion to add the second invoice of \$6,516 for sand transport to the claim sheet; motion seconded by Steve Davis; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke stated that we need to meet with Tom Largura of Superior to see exactly where we are on the sandmining and to see if we need to renegotiate a contract.

Mr. Tanke also announced that the permit for the marina project still is not approved by the Detroit Corps office. The permit application is not approved yet because the Detroit Corps is insisting on a 75' green belt area along the waterway which conflicts with the 250 marina slip requirement of the Chicago Corps. The two Corps offices need to come to some agreement and Mr. Tanke stated that if it is not resolved in the very near future, we will seek the assistance of the Congressman to write a letter.

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Mr. Tanke made a motion authorizing Abonmarche to proceed with Task 7 for a cost not to exceed \$4,250; motion seconded by Steve Davis; motion passed unanimously.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer John DeMeo presented the financial status report for November as well as the claims for approval. Mr. DeMeo made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously. Mr. DeMeo referred to the Corps letters requesting withdrawal of funds from the escrow accounts.

Mr. DeMeo stated a Finance committee meeting would be held before the next regular Commission meeting.

Mr. Gardner introduced Jon LaTurner of DNR, Div. of Water.

Statements from the floor - Dr. Buzz Lee thanked the Commission for its efforts in making possible the sand to the beach and paying for the transport of that sand and then paying the invoices as received.

Dominic Vasile from Wicker Park Manor subdivision stressed his disappointment that no levee work has begun. He felt that construction work should have been going on by now. Mr. Gardner answered that we would have liked to have seen work started this summer also. He offered Tom Deja's phone number to him. Mr. Deja is the Corps engineer in the local office.

Donald Shapiro asked why interlocks and sheet piling idea has been abandoned by the Corps. Mr. Gardner stated that the sheet piling along the ditch behind Tri State was only a temporary measure until levee construction was underway in that area. The sheetpiling is not in the overall Corps plan. Mr. Shapiro was concerned about the level of protection. Mr. Gardner answered in that the levee system is designed to withstand a 200 year flood level with a 3' overboard.

Mr. Gardner informed the audience that the next meeting would be held at the new office location in Portage at 6100 Southport Road.

There was no other business. The next Commission meeting will not be held on the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting was scheduled for **Wednesday, January 12, 1994 at 6:30 p.m.**

/sjm

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1994  
 AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES  
 6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD  
 PORTAGE, INDIANA

Chairman George Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Eight (8) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

George Carlson  
 Charles Agnew  
 Steve Davis  
 Robert Huffman  
 Arlene Colvin  
 Robert Trelo  
 William Tanke  
 Nathaniel Leonard

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
 Lou Casale  
 Sandy Mordus  
 Jim Pokrajac

Visitors:

Rick Markley - The Times  
 John LaTurner - DNR  
 Kenneth Smith - DNR  
 Pete Zak - South Shore Marina  
 Ted Ialeggio - Ogden Dunes  
 Jim Flora - R.W. Armstrong  
 and Recreation Board  
 Bill Petrites - Highland  
 Barbara Tanke  
 Barbara Trelo  
 Sandi Gardner  
 Karen Flora

The minutes of the December 2, 1993 meeting were approved as amended by a motion from Charles Agnew; seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously. Bill Tanke pointed out that the 7th paragraph on p. 4 should read "...the interlocking sheet steel piling..." and not "...the interlocks and sheet piling....".

Nominating Committee Report: Arlene Colvin, as Chairman of the Nominating Committee, stated she and other committee members John DeMeo and Robert Trelo met and the Committee's recommendation is to retain the current officers for a second term. That would be:

George Carlson	-	Chairman
Charles Agnew	-	Vice Chairman
John DeMeo	-	Treasurer
Nathaniel Leonard	-	Secretary

Mr. Tanke made a motion that nominations be closed; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Arlene Colvin made a motion to retain the existing officers; motion seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously.

refer to next book