

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1993
AT THE NIRPC COMMISSION OFFICE
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Chairman George Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Nine (9) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

- George Carlson
 - Charles Agnew
 - Robert Trelo
 - Nathaniel Leonard
 - Steve Davis
 - Arlene Colvin
 - John DeMeo
 - William Tanke
 - Robert Huffman
- Staff:

- Dan Gardner
- Lou Casale
- Sandy Mordus
- Jim Pokrajac

Visitors:

- Virgil Meier - Highland
- Dominic Vasile - Highland
- Siavash Beik - DNR, Div. of Water
- Sunita Singh - Congressman Visclosky's Office
- Bill Petrites - Highland
- Mike VanderHeyden - Dyer Const.
- James Flora - RWarmsong
- Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
- Mary Jane Zak - "
- John Hannon - City of Portage
- Ray Young - Contract Community Services & Greater Gary Assoc. Contractors
- Emerson Delaney - Hammond
- Donald Shapiro - Highland
- Ron Schults - Abonmarche
- John Linn - Abonmarche

The minutes of the June 3, 1993 meeting were approved by a motion from John DeMeo; seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner gladly reported that a state budget has been passed. In it, the Development Commission is earmarked for \$4 million. This money is to come from the General Fund rather than the Build Indiana Fund, which should make it easier to access. Also specified in the budget is \$2.5 million for the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission with \$1 million designated for Portage. Mr. Gardner stated that this was the roughest budget session he has ever witnessed. He stated that without the dedicated support and help we received from Congressman Visclosky, Senators Lugar and Coats and local legislators, in particular, Rep. Earl Harris and Rep. Chet Dobis, we may not have received even the \$4 million (although our request was originally for \$7 million). They were instrumental in getting this amount into the General Fund budget.

LCRBDC Minutes
July 1, 1993
Page 2

Mr. Gardner referred to the letter from Col. Reed to the Congressman informing him of the latest status for the construction contract for the levee in Wicker Park Manor. Staff is working diligently in trying to secure all lands, easements and rights-of-way needed before construction bidding can begin. Several issues are still outstanding; those being Tri State, ConRail, Phillips Petroleum and CSX. Corps and staff will continue the efforts.

Mr. Gardner stated that we will begin work with the Corps to establish a revised federal construction schedule now that we know what funding exists.

Mr. Gardner presented to the Commission a status report on the 8A set aside program which would enable local minority contractors assured participation in the Corps project. The program is run by the Small Business Administration and they, as well as the Corps, must agree upon the size of the contract, the timing of the contract and the eligibility of the participating firms. Up to now, northwest Indiana and the Gary area have had very few eligible firms; but through the work of a number of area concerns, the paperwork is in process to qualify up to 4 area firms. Mr. Gardner also referred to a minority participation proposal submitted by Ray Young for consideration by the Corps. Mr. Gardner portrayed that the decision for the acceptance of this was with the Corps but that the endorsement by the Development Commission would assist the Corps in a favorable review. Ray Young thanked the Commission for their support over the months and presented an outline of the plan which identified certain contracts for set aside as well as a target amount of \$24 million of the roughly \$110 million project for the 8A program. The Commissioners will review the proposal during the next month.

Land Acquisition Committee - Land Acquisition Chairman Chuck Agnew reported that the appraisal on Tri State's property needed for the levee is \$44,000. Tri State has verbally agreed that for an additional \$4,000, they would sign the right-of-entry and also give us the temporary work easements and road access needed. Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve the appraisal and offer Tri State of total of \$48,000; motion seconded by Robert Trelo; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering Committee - Committee Chairman Robert Huffman referred to the letter in packet from North West Engineering to us asking to meet to address the problem the city has with discovering that the proposed storm sewer pump station on the north side is not designed to accept the flow from the south side.

LCRBDC Minutes
July 1, 1993
Page 3

Mr. Huffman also referred to the INDOT letter stating the preliminary cost estimated for the raising of Grant Street bridge over the Borman would be about \$2.6 million. We do not yet have a firm commitment from INDOT to fund this much needed reconstruction at Grant St. Efforts must continue to get this project scheduled.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke stated he was very glad that Portage is to receive \$1 million in General Fund money in this biennium. He stated that the attorney has drafted up an addendum to the Abonmarche agreement addressing any additional costs incurred as a result of NIPSCO line relocation, that Abonmarche would assume those costs. Mr. Tanke made a motion authorizing the Chairman to sign the addendum and release past due monies to Abonmarche in the amount of \$16,956; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Tanke then made a motion approving payment of \$3,240 to Abonmarche; seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke referred to the letter from NIPSCO and the agreement for the Grant of Easement from us to NIPSCO needed before line relocation can begin. Mr. Tanke made a motion to approve the easement subject to the attorney, staff and himself changing wording if necessary to effectuate correctness; motion seconded by Bob Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke made a motion authorizing Dyer Construction to do some additional grading work on site needed to line relocation for an amount not to exceed \$500; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke made a motion authorizing Abonmarche to perform Task #7 construction layout not to exceed \$7,180; seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke made a motion that INDOT would be compensated for sand removal within their right-of-way as required by the agreed-to grading plan for an approximate amount of \$1,000; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Gardner will send letter to INDOT immediately.

Mr. Tanke made a motion authorizing the city to remove the existing fence to facilitate the proposed grading along U.S. 12. The fence will be reinstalled upon completion of work. Motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

LCRBDC Minutes
July 1, 1993
Page 4

Abonmarche will pursue obtaining quotes for seeding and sand stabilization where sand is being removed and have those quotes available at the next meeting.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer John DeMeo presented the financial status report for June as well as the claims for approval. He made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner stated that he is pleased that the marina project is finally really moving along. He thanked Abonmarche and the city for being cooperative and working well together.

Mr. Agnew thanked the staff for planning the van tour of Commission properties that took place on June 19th.

Discussion took place on unauthorized parking on Commission marina site property by Marquette Boat Club slip renters. Mr. Agnew made a motion authorize staff to write a letter to Marquette reiterating no parking on this property. If they continue to allow it, there will be no lease next year. Trespassing is a violation and we should declare it a construction zone then we can legally call the police and have cars towed; motion was seconded by Bob Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

There were no statements from the floor.

There was no other business. The next Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, August 5, 1993 at 6:30 p.m.

/sjm