

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1993
 AT THE NIRPC COMMISSION OFFICE
 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE
 HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Chairman George Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Seven (7) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Dan Gardner
 Lou Casale
 Sandy Mordus
 Bruce Stouffer

Visitors:

Virgil Meier - Highland
 Donald Shapiro - Highland
 Eloise Gentry - Urban League
 Sarah Anderson - Crown Point
 Dock Miller - Gary
 Dominic Vasile - Highland
 Bill Petrites - Highland
 Siavash Beik - DNR, Div. Water
 James Flora - RW Armstrong
 Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
 Mary Jane Zak - "
 Sunita Singh - Congressman
 Visclosky's Office
 Ray Young - Contract Community
 Services & Greater Gary Assoc.
 Contractors

Chairman George Carlson announced the 1993 committee structure listing 5 committees. They are (1) Land Acquisition/Management, (2) Project Engineering, (3) Finance/Policy, (4) Legislative, and (5) Marina Development. Committee structure was approved by a motion from Robert Trelo; seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the February 4, 1993 meeting were approved by a motion from Chuck Agnew; seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner reported a public meeting was held in our office for those property owners in Wicker Park Manor that live on River Drive. Easements need to be acquired from those property owners for construction of the new levee. The Corps of Engineers and town officials were also present. Those residents that did not attend will be contacted. Real estate needs and the construction timetable was discussed.

Mr. Gardner referred to a letter in the packet from the Corps office to FEMA outlining the Corps commitment to construct the levee segment in Wicker Park Manor subdivision in 1993.

Regarding the Indianapolis Blvd. bridge replacement over the river, Mr. Gardner announced that INDOT has declared that they will keep the roadway open during the construction period. Residents and business owners expressed concern that this major thoroughfare would be closed.

Mr. Gardner distributed a letter from SEG (consultants doing the plans & specs for DNR for levee in Wicker Park Manor) outlining additional work requested that is not covered in the original Scope of Services contract. SEG estimates an additional \$12,000 is needed. This Commission is being requested to pick up that additional charge. Nathaniel Leonard made a motion authorizing approval up to an additional \$12,000 subject to Siavash Beik from DNR certifying the additional work was indeed needed and not covered in the original contract. Attempts to lower the actual charges will be made; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Discussion also took place on Erie R.R. bridge buildup again. The Commission has already authorized the removal of the debris; it has been completed this week. Mr. Gardner referred to a letter in the packet he wrote to Pat Ralston, Director of IDNR, stating the problem of the continuous debris buildup at the Erie RR bridge and requesting the temporary bridge removal in light of the Corps replacing the bridge in about 3 years when the project reaches that area. He sent a copy of the letter to those concerned with the issue - the Corps, city of Hammond, and the town of Highland. Mr. Carlson asked to follow up with the city of Hammond in regard to some Community Block Grant funds that should be available to help with the removal cost.

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Mr. Gardner talked about the response letter received from the Corps regarding deviation from standard regulations to provide for greater minority participation in the construction project. The letter states that although the minimum minority requirement is 29%, the Corps has declared that all future competitive federal contracts for the project will contain a 40% goal for minority participation. Ray Young, contact person regarding minority participation, stated he was happy that the Corps has raised the percentage and it will be helpful. He has met with the Kewit, the contractor for the next phase construction, and they have been receptive to working with us to allow for minority sub-contractors as much as they can. Kewit has also put \$.5 million in the bank to expand minority participation.

Finance/Policy Committee - In Treasurer John DeMeo's absence, Mr. Gardner presented the financial status report for February as well as the claims for approval. Nathaniel Leonard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously with the exception of the Abonmarche claim; we will hold until the contract addendum is approved.

Legislative Committee - Mr. Gardner still has not heard anything from the Budget Agency. He is attempting to contact key legislators.

Land Acquisition Committee - Land Acquisition Chairman Chuck Agnew reported that an agreement is needed with Norfolk Southern R.R. for Stage III. Attorney Casale has made some changes in their proposed agreement. A motion granting permission to negotiate the agreement with the railroad and then ratify it at the next meeting was made by Nathaniel Leonard; seconded by Robert Trelo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew made a motion to allow Howard Meat Market to sublease their store at 35th & Chase contingent upon the lease being brought up to date in regard to rent; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Regarding NIPSCO utility agreements, the Corps has approved the cost estimates for three areas. They are:

Taft Street	-	\$11,654
35th & Chase	-	\$40,680
29th & Chase	-	\$41,027

These relocations are needed for the Stage III construction. Mr. Agnew made a motion authorizing the relocations as approved by the Corps; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering/Construction Committee - Mr. Gardner referred to several letters in the packet - the Corps letter identifying the utility work needed to be done by NIPSCO before the deadline date of April 1; the Commission's letter to the Corps stating our request to engineer and construct Georgia Street over the south levee instead of installing closure gates; INDOT letters requesting property identification of Gary lands; the Commission's letter to the Corps stating our request to modify the design of the Chase St. crossing of the north levee by partial raising to achieve a 10 year level of in-place protection before any closure needs placing; Corps letter requesting us to notify INDOT to reroute the existing drainage ditch near Grant Street; letter from North West Engineering (Gary engineering consultant) stating that the Gary Sanitary District has applied for a permit from IDNR for construction of a sanitary sewer along Burr Street. Commissioner Huffman asked staff to get additional information from the consultant regarding this sanitary line.

Mr. Gardner stated that he and Jim Flora from R.W. Armstrong accompanied some Corps officials on a field trip in the west reach to see the pumping stations. The main reason was looking at discharging of flow around the levee so no backflow would exist. The Corps will issue a memo to us regarding various alternatives.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - In Committee Chairman Bill Tanke's absence, Mr. Gardner gave the report. He reported that the revised addendum has been approved by the city and Abonmarche and is ready for signature tonight. With that, the Abonmarche claim that was previously deleted from the claim sheet was reinserted.

Mr. Gardner announced the sand removal will resume very shortly.

Nathaniel Leonard made a motion to approve the addendum adding the Portage Park Dept. to allow for the acceptance of the Indiana Waters Grant; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously. He also stated that the Portage Park Dept. has received an award of \$245,500 from the Indiana Waters Grant program to be used for some of the public/outdoor recreation improvements at the marina.

The 4th annual report of the "Burns Small Boat Harbor Monitoring Program, Portage, IN" has been received from the Corps.

Other Business - Commissioner Bob Huffman inquired about the flood warning plan being developed for the Wicker Park Manor area. Mr. Gardner stated the warning system is required by FEMA.

Mr. Gardner also announced that Staff and Chairman George Carlson are meeting with the Colonel tomorrow.

Statements from the floor - Eloise Gentry from the N.W. IN Urban League, offered their offices for our use if needed anytime.

Don Shapiro stated he thought \$50,000 was a lot of money for a flood warning system. Mr. Gardner says it is for the entire project limits.

There was no other business. Since the first Thursday of the month was not a good meeting time for the Commission in April, the next Commission meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 7, 1993 at 6:30 p.m.

/sjm

