

Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission

8149 Kennedy Avenue Highland, Indiana 46322 (219) 923-1118

SANDY

absent
ARLENE COLVIN, Chairperson
Mayor of Gary's
Appointment

GEORGE CARLSON, Vice-Chairman
Mayor of Hammond's
Appointment

CLYDE BAUGHARD, Treasurer
Governor's Appointment

WILLIAM CRITSER, Secretary
Governor's Appointment

CHARLES AGNEW
Governor's Appointment *absent*

NATHANIEL LEONARD
Lake County Commissioners'
Appointment

STEVE DAVIS
Dept. of Natural Resources'
Appointment

JOHN DEMEO
Governor's Appointment

DAVID SPRINGMAN
Governor's Appointment

WILLIAM TANKE
Porter County Commissioners'
Appointment

VACANCY
Governor's Appointment

DAN GARDNER
Executive Director

MEETING NOTICE

THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE
LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1991
AT THE OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

A G E N D A

Pages

1. Call to Order by Chairperson Arlene Colvin
2. Recognition of Visitors, Guests
3. Approval of minutes of February 7th meeting *1-5*
4. Communications
- Letter to C.O.E. from city of Gary re: project commitments *6-7*
5. Reports of Standing Committees
 - A. Finance/Policy Committee - Clyde Baughard, Treasurer
 - Financial status report *8*
 - Approval of claims for February, 1991
 - Other issues
 - B. Legislative Committee - George Carlson, Chairman
 - State and Federal Budget Status Report *9-14*
 - Mailing to area legislators concerning budget request
 - Supplement to Local Cooperation Agreement
 - Other issues

Huffman,
+ also
plus Paul
Dick Waw.
Chris's of staff
Allen Adams?
I have green jacket,
Indian whiskey,
muller-squire gun bag.

add
CC on file
per diem
during
capital
docs
DPK
mtg

C. Interim Flood Control - Clyde Baughard, Chairman

- Maintenance Agreement with DNR for emergency levee in Highland
- Bidding advertisement for Conrail culverts project

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D. Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Charles Agnew, Chairman

- Committee meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- Appraisals, offers, acquisitions, recommended actions
- Meetings held with Lake County Park officials re: Lake Etta Park development issues
- Other issues

E. Breakwaters/Marina Committee - Bill Tanke, Chairman

- Meetings held regarding public marina site development, Corps channel dredging situation
- Other issues

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6. Executive Director's Report

- Presentation to the Board by the city of Portage Storm Water Management Board
- Comments on proposed fee schedule for DNR permits

17
18

7. Statements to Board from the floor

8. Set date for next meeting, adjournment

How much money
for Conrail 2.

Don -
Call Charlotte Reed.
Call Tanke.

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1991
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

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

Development Commissioners:

Charles Agnew
Clyde Baughard
Dave Springman
Nathaniel Leonard
William Critser
George Carlson
Arlene Colvin
John DeMeo

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale, Attorney
Bruce Stouffer
Sandy Mordus

Visitors:

C. D. Green - Crown Point
Pete & M.J. Zak-S. Shore Marina
Bobby Wright - Griffith Izaak
Walton League
Mike Kerr - Tenney Pavoni
Rada Indjich - The TIMES
George Bunce - Griffith IWLA
Janet Moran - Hammond City
Council
Herb Read - Porter Cty. IWLA
Dick Wawrzyniak - DNR
Bill Leets - Hobart
Ed Beatty - North Township
Lake Cty Drainage Brd.
Advisory
Adam Adams - Cong. Visclosky's
Office

A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the January 3rd meeting; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Clyde Baughard presented the financial status report for January as well as the claims. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Baughard referred to the two graphs in the packet showing how the two notes of \$216,500 and \$700,000 are deposited. The first graph depicts the varying interest rates for Commission's \$216,500 note that is rolled over every 30 days. A competitive bidding procedure is in place in which we solicit highest

interest rates from interested banks. The bank offering the highest rate for that 30 day period gets the note for the next 30 days. The same procedure is followed for the \$700,000 note for every 90 days rollover. The graphs referred to show the solicited interest rates and how close they are to each other. Detailed records are kept to substantiate our selection of a bank.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson reported that there was a date set for February 19th to appear before the Ways and Means Committee to request \$3 million in this years' biennium; however, that date has been canceled. In a letter from Pat Bauer, Ways and Means Chairman, it was stated that a budget hearing for our agency was not necessary. Staff will answer Mr. Bauer in letter form strongly pushing the Commission's \$3 million request. A mailing is also being sent to all northwest IN legislators soliciting support for the \$3 million request. Mr. Gardner stated that the Budget Committee's budget has been released and it contained "0" dollars for the flood control project. Evidently, all capital projects have not been put into the budget this biennium. In this critical time with the actual construction beginning, it is more important than ever to keep continuity of state funds. Mr. Carlson referred to the Times article stating that the Corps has asked Congress for an appropriation of \$6.5 million of 1992 monies to be used for the flood control project. This amount is in President Bush's budget, which is viewed as a very positive indication.

In other legislative business, Mr. Carlson spoke of the Local Cooperation Agreement supplement received from the Corps last month. Attorney Casale is reviewing it. The supplement deals with the Burr Street levee protection addition versus Burr Street floodproofing. The Commission previously voted to add levee protection on Burr Street. Action on the supplement will be deferred until next meeting, after the attorney has completely reviewed it.

Mr. Carlson made a motion for staff to seek the amount of \$2 million from 1987/89 biennium to be made available for drawdown purposes; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Attorney Casale reported that the Erie R.R. bridge pier removal application with fee has been submitted to DNR for approval. Discussion was held on pier removal at Indpls. Blvd. Mr. Gardner indicated he had talked to city of Hammond relative to the questionable \$18,000 of city funds to do the removal. As indicated once before, the \$18,000 may be used in other work for Hammond but not pier removal.

Mike Kerr from Tenney Pavoni Associates was present to present to the Commission the bid specifications and maps regarding culvert enlargement at Penn Central. All work is approved and permits are in place by the Corps, DNR and Conrail. The project is ready for advertisement.

Mr. Gardner reported that the Commission has received the State Governor's Report on the flooding situation at Wicker Park Manor.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew gave committee report. Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve \$1,550 for moving expenses for Howard Marion; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew also made a motion for approval of the revised appraisal of DC318 (Charles Riggins & Robin Butler) from \$1,015 to \$3,640; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew made a motion ratifying the awarded farm leases to Bult & Sons for \$68/acre for L100, L100A and L112 and a separate lease to Jerry Ewen for \$77/acre for L101; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner reported to members that he just recently met with Gary park staff again working toward satisfactory plans to both parties as to what can be built/developed on park land. Several pieces of correspondence are contained in agenda packet relative to meetings. Staff will continue to meet with Gary park staff.

Mr. Gardner referred to letter from DNR to the Corps relative to a probable timing problem for DNR permits for levee construction. The DNR process is time consuming and the Corps is requiring the Commission to have a permit for each segment. Staff will continue to work with DNR and coordinate the timing.

Marina/Breakwaters Committee - In Committee Chairman Bill Tanke's absence, Mr. Gardner gave the report. He reported that we have received the Commission's share of the total cost incurred from GTE for the relocation of the telephone line on the marina property. The Commission's share was \$21,358. Also sharing one third of the cost was GTE and the city of Portage.

Mr. Gardner also reported the boat capacity study undertaken by the city of Portage has now been completed.

Discussion was held on the need for dredging the mouth of Burns Waterway. Although it is the Corps responsibility, they have not requested budgeted monies to allow them to dredge because there is still not yet a public marina facility in place. The channel area up to U.S. 12 is starting to create a problem. Mr. Gardner has met with Portage mayor and discussed the situation. He will attend the next Portage Port Authority meeting.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner introduced C. D. Green and Bill Leets, past members of the Basin Commission and Ed Beatty, North Township committee member for the Lake County Drainage Board.

Mr. Gardner reported to Commission that he met with some flood victims who live on the north side of River Drive. The meeting was prompted by some citizens who had called the office inquiring whether the Corps is planning to buy out the houses that abut the levee for the flood control project. Representatives from the DNR and the Corps were available to talk with them and they heard from officials that there are no plans to buy out houses in the affected area for the flood control project.

Mr. Gardner referred to the revised agreement between DNR and the Development Commission for the state to build the sheet piling flood wall and the Commission to maintain it. It was suggested that a change be made in the last paragraph of the last page on the steel sheet piling. It should read that the barriers shall be placed a proper distance from the steel sheet piling wall as agreed to by the parties. With that change, Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve the agreement; Clyde Baughard seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner referred to the letter received from Lake Ralph, Ass't State Director for Senators Lugar & Coats, thanking the Commission for assisting the Urban League in discussions of maximizing procurement opportunities for upcoming work on major public works construction projects.

Statements from the floor - George Bunce, IWLA, talked about the enlargement of the culverts at Penn Central. He referred to all the development and building that has been going on, much of it without proper septic systems and sewers to address the additional growth. He stated that Deep River at one time was relatively clean water but now, with all the development, the water is polluted. He felt that the Commission should use their influence to induce all the other agencies with responsibility to clean up the tributaries feeding into the Little Calumet River.

Herb Read, IWLA, inquired what is the next step with the marina situation. He was told we had either of two options: 1) build the public marina or 2) pay back the \$1.8 million to the Federal government. Mr. Gardner stated we are pursuing all options with the city of Portage.

When asked of the Commission if anyone was going after the engineer who represented Tri State, Mr. Casale answered that there are two pending lawsuits at present.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for March 7, 1991.

/sjm

CITY OF GARY



DIVISION OF PHYSICAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THOMAS V. BARNES, MAYOR • ARLENE D. COLVIN, Esq., DIRECTOR

401 BROADWAY

GARY, INDIANA 46402

(219) 881-1425

February 8, 1991

Mr. Beldon R. McPherson
Project Management Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Chicago District
CENCC-DP-P
111 North Canal St.
Chicago, ILL 60606-7206

Re: Little Calumet River
Flood Protection Project
Burr Street Sewer
Installation

Dear Mr. McPherson:

This letter will respond to your questions concerning the installation of sewers at Burr Street in connection with the above-referenced project. You provided a listing of issues to be addressed. The response, item by item, is as follows:

a) Time of Construction

In our last meeting regarding this issue, you will recall that city representatives spoke of the Burr Street Widening Project. The design of the storm sewers for this area shall be done in connection with this project. Requests for Proposals for engineering design work for this project, including the storm sewers, have already been advertised and proposals have been received. We will be awarding this work in the next ten (10) days. Design work will be complete in later summer, 1991 (for the entire project). Construction on the project will begin in Spring, 1992.

The design for sanitary sewers in the area is already complete. It is possible that the installation of these sewers could occur as early as September, 1991. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management has indicated to us that should some other project scheduled for this year be unable to proceed, or should sufficient 1991 contingency funds be available, funding for our project will occur this year. The agency will not be able to confirm our funding status for 1991

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Public Office Means - Public Service

Mr. Belmont R. McPherson

February 8, 1991

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with any specificity until May, 1991. Even if we do not receive 1991 funds, funds will be provided to us in 1992. Accordingly, the latest day for the start of construction for this segment of the sewer installation in the area will be Spring, 1992.

b) Source of Funding

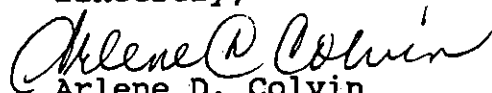
The installation of the storm sewers in the area will be funded with federal highway funds. As was indicated in our last meeting, the Burr Street Widening Project has been on the list for funding for several years. The only reason why the project has not been funded to date is because the local dollars necessary to finance the design work have not been available. This latter issue has been resolved as indicated in paragraph (a). Also, as indicated in paragraph (a), the funding for the installation of sanitary sewers will come from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Even if these sources of funds were unavailable, the work would still proceed. Mayor Barnes has been in contact with the Governor's office concerning this matter. A meeting is scheduled for the week of February 25 to negotiate independent financing for the project. Additionally, the Indiana General Assembly is currently considering the allocation of lottery proceeds. Our legislators support this project and are lobbying on our behalf for allocation of some of these monies. Finally, if all else fails, the City of Gary is willing to issue general obligation bonds to pay for this work. Given that the bond process is generally a six month one, this could be done and still meet the timeframes listed in paragraph (a).

The issues of certainty of construction and current status have been addressed in the preceding paragraphs. The justification for construction is well-known. Without improved interior drainage in this area, it is very probable that residents and businesses will be worse off after levy construction than before. Benefits will come to the city in other areas from the project. It would be most unfortunate to acquire these benefits at the expense of these citizens.

If you have questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Arlene D. Colvin
Division Director

ADC:ie

cc: Mayor Thomas V. Barnes
Arnie Muzumdar, Gary Sanitary District
Dan Gardner, Little Calumet River Basin Development
Commission

LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MERCANTILE NATIONAL BANK

JANUARY 1, 1990 - JANUARY 31, 1991

CASH POSITION - JANUARY 1, 1991

CHECKING ACCOUNT		
LAND ACQUISITION	\$	190,340.89
GENERAL FUND		117,719.92
TAX FUND		1,792.04
INVESTMENTS		<u>916,500.00</u>
		\$1,226,352.85

RECEIPTS - JANUARY 1, 1990 - JANUARY 31, 1991

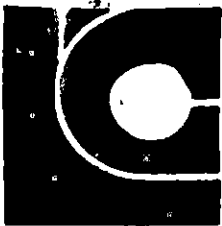
LEASE RENTS	\$	7,175.00
INTEREST		2,708.08
LAND ACQUISITION		73,675.69
TAX FUND		<u>522.76</u>
	\$	84,081.53

DISBURSEMENTS - JANUARY 1, 1990 - JANUARY 31, 1991

1989 EXPENSES PAID IN 1990	\$	14,037.34
L/A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES		
LAND MANAGEMENT SERVICES		901.50
OPERATIONAL SERVICES		50.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES		527.43
PROPERTY & STRUCTURES		708.60
TAXES		<u>46.90</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	\$	16,343.77

CASH POSITION - JANUARY 31, 1991

CHECKING ACCOUNT		
LAND ACQUISITION	\$	256,828.99
GENERAL FUND		118,583.26
TAX FUND		2,178.36
INVESTMENTS		<u>916,500.00</u>
	\$	1,294,090.61



Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission

8149 Kennedy Avenue Highland, Indiana 46322 (219) 923-1118

ARLENE COLVIN, Chairperson
Mayor of Gary's
Appointment

February 12, 1991

GEORGE CARLSON, Vice-Chairman
Mayor of Hammond's
Appointment

CLYDE BAUGHARD, Treasurer
Governor's Appointment

WILLIAM CRITSER, Secretary
Governor's Appointment

CHARLES AGNEW
Governor's Appointment

NATHANIEL LEONARD
Lake County Commissioners'
Appointment

STEVE DAVIS
Dept. of Natural Resources'
Appointment

JOHN DEMEO
Governor's Appointment

DAVID SPRINGMAN
Governor's Appointment

WILLIAM TANKE
Porter County Commissioners'
Appointment

VACANCY
Governor's Appointment

DAN GARDNER
Executive Director

The Honorable Chester F. Dobis
Indiana State Representative
House Post Office
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Representative *Chet* Dobis:

The Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission is writing you to enlist your support for the Commission's \$3 million 1991-93 State Biennial Budget Request. We strongly believe the Little Calumet River Flood Control/Recreation Project is a vital part of the northwest Indiana legislative agenda. Continued State funding in the amount requested is critical this biennium because after many years of study and planning, the Federal construction of the flood protection project is beginning in May 1991.

This construction is scheduled to take eight years and access some \$70 million in Federally-funded construction contracts. The result will be the protection of some 8,930 homes, businesses and public facilities in Hammond, Munster, Highland, Griffith and Gary for up to a 200-year level of flood protection. The recent tragic flooding in the Wicker Park Manor subdivision of Highland and other areas along the Little Calumet River graphically illustrates that any floodplain area is subject to severe risk from flooding until this comprehensive flood protection project is completed. This project will also result in the 7,000 protected acres containing these 8,930 structures to be removed from the flood hazard area resulting in flood insurance payment savings of some \$2.3 million by the owners. Also, these properties will increase greatly in value and usefulness to the owners and to the community.

All of this is dependent upon continued State General Assembly appropriations sufficient to meet the project schedule. In the years preceding this Federal construction start, the Development Commission has sought to keep the biennial State commitments at manageable levels - roughly \$2-\$3 million per biennium.

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February 12, 1991
Page 2

This would not force major State funding requirements through the upcoming intense construction phase. We feel this approach has worked, with the continuous commitment of the General Assembly. We believe this investment needs to be sustained now - at this critical stage of Federal construction commitment. President Bush included \$6.5 million in the administration's 1991 budget to begin flood levee construction in earnest - making the \$3 million State appropriation crucial.

We are keenly aware of the severe budget constraints and tough decisions facing our legislators. Your position as Speaker Pro Tem of the House of Representatives is key to this area having a voice in the way these decisions are made. We believe that this project must remain a funding priority to the extent that is possible. The Development Commission has attempted to anticipate budget constraints and revenue fluctuations by presenting a schedule that keeps the needed additional \$9-\$10 million to complete construction spread over 3-4 biennial budgets. The \$70 million in Federal construction activity will increase dramatically over the next few years - so continued steady State commitment is needed to avail the region of this construction in a timely manner.

To aid you in your deliberations, I have included some recent information that fully details the current status and needs of the Little Calumet River Project and a copy of the presentation the Development Commission made to the State Budget Committee on October 18, 1990. As you will see, very strong support for this project is present from local officials and Senators Lugar and Coats and Congressman Visclosky.

The Development Commission hopes that this project can be a priority of yours and we pledge to work closely with you to justify your support. If you have any questions or wish additional information, please feel free to call me at 923-1118.

Thank you for your support in the past that has enabled us to reach this construction milestone. We look forward to working with you and hope to see you as the session proceeds.

Sincerely,



Dan Gardner
Executive Director

/sjm



STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE,
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

MARY KAY BUDAK
ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP
5051 PAWNEE TRAIL
LA PORTE, IN 46350

1991-92
COMMITTEES:
FAMILY AND CHILDREN
RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER
HUMAN AFFAIRS
INTERSTATE COOPERATION

February 26, 1991

Mr. Dan Gardner
Little Calumet
River Basin Development Commission
8149 Kennedy Avenue
Highland, Indiana 46322

Dear Mr. Gardner:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Commission's 1991-1993 state biennial budget request.

I appreciate your efforts to send me a copy of the Commissions State Budget Committee Presentation. The report was well done and very informative. I will certainly put the information to good use as we consider the Commission's budget request.

Again, thank you for your letter and the report. Please feel free to contact me in the future on matters of concern.

Sincerely,

Mary Kay Budak
Assistant-Republican
Caucus Whip

MKB:BMD/ap



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STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE,
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

DR. VERNON G. SMITH
P.O. Box M622
GARY, IN 46401

1991-92
COMMITTEES:
HUMAN AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN
EDUCATION
URBAN AFFAIRS

February 21, 1991

Dan Gardner, Exec. Director
Little Calumet River Basin Development Comm.
8149 Kennedy Avenue
Highland, IN 46322


Dear Mr. Gardner:

Thank you for your recent correspondence. I always look forward to hearing the views and concerns of Indiana citizens.

I will certainly give sincere consideration to your concerns during the 1991 session of the General Assembly.

If you have any questions or would like to share any other views with me regarding legislative matters, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you again.

Respectfully yours,


Dr. Vernon G. Smith
State Representative
14th House District

VGS/jm

Marinas, Little Calumet flood project not in state budget

By PHIL WIELAND
Times Staff Writer

HIGHLAND — The bottom line in the Indiana budget is looking pretty blank for the Little Calumet River and area marina projects.

The budget that zipped through the House Ways and Means Committee last week contained no funding for the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission or the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission. Dan Gardner told the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission Executive Com-

mittee Wednesday.

The river basin commission had asked for \$3 million over the next two years to match federal money for the flood control project along the river. Gardner, the NIRPC deputy director and the basin commission's executive director, said state funding is crucial now because the federal money is being released.

President George Bush's budget includes \$6.5 million for the project this year, and the basin commission has an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in which the commission must provide

the non-federal share. Without the state funds, the commission has no funding and can't receive the federal money.

"We're very concerned," Gardner said. "The game is not over yet, but we are in a crisis mentality. We had approached the state for \$3 million in this budget and in each of the next two biennial budgets. We get three federal dollars for each state dollar."

Highland officials have tried to get the Little Calumet project accelerated because of the floods that inundated about 270

See MARINA, Page B-5

Marina

Continued from Page B-1

homes in the Wicker Park Manor subdivision in November.

Without the state money, the project won't be done at all, he said, adding that Gov. Evan Bayh has said he supports funding for the project.

The marina commission had asked for \$20.5 million for dredging, breakwalls and other improvements needed to continue developing marinas in Hammond, East Chicago, Gary, Portage and Michigan City.

The state's Capital Projects Review Committee, which reviews applications for funding from the Build Indiana Program, had recommended approval of \$5 million for the marina commission. Marina

commission members have said the loss of funding this year would delay the projects.

Gardner said the budget was stripped to the bare essentials needed to keep the state running in the face of an expected revenue shortfall of almost \$1 billion. There has been talk that when new revenue projections are received in April, changes might be made in the budget, he said.

The later it gets in the legislative session, the more panicky members of the two commissions get, Gardner said. For now, the commissions expect the budget to pass the House with few changes. The commissions then will lobby the Senate to get the funding included in the budget.

Funding concerns noted by Little Cal project chief

By Rich James

Staff writer

HIGHLAND — Dan Gardner is concerned but not worried.

Not yet, anyway.

Gardner, the executive director of the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission, has guided the Little Calumet River flood-control and recreation project for 15 years.

He got his federal ducks in a row last summer when a historic agreement was signed with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to launch construction on the \$82.6 million project. About \$67 million of that will be federal money.

President Bush's proposed budget lists the initial \$6.5 million for the project. But an additional \$9 million in state money also is needed over the next three bienniums. About \$14 million in state money has been acquired over the years and spent largely on land acquisition.

Gardner told the executive board of the Northwestern Indi-

ana Regional Planning Commission Wednesday that there isn't any money for the Little Calumet River in the state budget approved by the House Ways and Means Committee recently.

"It would be very serious and slow down the progress of the project," Gardner said.

The river commission is seeking \$3 million for the biennium beginning July 1.

"We will turn the press to the Senate," Gardner said.

Although the project has the support of Gov. Evan Bayh, there are concerns here about funding because of state financial problems, Gardner said.

Once the Little Calumet project is completed — eight years from now — the river won't leave its banks, except in especially designated areas east of Cline Avenue, Gardner said.

The project will protect more than 9,500 homes and businesses in Gary, Griffith, Hammond, Highland and Munster, preventing more than \$9 million in average annual flood damage.

Construction delayed on dike at Tri State property

By RADA INDJICH
Times Staff Writer

HIGHLAND — Construction of a temporary dike on Tri State Coach Lines property that borders the Little Calumet River was expected to be begin early next week, but has been delayed until the following week.

Jim Hebenstreit, assistant director of the Division of Water with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, said the delay is due to a "minor, technical adjustment"

needed in the dike's plans and specifications.

He said the dike should be completed by the end of March.

The dike, which will be composed of steel sheet piling, is needed to replace an embankment built by emergency crews during the Nov. 28 flood that devastated 272 homes in the Wicker Park Manor subdivision, east of the Tri State property.

During construction of a parking lot in

See DIKE, Page B-2

Dike

Continued from Page B-1

1987. Tri State lowered a railroad embankment on the river that had served as a dike, according to an investigation ordered by Gov. Evan Bayh after the flood.

The embankment and a so-called spoil bank made from river dredgings had provided some protection to the residential area from flooding in the past.

The investigation blamed Tri State for the subdivision's flooding. Hebenstreit said the dike's construction originally was expected to cost

the state \$65,000, but that figure has been lowered to \$30,000.

It also originally was to be 2 feet above flood elevations experienced in November, Hebenstreit said, but that figure has been raised to 3 feet.

"The extra foot is the result of guidelines from the Federal Emergency Management Agency," he said. The dike will be 700 feet long and will be located solely on Tri State's property.

The Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission will be responsible for maintaining the dike once construction is completed.

Burns Ditch may not be dredged this spring, officials say

By MYLINDA CANE
Times Staff Writer

GARY — A vital dredging project for Burns Ditch could be delayed, seriously jeopardizing local boating from that link to Lake Michigan, said a director of the project.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has indicated it will not dredge this spring the mouth of the ditch or the Portage-Burns Waterway because the corps is dissatisfied with the progress of a marina planned for Portage, said Daniel Gardner, executive director of the project.

A spokesman for the corps confirmed Thursday the money that was to be spent for dredging the Burns waterway has been reprogrammed for other projects because of the lack of progress on the marina.

And while officials are trying to speed the marina's progress, they are also looking at the possibility of having to dredge the waterway if boating is grounded this season, Gardner said Thursday.

There have been concerns that there is as little as 18 inches of water in some places, he said. Portage Mayor Sammy Maletta told the

Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission there may be more clearance than some of the original estimates indicated.

"If it worsens and there is no ability to get someone to dredge this year, it could be a serious situation," Gardner said.

The Corp of Engineers, which is responsible for dredging the waterway, likes to maintain clearance of 6 to 8 feet, he said.

The corps has spent \$1.8 million building two wave breakwalls in 1984 on Lake Michigan at the mouth of Burns Ditch. In exchange for building the breakwalls and keeping the

waterway dredged, the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission agreed to build a marina.

The site of the proposed marina is three-quarters of a mile from the lake, south of U.S. 12. Building the marina is an adjunct of the entire project, proposed in the early '80s after five people died in two boating accidents at the mouth of the waterway.

Gardner said the commission and Portage are trying to solve problems that have plagued the marina's development. A funding package should be put together soon, he said.

February '8, 1991

Mr. Dan Gardner, Executive Director
Little Calumet River Basin Commission
9149 Kennedy Avenue
Highland, IN 46322

Dear Mr. Gardner:

Please include the City of Portage Storm Water
Management Board on the agenda of your March meeting.

The purpose of our attendance is to establish a rapport
that will enable us to work jointly on any projects that may
impact the storm water drainage problems of the City of
Portage.

Looking forward to receiving your confirmation of our
attendance.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Pappas Jr.
763-2955

Thomas A. Pappas, Jr.

TAP:kj

John Hansen
↑



Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission

8149 Kennedy Avenue Highland, Indiana 46322 (219) 923-1118

ARLENE COLVIN, Chairperson
Mayor of Gary's
Appointment

TO: Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Water

GEORGE CARLSON, Vice-Chairman
Mayor of Hammond's
Appointment

DATE: February 20, 1991

CLYDE BAUGHARD, Treasurer
Governor's Appointment

RE: Comments on proposed fee schedule for DNR
permits

WILLIAM CRITSER, Secretary
Governor's Appointment

CHARLES AGNEW
Governor's Appointment

NATHANIEL LEONARD
Lake County Commissioners'
Appointment

STEVE DAVIS
Dept. of Natural Resources'
Appointment

JOHN DEMBO
Governor's Appointment

DAVID SPRINGMAN
Governor's Appointment

WILLIAM TANKE
Porter County Commissioners'
Appointment

VACANCY
Governor's Appointment

DAN GARDNER
Executive Director

The Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission stands in opposition to the proposed rule for a significantly higher permit fee schedule for floodway construction activities. The Development Commission recognizes the need to increase permit fees to cover administrative cost associated with permit reviews, but we feel the proposed schedule is excessive and will create great hardship if adopted as currently proposed.

The Development Commission was created by the Indiana General Assembly to act as the non-federal sponsor with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers on a \$90 million flood control/recreation project on the Little Calumet River. As such, the funding for the non-federal project elements are principally state appropriations. The Development Commission has attempted to stretch the dollars made available and an increase of projected costs for needed permits will go from \$350 (7 construction segments) to \$70,000. We believe this to be excessive and not truly reflective of actual costs. Also, if enacted, we will be enhancing one state need at the expense and to the detriment of another.

We ask that this fee schedule be denied and a schedule reflective of truer administrative cost be adopted.

Dan Gardner
Executive Director

Date: 3-7-91

Location:

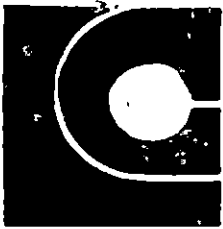
LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT
FEBRUARY 28, 1991

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT PAID PREVIOUSLY	UNPAID BALANCE	AMOUNT READY FOR PAYMENT	PROJECTED BALANCE
5119	PER DIEM EXPENSES	\$16,000.00	0.00	16,000.00	0.00	\$16,000.00
5311	LEGAL EXPENSES	7,500.00	343.33	7,156.67	283.33	6,873.34
5312	NIRPC SERVICES	94,000.00	4,697.09	89,302.91	5,789.11	83,513.80
5323	TRAVEL & MILEAGE	7,500.00	44.16	7,455.84	0.00	7,455.84
5331	PRINTING & ADVERTISING	2,000.00	29.81	1,970.19	0.00	1,970.19
5341	BONDS & INSURANCE	7,500.00	12.50	7,487.50	0.00	7,487.50
5361	EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE COSTS	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
5399	MEETING EXPENSES	2,500.00	529.80	1,970.20	0.00	1,970.20
5410	LEGAL SERVICES	50,000.00	1,896.00	48,104.00	2,658.00	45,446.00
5420	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	250,000.00	6,956.82	243,043.18	19,443.52	223,599.66
5430	PROJECT LAND PURCHASE COSTS	3,902,705.00	983.33	3,901,721.67	23,446.00	3,878,275.67
5440	PROPERTY/STRUCTURES INSURANCE	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
5450	UTILITY RELOCATION COSTS	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00
5460	PROJECT LAND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	150,000.00	0.00	150,000.00	0.00	150,000.00
5470	STRUCTURES CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	40,000.00	0.00	40,000.00	0.00	40,000.00
5480	BURNS WATERWAY BREAKWATER	44,000.00	0.00	44,000.00	0.00	44,000.00
5490	ESCROW ACCOUNT	195,000.00	0.00	195,000.00	0.00	195,000.00
TOTAL:		\$4,896,705.00	\$15,492.84	\$4,881,212.16	\$51,619.96	\$4,829,592.20

C L A I M S R E A D Y F O R P A Y M E N T

ACCOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	EXPLANATION OF CLAIM
5311	LOUIS M. CASALE	283.33	RETAINER FEE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1991
5312	NIRPC	5789.11	FOR SERVICES RENDERED DURING JANUARY 1991
5410	LOUIS M. CASALE	2,658.00	LAND ACQUISITION LEGAL SERVICES RE: 2/4-3/1/91
5421	MILO F. VALE & CO., INC.	680.00	APPRAISAL SERVICES RE: ON DC107, 109, 116 & 119
5423	CHICAGO TITLE INSURANCE CO.	165.00	TITLE WORK INCURRED ON DC275, 226 & 267
5423	CHICAGO TITLE INSURANCE CO.	110.00	TITLE WORK INCURRED ON DC236 - DC306
5423	CHICAGO TITLE INSURANCE CO.	110.00	TITLE WORK INCURRED ON DC314 - DC221
5423	CHICAGO TITLE INSURANCE CO.	190.00	TITLE WORK INCURRED ON DC282
5423	N I P S C O	374.11	UTILITY BILL FOR PUMPING EXPENSES RE: 12/13-2/13/91
5424	ROBERT B. STOUFFER	616.02	LAND ACQUISITION/MANAGEMENT SERVICES RE: 2/8-19/91
5424	ROBERT B. STOUFFER	798.39	LAND ACQUISITION/MANAGEMENT SERVICES RE: 2/20-3/4/91
5426	IDNR DIVISION OF WATER	16,400.00	OPERATIONS COST OF STREAM GAGING STATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 10/1/90 - 9/30/91
5431	C. RIGGENS & R. BUTLER	3,640.00	PURCHASE PRICE OF PROPERTY ON DC318
5431	ALICE WILLIAMS	17,700.00	COURT AGREED SETTLEMENT FOR DC353
5431	EDNA MAE HUMPHREYS	2,106.00	PURCHASE PRICE OF PROPERTY ON DC282
5433	EARL & FLORA MC CLATCHEY	46.90	REFUND FOR RE: REAL ESTATE TAXES

		\$51,666.86	



Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission

8149 Kennedy Avenue Highland, Indiana 46322 (219) 923-1118

ARLENE COLVIN, Chairperson
Mayor of Gary's
Appointment

March 7, 1991

GEORGE CARLSON, Vice-Chairman
Mayor of Hammond's
Appointment

CLYDE BAUGHARD, Treasurer
Governor's Appointment

WILLIAM CRITSER, Secretary
Governor's Appointment

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WILLIAM TANKE
Porter County Commissioners'
Appointment

VACANCY
Governor's Appointment

DAN GARDNER
Executive Director

The Honorable Michael E. Gery
Indiana State Senator
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Finance Committee
State House
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Senator Gery:

I am writing you relative to the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission's \$3 million 1991-93 biennium capital budget request. We ask that you and the other members of the Senate Finance Committee give serious consideration to including this request in the budget recommended for passage for a number of key reasons.

The Little Calumet River Flood Control and Recreation Project has received continuous Indiana General Assembly funding support since the 1975-77 biennial budget. This commitment has yielded over \$12.5 million for the flood control project resulting in over 1,300 acres of property bought to anticipate the Federal construction project. That long awaited Federal construction commitment has now been achieved with Federal Office of Management and Budget approval of the Development Commission's (local project sponsor) financial capability statement in the spring of 1990 and the signing of the Local Cooperation Agreement, which commits the Federal government to project construction, on August 16, 1990. Based upon these significant milestones, President Bush has included \$6.5 million for project construction in the administrations 1991 budget recently sent to Congress.

March 7, 1991

Page 2

This \$6.5 million is the first Federal construction amount appropriated and will begin an ambitious schedule that will appropriate \$9.06 million in FY92, \$12.03 million in FY 93, \$14.06 million in FY 94, \$15.34 million in FY 95, and \$5.16 million in FY96. The long awaited Federal return on investment of state appropriations is beginning in earnest; but we feel this Federal commitment and schedule are put in severe jeopardy if the Indiana General Assembly does not continue to fund this project at this critical stage of Federal construction start.

The Development Commission Board and staff are very cognizant of the severe budgetary constraints facing the General Assembly this biennium. We believe though, that the \$3 million appropriation requested is justified and sorely needed to continue to meet the non-Federal project obligation; to begin accessing the some \$70 million in Federal flood control/recreation construction projects; and to fix firmly the Federal commitment. The Development Commission has attempted to present budget requests that avoid major increases upon the initiation of Federal construction. This we have done and believe we can meet the non-Federal obligations without major increases. However, continued State investment of approximately \$3 million this biennium is needed to avoid such crisis points of needing \$6 million in the next biennium.

To assist you and the committee in reviewing our request, I have included the presentation packet given at the State Budget Committee presentation in October. Key to our assertions are the project implementation charts included showing the need and use of existing and needed future state funding to leverage the \$70 million Federal construction.

The Development Commission thanks you and the Senate Finance Committee for past support and we request you continue this commitment to bring this project to fruition this spring. If you have any questions, we would be happy to meet with the Committee or provide any additional information requested.

Sincerely,

Dan Gardner
Executive Director

/encl.

The Times, Sunday, February 10, 1991

Federal funds to aid Little Cal project

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wants \$7.9 million in 1992 from Congress for flood and navigation projects, including \$6.5 million to build levees along the Little Calumet River.

The Little Calumet flood control project, which began in 1990, is to eliminate some \$11.8 million in damage done annually by the river when it overruns its banks. The corps obtained just more than \$3 million to start building the levees this year, and the \$6.5 million request for 1992 would be used to continue the work.

Bleak outlook on boating

Corp of engineers threatening not to dredge ditch

By Jim Masters

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is holding the Portage boating community for ransom, threatening not to dredge the portion of the Portage-Burns Waterway it controls unless the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission begins work on a public marina.

According to Portage Port Authority Chairman Chuck Moseley, the depth at the mouth of the waterway and just inside the channel "is a joke."

Silt deposits from flooding have reduced the depth to about one and one-half feet, causing a noticeable sand bar to stretch across boating lanes.

The corp of engineers is responsible for dredging the waterway to just south of Route 12, about a quarter-mile from the river's mouth. In the mid-1980s, the corp agreed to build a breakwater near the mouth of the waterway, per the request of the Little Cal commission, and thus footed the \$1.8 million bill. In exchange for the breakwater, the commission had to promise to build a 250-slip public marina on the waterway.

The state put up \$1.8 million for the project as well, and also funding for land acquisition for the marina site, according to Dan Gardener, chairman of the Little Cal commission. The commission owns an 18-acre site south of Route 12 on the east branch of the waterway.

However, the state has refused to directly fund the construction of a marina. Portage receives state grant monies through the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission and won't double fund the city, according to Gardner.

Therefore, Gardner's marina, as mandated by the corp of engineers, now hinges on Portage's marina commission funding.

Portage's boating season is seemingly contingent upon the city funding the Little Calumet project if it expects to see any dredging in the near future.

Portage will receive its 1989 marina commission appropriation when it makes a local match. That match could come in the form of revenue bonding power in the hands of the Little Cal Commission.

If Portage delays spending its allotment much longer, other cities on the marina commission in need of additional funding, could out-vote Portage and take away its share.

Of course, it would take a miracle to get a marina under construction before the boating season begins.

In addressing the Portage Port Authority last Thursday (Feb. 14), Gardner said the corp of engineers might soften its stance on dredging if the city and his commission can show concrete evidence of a marina project in the works, perhaps if it's just construction of launching ramps to begin with.

Gardner said he would set up a meeting with the corp of engineers in the very near future in which he and port authority members could learn what action is needed to lift the corp's restriction on dredging.

Moseley said soundings of the waterway would be needed before any meeting could take place. The port authority then authorized Pater Zakutansky to do the soundings at a cost of \$475.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
Wednesday, March 6, 1991

Chicago Tribune, Wednesday March 6, 1991

Flood project won't hurt Illinois, Army says

By Bob Brown

A multimillion-dollar federal effort to control flooding in north-west Indiana will not aggravate flooding for neighboring Illinois communities along the Little Calumet River, the Army Corps of Engineers said Tuesday.

Beldon McPherson, manager of the \$92.3 million Little Calumet-Indiana Flood Control and Recreation Project, said the work was designed to hold down any increased water flow into Illinois.

McPherson said the flood stage of the Little Calumet River as it enters Illinois will not increase by more than one-tenth of a foot.

McPherson's reassurances came

in response to concerns expressed Monday by South Holland officials that the Indiana project could push more damaging flood waters into Illinois.

In a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Division of Water Resources, South Holland asked what measures were being taken to ensure that the dikes and other flood control work in Indiana will not have adverse effects.

The flood-control plan has been on the books for years and is scheduled to start this year and be finished in 1996.

But massive flooding last November that devastated a portion of Highland, Ind., and damaged numerous homes along the Little

Calumet on both sides of the state line called new attention to the project.

McPherson said a flow-control structure will be built west of Hart Ditch in Indiana to limit the flow of water into Illinois.

South Holland Village Trustee Earl Gossett described the letter as an attempt to prod the Division of Water Resources to "assess and evaluate the impact of the Indiana project on Illinois and Illinois communities."

South Holland officials estimated that residents suffered more than \$7 million in flood damage last November. The village has authorized a \$230,000 study to pinpoint possible solutions.

The letter also asks whether Illinois has any jurisdiction over the project and if the state could block it if there are adverse effects.

But Army Corps of Engineers spokeswoman Evelyn Schiele said "Illinois has no regulatory power over it" because it is a federal project.

But she said the corps is coordinating the project to minimize any problems.

"The important thing is we're not going to build a project that's going to increase the problem somewhere else," Schiele said.

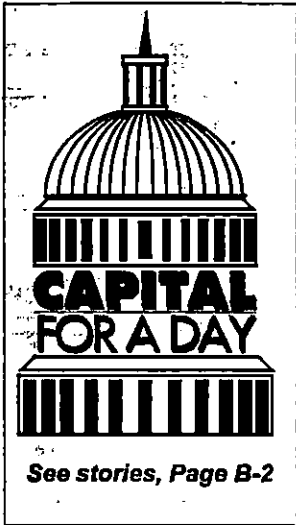
Efforts to reach the Illinois Division of Water Resources were unsuccessful.

Bayh wants river, marina funds restored

By PHIL WIELAND
Times Staff Writer

The Times,

SATURDAY, February 23, '91



Gov. Evan Bayh said Friday he will fight for state funding for marinas and the Little Calumet River flood control project, but he isn't sure about support for the Operation Bootstrap tax proposal.

In an interview on the South Shore commuter train, Bayh said he has not had a chance to review the new Operation Bootstrap plan, which has switched from a sales tax to an income tax as a source of funding for local infrastructure and mass transit needs.

"My philosophy has been that every local government should be self-sufficient," he said. "I need to look at what the money will be going to. There is a public resistance to taxes, although we are all aware of the economic development needs."

Bayh said he agreed with the change in the Bootstrap legislation from a 33-member regional board, half of whom would be non-elected officials, to a 13-member panel of elected officials. The board would have the authority to impose the income tax of up to 1 percent.

"Whoever makes the decision (to impose the tax) should be answerable to the voters."

He had said the sales tax should be subject to voter approval before being imposed, a condition

opposed by the Operation Bootstrap Task Force. The income tax is different, he said, because there is ample precedent with existing local income taxes that can be imposed without a referendum.

Asked about continued state support for the South Shore if the Bootstrap tax, a portion of which was to be used to subsidize the commuter line's operating and capital needs, fails, Bayh said the state will continue to do all it can, but added, "Local support is important."

"The state is committed, and it is only reasonable in time that the local communities express support in more than words," he said.

Asked whether the state would be able to subsidize, without Bootstrap, the Amtrak commuter service from Valparaiso to Chicago, which is scheduled to cease May 6, Bayh

said, "The state can't be expected to do everything. We have to look for assistance from the local communities."

Bayh said he was concerned when the budget passed by the House this week contained no funds for marinas or the Little Calumet project.

His proposed budget had included funding for both, and he said he would lobby for both, "particularly marinas because that deals with economic development and that is very important."

On the issue of the choice of a site for a third major airport for Chicago, Bayh said the state "will pursue the site that creates the most jobs for Northwest Indiana." He said the state hired Howard, Needles, Tammen & Bergendoff to assure that the current bistate site selection study is objective.

Although Chicago has an advantage in financing the construction of an airport with the passenger facilities charge approved by Congress in October, Indiana might be able to use the tax to build an airport too, he said.

"Once we get a feel for the costs, we will get the experts on how to finance it," he said. "I would hope the fees from the passenger service will cover the cost, but first things first. Let's find out how many runways we need, the costs and the other things involved."

A decision on the airport's site is expected to be made by the end of the year. Sites under consideration are the Gary Regional Airport, Lake Calumet on Chicago's Southeast Side, and rural sites near Kankakee, Peotone and on the state line west of Cedar Lake.

