

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 19, 1981 AT 6:30 P.M.
IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Agnew at 6:35 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Charles Agnew, Chairman; Phil Jaynes; Doyle Niemeyer;
Martin Behnke; Earline Rogers; Michael Doyne; Clyde
Baughard; and Bill Tanke

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dan Gardner, Executive Director; Louis Casale, Attorney;
and Trudy Van Prooyen

OTHERS:

Ernie Davis, Don Ewen, Barbara Lambert (American Red Cross)

2. Approval of Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes of the October board meeting. It was corrected that Michael Doyne was not present as shown in the minutes. Commissioner Baughard moved the minutes be approved as amended. It was seconded by Commissioner Doyne and passed unanimously.

3. Old business

Under old business the two recently held plan selection hearings in Gary and Hammond were discussed. Comments on the number of people attending and concerns expressed were discussed. It was reported that comments could be submitted up to 30 days after the hearings. Also suggested was a series of meetings to be held with each individual community to discuss their particular concerns and views. This meeting would be held jointly by the Corps and the Development Commission and would be scheduled sometime after January 1982. This series of meetings would hopefully result in a plan that was generally supported. The third scheduled public meeting was scheduled for November 23 in Portage to discuss the mouth improvements at Burns' Waterway.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Legislative Committee - It was reported by Committee chairperson Earline Rogers that the committee had met November 12, 1981 and discussed several issues relevant to this year's legislature. Major focus would be on securing the remaining \$2 million that had been appropriated

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for the project, but was yet unreleased due to the over-commitment of the cigarette tax fund. It was recommended by the committee that, once the land transfer had been completed with the Indiana D.N.R. that the Development Commission should seek to "tie up" by taking option on as many properties in the take area as was feasible in hopes of leveraging an additional release of funding to purchase the land available and keep a base to continue the management of what is already owned.

Also, it was recommended after some discussion, that a meeting should be arranged with the key area legislators prior to the January session to discuss legislative and funding needs.

b. Finance/Policy Committee

The Finance/Policy committee presented recommendations from their November 4 meeting. Among the recommendations are to pursue the next \$1 million through legislative contacts, budgeting the current \$700,000 for land acquisition this year, contingent upon receipt of the next draw of money. Also presented was a proposed 1982 budget for land acquisition and administration of the project.

c. Land Acquisition/Management Committee

It was reported that plat maps have been received from the counties and the project take area and currently acquired properties are being mapped. Also, a listing of these properties and potential properties for acquisition is being prepared.

It was suggested that insurance be pursued, if possible, in connection with the D.N.R. coverage afforded to the State. If this did not prove to be possible or significantly cheaper than three quotes should be sought. A status report will be made at the December meeting of the insurance.

It was also reported that the land transfer of the state properties was still in the Attorney General's office, but would be going to the Governor for his signature in a week.

5. New business

Under new business, Barbara Lambert of the American Red Cross made a presentation of a Flood Disaster Response Plan that will be prepared for Lake County. She outlined the plan parts and asked for coordination with the effected communities and the Development Commission. This plan could provide an interim strategy for protection until the construction of the Little Calumet Project. Future contact was promised.

6. There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.