MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1985 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE
CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION, 8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman William Tanke. Nine Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared. Visitors were recognized.

Development Commissioners:
William Tanke
Michael Doyne
Doyle Niemeyer
Philip Jaynes
George Carlson
Clyde Baughard
Martin Behnke
John DeMeo
Maria Rudzinski (representing Jerry Pagac)
Charles Agnew

Staff:
Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Sandy Mordus

Visitors:
Robin Fornoff - Post Tribune
Leslie Allen - The Times
Dan Rodriguez - Office of Congressman Visclosky
Tom Sliwa - Lake County Parks/Planning

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 20th meeting was made by Clyde Baughard; seconded by Martin Behnke; motion passed unanimously.

Finance Committee - Doyle Niemeyer presented the financial status report. After deleting the Administrative services for April, May, and June and adding an additional $35 to per diem for Mike Doyne and deleting $70 to per diem for Doyle Niemeyer, Doyle made a motion to accept the financial report; seconded by Mike Doyne; motion passed unanimously.

Doyle Niemeyer announced that the State Budget Agency has approved the drawdown of the $400,000 allotted us to use for operational and management expenses relating to land development.

Land Acquisition - Chuck Agnew made an amendment to Whole Truth True Holiness Church's original offer of $10,246 to include $6,611 for structures + relocation costs (exact figure not known at this time). He made a motion for acceptance; seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.
Chuck Agnew presented a memorandum prepared by Attorney Lou Casale in regard to capital improvement expenditures on Lake Etta park site. He made a motion to adopt as policy Item B. The Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission can simply handle the bidding and contract administration of capital expenditures and improvements itself on a case-by-case basis at its choosing, and when it intends to fully fund the improvements. This will apply except for Land & Water Conservation grant money. Motion seconded by Doyle Niemeyer; motion passed unanimously. Staff will write a letter to Lake County Park Board declaring our position.

Chuck Canew made a motion to have engineering firm draw up plans and specifications for water line and electrical service line needed at Lake Etta. Once specifications are received, Commission will advertise for bids on the water line only from 29th Avenue to residence. The Commission has not yet committed itself to building the control building so the electrical line will be not bid at this time. Staff will get several price quotes from engineers before a written contract is signed. Motion seconded by Doyle Niemeyer; motion passed unanimously.

Charles Agnew introduced letter from Norm’s Plumbing & Heating who did the inspection of property at 6119 West 31st Ave. and declaring it a safety hazard and recommending the demolition of the building. Mr. Agnew made a motion for attorney to send a letter asking the tenants to vacate the premises; seconded by Martin Behnke; motion passed unanimously. Action on building will be taken at a later time.

Cahrlies Agnew made a motion for the Board to issue a resolution requesting the County Commissioners to transfer properties in our take area to us that are up for the tax sale. Those properties would be deeded over in title to the Development Commission. Motion seconded by Martin Behnke; motion passed unanimously.

Staff was instructed to set up a date for a tour of the Little Calumet River, showing property owned, Lake Etta, breakwater, future marina site, etc.

Dan Gardner announced that a public meeting was held on July 9th in regard to the development of Lake Etta. No negative response was shown.

Legislative Committee - Phil Jaynes gave a update on the status of HR6, Water Resources authorizing bill. Highlights of the bill contain: (1) the Little Calumet River project is included in bill; (2) the 34 plan is included; and (3) general provisions of the bill provide for between 25-30% non federal cost sharing and a 5 year limit dating back from the time of authorization for local share credits. Discussion followed as to how this would impact the Little Calumet project. Staff was directed to follow up concerns over credit with Congressional staff people.
Breakwater/Marina Development Committee — Dan Gardner reported that the Corps is in the process of doing the dredging in the channel now. Construction is on schedule.

Bill Tanke reported that a second meeting was held with PEM (a third meeting has been scheduled). Discussions are still underway.

The Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission has met and tentatively adopted a budget of which $250,000 has been earmarked by the city of Portage for water lines to the future marina site.

River Maintenance Project — Dan Gardner reported that the sediment removal project is completed for the first phase. ($99,000) Most of that money was spent on restoration and cleanup work done by the illegal dredging. The County Council just approved the additional $50,000 so as add on contract will be forthcoming shortly. Most of the $50,000 will be spent on dredging work starting at Broadway and ending at Chase Street.

Dan Gardner announced that the Grant Street culvert will be replaced by the State Highway Dept.

The next meeting date was scheduled for August 15, 1985. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 by a motion from Clyde Baughard; seconded by Mike Doyne; motion passed unanimously.

/sjm