MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1985 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTHWESTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, 8149 KENNEDY, HIGHLAND, INDIANA.

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Chairman William Tanke. All ten 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 Charles Agnew John DeMeo Jerry Pagac

Staff:

Dan Gardner Lou Casale Sandy Mordus

Visitors:

Sylvia Ascarelli - The Times
Robert Kimberly
Dan Rodriguez - Office of
Congressman Visclosky
Bill Henderson - Surveyor's
Office & Drainage Board
Don Ewen
T. Arshami - Gary Planning Dept.
Ed Chalko - Gary Parks Dept.
Elaine Chandler - Lake County
Parks Dept.
Nancy Christoph - Lake County
Parks Dept.

The Lake County Parks Department gave a presentation on Phase III on Lake Etta development. The LCPD is desiring to apply for a Land & Water Conservation grant and is asking the Development Commission for an amount of \$100,000 for the grant matching share. Chairman Tanke extended a thank you to the Parks Dept. for their time in giving the Commission the presentation. Action to be taken during meeting under Land Acquisition business.

Apter a correction was made on Page 2, Paragraph 2 to replace the word "instigate" with the word "initiate", the minutes of the May 16th meeting were approved by a motion from Clyde Baughard; seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Letter from Lt. Col. Finch of the Army Corps of Engineers was discussed. The letter detailed the progress of work on the Continuing Planning & Engineering of the Little Calumet River that the Corps is doing.

Finance Committee - Treasurer Doyle Niemeyer presented financial status report. Upon omitting the claim for administrative services for May (\$7,739.22), a motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Doyle Niemeyer; seconded by Phil Jaynes; motion passed unanimously.

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Phil Jaynes reported that on May 24 he and Dan Gardner went to Pokagen State Park to meet with the State Budget Agency to obtain approval to draw down funds for operational and management expenses relating to land development. The matter was considered for discussion only. It will be placed again on the June agenda for approval.

Land Acquisition - Chuck Agnew reported that the redrafted option form from Bethlehem Steel has been received. It meets with the approval of both attorneys. A motion to exercise the option was made by Clyde Baughard; seconded by Martin Behnke; motion passed unanimously.

Chuck Agnew made a motion that we give authority to the Lake County Parks Dept. to apply for a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant with the state of Indiana for the Lake Etta park site, and that the Development Commission provide the \$100,000 matching funds contingent upon receiving the grant; seconded by Jerry Pagac; motion passed unanimously.

Legislative - Phil Jaynes reported the markup of the Water Resources bill(HR6) is forhtcoming. Dan Rodriguez gave the mardup date as being June 25th. All concerns of the Development Commission concerning language, plan 3A inclusion and credit for previous work have been made known, and the House bill is compatible with the Senate bill language.

Mike Doyne reported of the Congressional Seminar recently held in Washington that he and Dan Gardner attended. Major topic discussed was the budget deficit. What was beneficial to the Development Commission was the personal contact made in meeting the Congressman's Washington staff.

Staff has asked to be notified of any Indianapolis meetings relating to the boat tax issue.

Breakwater/Marina Development - Dan Gardner presented confirmation letter from the Corps stating that the breakwater construction is on schedule and no problems are anticipated.

Chairman Tanke announced that a meeting was held with PEM (who was the only proposer for the marina development). Negotiations are continuing with them. Another meeting has been scheduled with them for July 16th.

River Maintenance - Dan Gardner announced bid opening on the sediment removal project took place at the Drainage Board meeting. Contract was awarded to Van Keppel Supply for a amount of \$96,358. The entire work scope will not be done at this time since there is insufficient monies to cover the entire project. Selected work will be done up to the contracting amount. Work will begin immediately. A brief ceremony will be held Monday, June 24th at 10:00 a.m. when the crane will take out the first shovelful of sediment.

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<u>Culverts</u> - Dan Gardner reported on meeting held on May 7 in which the Corps have presentation on hydrology study. Although official word has not been received yet, it appears as though this item can be placed on the agenda of projects. Engineering could begin next year on the Grant Street culvert replacement. It also would be considered a bridge replacement, making it eligible for bridge replacement funds (an existing category of State funding).

Don Ewen, local farmer and resident, expressed his concern on the work to be done on the river. He contends it is not addressing the problem (which is east of SR 51) and it will only increase the flooding. Discussion followed. He was directed to take his comments to Lake County Drainage Board as they are the authority holding the permit and directing the present maintenance project.

Ed Chalko, Gary Parks Dept., discussed his views on the flooding situation. The audience was assured that everything is being done that can be done to benefit the maximum of people affected. The latest engineering information available is the hydrology study by the Corps which contends that the Grant Street culvert replacement will have no adverse effect downstream.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 by a motion from Clyde Baughard; seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission was scheduled for 6:30 on Thursday, July 18th.

/sjm