MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 1986 AT 6:30P.M. AT THE LIBRARY/CONFERENCE CENTER OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY-NORTHWEST IN GARY (35th Ave.).

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Michael Doyne. Ten Commissioners were present. Guests were recognized and quorum was declared.

Development Commissioners:  Visitors:

Michael Doyne  Mr. & Mrs. Don Ewen
Martin Behnke  Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Doyle Niemeyer  James Holcomb - Gary Public
Charles Agnew  Transportation attorney
Clyde Baughard  Scott Virtue - Project representative for GPTC
George Carlson  Charlotte Read - Save the Dunes Council
Philip Jaynes  Herb Read - Izaak Walton
William Tanke  Mary Jane Zakutansky - South Shore Marina
Arlene Colvin  Courtney Van Lopik - Herald Newspapers
Jerry Pagac  Dan Rodriguez - Congressman

Staff:

Dan Gardner  Visclosky's Office
Lou Casale, Attorney  Ted Coopwood - Gary
Sandy Mordus

Clyde Baughard made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 15th meeting with a correction made to page 2 paragraph 2 should read 'motion passed unanimously'; seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Doyle Niemeyer presented the financial sheet. He reported he met with Hugh Rhein, Director of Finance for NIRPC, Cecilia Wallace, Accounting Dept. of NIRPC and Dan Gardner in regard to the Development Commission's financial investments. He will make a written recommendation to NIRPC for further investments. He made a motion to approve June claims as presented; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.
Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman Phil Jaynes reported that the Water Resources bill is in committee conference. He distributed to members the names of conferees and a Washington newsletter update on the House and Senate omnibus water resources bill listing differences in bill. Phil Jaynes made a motion for staff to draft a letter encouraging adoption of a conference committee report acceptable for Presidential signature; motion seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously. Letter will also be sent to Senators Lugar & Quayle and Congressman Visclosky. Mr. Jaynes will schedule a legislative committee meeting and staff will work on 1987 state biennium budget request.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew reported that the Land & Water Conservation grant for Phase III construction at Lake Etta has been granted. A drawdown of $100,000 will be requested from the State Budget Agency. He also reported that the electrical/water line extension work at Lake Etta has been completed by Kirk Construction Company.

Mr. Agnew reported that Don Ewen attended the land acquisition committee meeting where discussion was held on the pumping agreement. William Tanke made a motion that the pumping agreement matter be deferred until next meeting; seconded by Phil Jaynes; motion passed unanimously.

After a presentation by Jim Holcomb, Gary Public Transportation attorney and Scott Virtue, project representative of GPTC regarding a 3 1/2 acre piece of property adjacent to the GPTC which the Development Commission owns and the GPTC needs for a detention pond, Charles Agnew made a motion that the 3 1/2 acres be declared surplus and that it be sold to the Gary Public Transportation Corporation for $1.00 by a quick claim deed; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Jerry Pagac made a motion that the Chairman and Secretary sign whatever necessary documents are needed for transmittal of property; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

William Tanke made an amendment to the motion that if the property in question (namely the 3 1/2 acres) ever becomes necessary to the Corps plan at a later date in order to implement the overall project, it revert back to the Development commission at no charge; motion seconded by Jerry Pagac. The amendment was defeated by an 8-2 vote.
William Tanke offered a second amendment to the original motion which states that the property in question be used only for retention, detention and landscaped; motion seconded by Jerry Pagac; motion passed unanimously.

Charles Agnew reported on a letter received by the Corps regarding the Development Commission incurring the cost of the gage station at Hart Ditch. Decision will incur this expense. Staff will investigate the status of the third gage station on the river.

Breakwater/Marina Development Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke referred to a letter received by Col. Finch of the Army Corps giving an update of breakwater completion status. Col. Finch states in his letter that the Development Commission will incur additional cost due to necessary repair of damaged steel sheet pile breakwater and to place additional stone on Reach 3 of the north breakwater (due to depth increase). They are making cost estimates now.

Sandmining of the future marina site is 90% completed by J.M. Foster. Staff was instructed to contact Foster to see if additional sand is needed.

William Tanke reported that monies have been approved by the State Budget Agency to the Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission for the city of Portage for $10,000 for a bridge survey and $70,000 for sewer design.

Interium Flood Control Planning Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson reported that at the June meeting of the Little Calumet River Basin Commission, authorization was given for the preparation of plans and specifications to complete the dredging of the Indpls. Blvd. Bridge area to Ten Ech Engineering; authorization also was given for plans and specifications to be prepared for the pulling of remaining structure of C&O bridge and demolition of Erie bridge; State Highway Dept. announced they would request the replacement/raising of the Indpls. bridge to be put on the "Program of Improvements" in July.

A discussion ensued in regard to remove or not remove the bridge at the Erie Railroad. Martin Behnke made a motion for staff to investigate further on the feasibility of removing the bridge and report back; motion seconded by Phil Jaynes; motion passed unanimously.
Michael Doyne referred to a letter in packet "Testimony to the U. S. EPA/Indiana Department of Environmental Management-Environmental Action Plan" which he presented on June 5 to the EPA.

Herb Read, representing Izaak Walton League, questioned the Development commission on some tree cutting that was done on Burns ditch. He was dissatisfied and relayed his concern. He was informed that Don Ewen in working under the existing Lake County Drainage Board permit. By a motion from Phil Jaynes, staff was directed to write a letter to the Lake County Drainage Board relaying Mr. Read's concern and inquiring about the allegations; motion seconded by Jerry Pagac; motion passed unanimously.

Charlotte Read, representing Save the Dunes council, asked for clarification of placement of dredged sand; amount of sand already dredged and how much more to be dredged. Dan Gardner stated that the Corps is getting that information together now. William Tanke made a motion that staff seek further clarification in regard to sand dredging; motion seconded by Phil Jaynes; motion passed unanimously. Staff will write a letter to the Corps.

Ted Coopwood commended the Development Commission on its part in the Lake Etta park Development. He voiced some concern about the following issues: (1) a rash outbreak on young swimmers (2) ability of lifeguards to deal with swimming accidents experienced by adult swimmers (3) sun protection for swimming area (4) utilization of "local labor" by contractors doing work on the site (5) protection of the fishing lake portion of the park from back flow. Doyle Niemeyer, district manager of the northern Lake County parks, stated he would look into the matter of irritants in the water. He stated that the Lake County Health Dept. does do water tests and at no time has the water been sub-standard for swimming.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 by a motion made by Clyde Baughard and seconded by George Carlson. The next meeting was scheduled for July 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the Library/Conference Center of Indiana University-Northwest in Gary.

/sjm