

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
HELD AT 6:30 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1990  
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES  
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

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Chairman Doyle Niemeyer called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Six (6) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

- George Carlson
- Doyle Niemeyer
- Clyde Baughard
- Arlene Colvin
- Charles Agnew
- John DeMeo

Visitors:

- Steve Davis - IN DNR  
Parks Dept.
- Dick Wawrzyniak - IN DNR
- Pete & Mary Ann Zak - South  
Shore Marina
- Jerry Castle - Munster
- Robin Biesen - Post Tribune

Staff:

- Dan Gardner
- Lou Casale, Attorney
- Sandy Mordus
- Bruce Stouffer

A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the January 4th meeting; seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Doyle Niemeyer presented outgoing Chairman John DeMeo a placque for his tenure as serving as Chairman for the years 1988 and 1989.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Clyde Baughard presented the financial report for December as well as the claims. There was one addition to the claim sheet which was \$305 for Harley Snyder Company for treasurer bonding for the year 1990. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

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Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson referred to the letter contained in packet written by staff to the Corps detailing the Commission's intent to have a signing ceremony to initiate construction start for the long-awaited Little Calumet River flood control/recreation project. He stated that the event should take place in northwest Indiana since that is the area most benefited. He also felt that Gary would be the logical city selected to host the event since it is the city most directly benefiting and the first phase will begin there. The letter listed those who would be invited, such as the senators, congressman, governor, area legislators, elected county, city and town officials, DNR, Chambers of Commerce, environmental support groups, area business leaders, news media, etc. Signing ceremony is expected to take place in late May of this year.

Mr. Gardner announced that he has completed the Financial Capability analysis requested by the Corps and has mailed it out to them. Copies will be provided to the Commission.

Staff met with the Corps in Chicago, along with Dick Wawryzniak and Vic Wenning of the IDNR, to establish a better understanding of the permitting procedures in the overall flood control plan and its various aspects. The meeting was requested by the DNR.

Mr. Gardner also brought to the attention of the Corps, some important local issues that still must be resolved. They include such issues as Burr Street levee protection, Gary sewer projects, junkyards within the project boundaries, coordination with Gary Park Board, greenhouse relocation, flood warning system. etc. There are some critical questions yet that need answers. We will be meeting with Gary park officials on a regular basis.

Mr. Gardner reported to the Commission that he had attended the National Association of Regional Councils meeting recently held in Washington. Among regional items discussed was the flood control/recreation project. Not only has Federal monies of 2.4 million been appropriated for first phase construction but \$3.3 million has been placed in the President's budget for next year.

Mr. Gardner referred to the letter written by Frank Sullivan, State Budget Agency Director, to David Wallin, Regional Economist for the Corps of Engineers. The Corps also had requested the present financial condition of the State of Indiana. Mr. Sullivan's reply to the Corps was very positive and supportive.

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Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew reported that 28 land owners have signed Options to Purchase. Staff is continually working toward obtaining signed options. At present, Gary Redevelopment Commission is contacting homeowners that require relocation in the Tolleston Club area.

Mr. Agnew reported that a signed lease has been received from Keith Eller for the fishing season of 1990.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Dan Gardner reported that Penn Central enlargement of culverts will improve water flow. Permits still need approval. Ten Ech Engineering is still working on obtaining those permits, both from the Corps and DNR. The Basin Commission has about \$170,000 earmarked for the project. Monies to fund the remaining cost to complete that project must be found from other sources. Although the work is non-creditable to the Development Commission for project purposes, the Basin Commission feels it is a critical need and has made this their priority project in 1990.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that staff is in the process of putting together a work scope for an engineering firm to oversee the construction project. The Interim Flood Control Committee would probably be the committee that would oversee the contract and report back to Commission.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - In Committee Chairman William Tanke's absence, Dan Gardner gave the report. He stated that a meeting was held with NIPSCO in order to resolve issues. In general, they accepted JJR's plans for marina construction. They still are requiring additional grading in the taking out of sand and they want some clearance identified under the lines. JJR will submit a proposal to the Commission for the next phase.

Mr. Gardner reported he is still trying to arrange a meeting with union officials in order to allow for the sand removal by the U. S. Marine Corps Reserves.

Mr. Gardner stated he attended the DNR hearing in Indianapolis in which the three Portage marina permits were conditionally approved. Mr. Gardner referred to the Position Statement contained in packet he submitted at the meeting. It states that the Development Commission is supportive of private marina development but stresses that a public access marina still needs to be provided.

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Chairman Niemeyer announced to Commission that Lake County Commissioner Rudolph Clay has been appointed to the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission. He is a Lake County Commissioners' appointment and replaces Jack Swike.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

The next meeting date was scheduled for March 1, 1990.

/sjm