MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 p.m. THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1990
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA

In Chairman Doyle Niemeyer's absence, Vice Chairman Arlene Colvin called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Eight (8) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

Charles Agnew
Clyde Baughard
Dave Springman
Steve Davis
Arlene Colvin
Nathaniel Leonard
William Critser
John DeMeo

Visitors:

Frank Mock - 6835 Kentucky, Hmd
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Mary Jane Zak - " "
Ola Kennedy - Lake County Park Board
Dick Wawrzyniak - IDNR
Ed Johnston - Gary
Bob Bittke - Gary
Sue Ross - The Times
Jerry Castle - Castle Estates, Munster

Ms. Colvin acknowledged the resignation letter of Chairman Doyle Niemeyer. Mr. Niemeyer has accepted a position with the State of Kansas, Dept. of Wildlife and Parks as Unit Supervisor for their State Parks and Wildlife Areas. His resignation is effective immediately. In light of this and considering Mr. Niemeyer was the Commission's Chairman, Chuck Agnew made a motion to appoint Vice Chairman Arlene Colvin as Chairman to fill the remaining term; motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously. Discussion was held on filling the Vice Chairman position. The two options are to move everyone up or just appoint a new person to the position. Two terms have expired and now there is one vacancy. We expect to hear from the Governor's Office shortly in regard to appointments. In view of this, Mr. Agnew made a motion to table the filling of the Vice Chairman position until next month; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.
A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the June 7th meeting; seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Clyde Baughard presented the financial status report for May as well as the claims. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Dave Springman; motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Committee - Dan Gardner announced that a request for $3 million from the Build Indiana Fund was made to the State Budget Agency. Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that over $1.2 billion of requests was received from around the State. A Projects Review Committee will review the many requests and make recommendations to the State Budget Agency.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commission he attended the hearing in Washington on June 13th with the Corps in regard to finalizing the Local Cooperation Agreement. Staff has answered all Corps questions and responded in writing to the Deputy District Engineer. There were minor changes made in the Agreement as well as in the Escrow Agreement. An escrow account needs to be set up at a bank in order to deposit the Commission's cash contribution to the project. From this account, the Corps will draw funds as needed. A motion to reaffirm approval of the Local Cooperation Agreement was made by Chuck Agnew; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

It is still hopeful that the signing ceremony of the contract will be held later this month or first of August. Staff will pursue arrangements for the Governor, Congressman, Senators and other area elected officials to be present at the ceremony. The site that is being considered is Indiana University Northwest.

As soon as the contract is signed, the Corps is ready to let contracts for the demolition of structures already purchased in the Tolleston Club area.

Mr. Gardner reported that the House has passed an appropriations bill that included $3.39 million for the flood control project.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to approve a compromise amount of $14,500 for DC246. Our original approved amount was $12,500. However, the property owner has produced documentation that the structure on the property is worth $17,500. The property owner is agreeable to the $14,500. Motion was seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.
Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve moving expenses of $2,000 for DC325; seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. ($2,000 was lowest of 3 quotes submitted).

It was the concensus of the land acquisition/management committee that someone needs to be on contract with the Commission on an emergency basis. Since the Commission has inherited the jurisdiction over the river from the Lake County Drainage Board, it is felt that someone needs to be on call. To that end, staff had solicited quotes for mowing and cleanup work the Commission needs to have done. Only one quote was received from Bob Porter. He stated reasonable price quotes to us. Mr. Agnew made a motion to contract with Bob Porter; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously. The attorney will prepare contract.

The Commission will tour the river and properties owned in the near future.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that an afternoon meeting was held with the Corps and Gary officials in regard to Burr Street levee protection. The Corps had proposed different alternatives to the Commission in place of just floodproofing the homes. After meeting with Gary and discussing the alternatives, it was jointly decided to direct the Corps to implement Alternative #3 which is placing a levee from just west of Mansard Apartments to Burr Street with tie-back levees to the south on both ends. Adding the Burr Street levee would add an additional approximate cost of $2 million to the project. Mr. Agnew made a motion to accept Alternative #3; motion seconded by Bill Critser; motion passed unanimously.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Attorney Lou Casale stated that he has received a revised contract from ConRail in regard to culvert replacement at Penn Central at Martin Luther King Dr. He is reviewing it now. A meeting needs to be called with the Little Calumet River Basin Commission.

Breakwaters/Marina Committee - In Committee Chairman William Tanke's absence, Dan Gardner reported he is still working with the Governor's staff in regard to the sand issue. Staff is attempting to try to have the Governor write a letter to the Marine Corps urging their participation in the sand removal. Staff will pursue.

Statements from the floor - Lake County Commissioner Rudy Clay inquired about the recent newspaper article regarding levee protection on Burr Street.
Debbie Schubert of Black Oak inquired about the projected time frame of the project. Staff informed her that it would take from construction start about five years for construction to reach Cline Avenue and about an additional four years to reach the state line.

Ed Johnston inquired about the river levees. He was informed that the area east of Cline Avenue will receive the same level of protection as the west side. The level of flood protection to be afforded by the levees will be a 200 year level of protection.

Bob Bittke of Gary inquired of Commissioner Arlene Colvin concerning sewers in Black Oak. The city of Gary has contracted for a study of the required sewers. To answer his direct question, he was informed that Calhoun Street is one of the streets being considered for sewers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for August 2, 1990.

/sjm