

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

Chairman Doyle Niemeyer called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Eight (8) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

George Carlson
 Doyle Niemeyer
 Clyde Baughard
 Charles Agnew
 Dave Springman
 Rudy Clay
 Steve Davis
 Bill Critser

Visitors:

Jerry Pagac - DNR
 Richard Bundy - Salmon Unltd.
 Terry McCloskey - Izaak Walton
 Liz McCloskey - Izaak Walton
 Harold Mauger- Gary resident

Staff:

Dan Gardner
 Lou Casale, Attorney
 Sandy Mordus
 Bruce Stouffer

Chairman Doyle Niemeyer introduced Steve Davis as the new Commissioner appointed by the Dept. of Natural Resources. He also announced the receipt of Mayor McDermott's letter re-appointing George Carlson to another four year term.

Chairman Niemeyer presented outing Commission DNR member Jerry Pagac with a plaque thanking him for his dedicated service to the Commission in past years.

A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the February 1st meeting; seconded by Bill Critser; motion passed unanimously.

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

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Legislative Committee - Mr. Gardner gave report. He informed the Commission that the Corps has indicated they would like to give quarterly reports to the Board once the project begins. They will meet monthly with staff to work out pending issues. Staff did meet with the Corps today and some important outstanding issues were given to them.

Signing ceremony is still scheduled for mid to end of May with construction start planned for July.

Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that \$2.9 million was contained in President Bush's budget. Status report has been submitted to the State Budget Agency.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to approve 2 appraisals received - DC345 and DC352; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously. Staff is continually working toward obtaining signed options.

Mr. Agnew stated the bid opening for leasing the farmland is March 5th. Mr. Agnew made a motion to authorize staff to accept highest and best bid subject to ratification at next Board meeting. Provision in lease has to address stoppage of pumping in emergency flooding situations. Motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held concerning the contract to hire a consultant as a recreation planning/environmental coordinator. Work scope would include coordination of a river corridor clean-up project, coordination of an overall recreation concept plan with project communities and coordination of a wetlands restoration/management plan for the project lands. A motion was made by Chuck Agnew to approve the contract; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Dan Gardner reported that ownership of the Erie RR bridge has been transferred to the Development Commission. The city of Hammond has \$18,000 to use for the removal of piers on the bridge.

It was stated that the Corps will be letting contracts by segments and then once completed, turned over for maintenance. The Development Commission will have the responsibility for maintenance.

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Breakwaters/Marina Committee - In Committee Chairman William Tanke's absence, Dan Gardner gave the report. He stated that a committee meeting will be held shortly. Mr. Gardner reported he accompanied Mayor Maletta and Portage city engineer to Detroit Corps office to discuss the number of marina developments proposed for Portage waterway. It was agreed upon that all interested marina parties would meet and draw up a scope of work satisfactory to all concerned.

Mr. Gardner announced that the Portage Port Authority passed a ruling to charge \$1,000 per slip to be paid by the new marina developing companies that are planning a new marina. It is the Commission's understanding that planning a public marina would exclude the Commission from that fee.

The issue of sand removal is being pursued.

Mr. Gardner discussed the Corps monitoring of the sediment at the breakwater site. Emergency dredging is not needed.

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.

Statements from the floor - Terry McCloskey talked about the wetlands restoration idea and the money in the state budget allowed for restoration. He informed the Commission that he has just recently been appointed to the Hammond Natural Resources Commission. He is participating in a massive cleanup of five miles of the river in Hammond in conjunction with Earth Day. He also expressed concern regarding the private marinas proposed for Portage. His concern is making sure that Portage gets a public marina, that being the Development Commission's. Mr. Gardner informed everyone that the Commission did submit a position statement to the state, making them aware of the public commitment and urging adequate provisions be made for the public marina.

Richard Bundy talked about the green belt. He also expressed concern that the public marina would be jeopardized by the quantity of the private marinas.

Harold Mauger, private resident from Gary, is still pursuing cleanup of the culverts. He expressed dismay that the river is not going down as fast as he thinks it should.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for April 5, 1990.

