

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1991
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
8149 KENNEDY AVENUE, HIGHLAND, INDIANA**

Chairperson Arlene Colvin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Ten (10) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale, Attorney
Bruce Stouffer
Sandy Mordus

Visitors:

Joyce Agnew
Pete & M.J.Zak-S. Shore Marina
Virginia Baughard
Edward Lukowski - Hammond
Dick Wawrzyniak - IDNR
Shirley DeMeo
Barbara Tanke
Sheila Carlson
Phyllis Springman
Richard Bundy - Salmon Unltd.
Charles Pettersen-Councilman,
city of Hammond
Bob Huffman - LCRBC
Barry Saunders - Post Tribune

A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the December 6th meeting; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew recommended to the Board the following Commission members for 1991 officers: For the position of Chairman, Mr. Agnew made a motion for Arlene Colvin to be retained as Chairman; seconded by Clyde Baughard; Mr. Agnew then made a motion to retain George Carlson as Vice Chairman; motion seconded by John DeMeo; Mr. Agnew then made a motion to retain Clyde Baughard as Treasurer; motion seconded by John DeMeo; Mr. Agnew then made a motion to retain William Critser as Secretary; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard. All motions were approved unanimously.

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Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Clyde Baughard presented the proposed 1991 Operating Budget to the Board. It was pointed out that there are two new classifications - (1) Project Cash Share Payments/Escrow Account - \$195,000 and (2) Utility Relocation Costs - \$100,000. The Professional Services line has also increased from \$150,000 to \$250,000. Mr. Baughard made a motion to accept the 1991 budget as presented; seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Baughard then gave the financial status report for December as well as the claims. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner asked for approval of the NIRPC contract for services for 1991. He described minor changes that were made from the previous contract. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the contract with NIRPC for 1991; motion seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson referred to the letter from the State Budget Agency regarding the Commission's 15 minute allotted time to appear before the Ways and Means Committee on February 19th to request \$3 million in this years biennium. A letter was also received from Pat Bauer, Ways and Means Chairman, requesting we reduce our existing budget by 2-3%.

Mr. Gardner distributed a supplement to the Local Cooperation Agreement just received from the Corps. The supplement addresses the additional flood protection for Burr Street area. It was the Commission's desire to include complete levee protection on Burr Street in lieu of floodproofing measures. There will be an additional cost to the Commission. The LCA supplement addresses that issue. No action is to be taken at this time. Attorney is reviewing it.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew gave committee report. Mr. Agnew made a motion to authorize staff to offer new purchase prices on DC305 (Earl McClatchy) and DC306 (Pettice Jackson). Mr. McClatchy's offer will increase from \$2,327 to \$10,400 and Mr. Jackson's offer will increase from \$4,153 to \$27,400. Reappraisals were done to substantiate the new price. The previous appraisals excluded certain information. The motion was seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Agnew informed the Commission of the Corps' latest construction schedule which includes in Section I Broadway to Harrison, north levee, beginning schedule May 1991 and in Section II Harrison to Grant, north levee, start in 1991. There are approximately 5 parcels in private ownership; others are in the name of the city or Lake County. Mr. Agnew made a motion that staff pursue either fee simple ownership or permanent levee easements or through condemnation the necessary properties needed for the first phase construction for levees in 1991; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew reported that farm bids were due in January 10th. He made a motion authorizing staff to award the bid to the highest, responsible and more responsive bidder with ratification by Board to take place at the next Commission meeting; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew also made a motion to roll over current farm leases on farm land leased to Dale Nimetz and farm land leased to Gary Dunlap for the year 1991; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner referred to correspondence received from Col. Inouye listing six sites with the Little Cal project area which could possibly contain hazardous substances. It was determined that three sites were clean and three needed to be tested. Mr. Gardner indicated that the starting point was to set up a meeting between the Corps, EPA, IDEM, Div. of Hazardous & Solid Waste and identify the parameters and to proceed from here.

Marina/Breakwaters Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke referred to a letter contained in packet regarding shoreline erosion and the need to remove the sand from the marina site. Mr. Gardner reported he has met with the Congressman to explain the situation and will continue to meet with Frank Martin, Director of the Indiana Port Commission to try to secure some funding for sand removal.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner referred to the Northwest Indiana Forum letter outlining their legislative agenda for 1991 priority legislative issues. Mr. Gardner responded with a detailed update on the Little Calumet River Flood Control/ Recreation project and requested support from the Forum for the Commission's \$3 million budget request. Mr. Gardner has talked informally with several legislators and is confident the request will be supported.

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Mr. Gardner stated he will attend the meeting of the Urban League of Gary. Strong interest remains from small minority contractors for construction projects let by the Corps.

Mr. Gardner spoke on the emergency levee status for Indianapolis Blvd. He stated that DNR has been designated to design the interim emergency levee. State emergency money will finance it - not the Development Commission. Contract letting for the construction of the levee will be by the State. It is anticipated that the town of Highland will assume maintenance after it is in place. Mr. Gardner met today with DNR, design engineer, Tri State attorney, and town officials working out details. Tri State still wants as much parking space as possible. Material for levee construction still needs to be identified.

Mr. Gardner also reported that the Little Calumet River Basin Commission did have their final meeting. The Development Commission will now assume the takeover of projects that the Basin Commission started; i.e. pier removal at Erie R.R. bridge and culvert enlargement at Penn Central.

Mr. Gardner congratulated William Tanke on his reappointment to the Development Commission. Mr. Tanke is the appointment of the Porter County Commissioners and has been reappointed for another four-year term.

Statements from the floor - Richard Bundy, Salmon Unlimited, stated that he was in agreement that he did not feel that taxpayers money should go toward the cost of the emergency levee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for February 7, 1991.

/sjm