

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

Chairperson Arlene Colvin called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Ten (10) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Dan Gardner
 Lou Casale, Attorney
 Bruce Stouffer
 Sandy Mordus
 Dave Stratman

Visitors:

Herb Read - Porter Cty. IWLA
 Pete & M.J.Zak-S. Shore Marina
 Motiryo Keambiroiro - E.
 Bentley Associates, Inc.
 Mike Vander Heyden - Dyer
 Construction
 John Bach - Town of Highland
 Bob Huffman - Munster
 Rada Indjich - The TIMES
 Bill Leets - Hobart
 Peter Kohut - Butler,
 Fairman & Seufert
 Dick Wawrzyniak - DNR
 Charles Pettersen - Hammond

A motion was made by Clyde Baughard to approve the minutes of the May 2nd meeting; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner introduced a summer intern from I.U. Bloomington, Dave Stratman, who will be working with us on the Little Cal project. Dave is pursuing his Master's degree in Environmental Policy and Natural Resource Management.

Mr. Gardner spoke on the solicitation of a project engineering consultant to oversee the project construction. He announced there were ten engineering firms that submitted a proposal. Those firms are:

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(1) R.W. Armstrong (2) E. Bentley Associates, Inc. (3) Butler, Fairman and Seufert Inc. (4) Cole Associates (5) IAE Inc. Consulting Engineers (6) McDonough Associates (7) McMahon Associates, Inc. (8) North-West Engineering Company (9) Weston Designers/Consultants and (10) Clyde E. Williams & Associates, Inc.

The procurement of a consulting engineering firm to oversee the Corps construction of the flood control/recreation project is important since the Commission members or staff cannot regularly be on the site during construction. A seven member committee has been selected to review the proposals. The committee will meet in the very near future to evaluate the proposals and select a minimum of 3 or 4 of the most qualified firms to interview. After those interviews, a 1st and 2nd choice firm will be selected.

Mr. Gardner has attended several meetings with SEMA, the Corps, Congressman's Office and local officials in which a solution is being sought to the Wicker Park Manor problem. Hopefully, state money can be used for construction of a federally approved levee protecting that area so the flood insurance restrictions will not apply. If new levee construction is the solution, the Development Commission would be responsible for obtaining the necessary rights-of-way and easements needed.

Mr. Gardner announced a June 18th meeting is scheduled with the State Highway Dept., LaPorte District, in which culvert construction at I80/94 is the key issue. Presently, that culvert is not on any highway list for reconstruction. The Commission needs to urge the Highway Dept. to accomplish the scheduling of this culvert reconstruction. Other items of discussion were Grant Street culvert reconstruction and Indianapolis Blvd. interchange and bridge reconstruction. Mr. Gardner will also stress the need to clean out the debris under the Indianapolis Blvd. bridge.

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. There was an amendment to the motion to exclude the payment to Abonmarche for \$510 until a more detailed bill could be obtained; motion seconded by Dave Springman; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Gardner referred to the letter from the Corps stating they are withdrawing the \$344,000 from the escrow account.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson referred to the newspaper article contained in the agenda packet stating the Federal budget currently contains \$6.5 million in

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federal funds for the project this year. He also stated that the House version of the state budget contains \$2 million for the Little Calumet River flood control/recreation project. There was already \$2 million named in the Senate version. The legislators are still in session and an approved budget has not yet been adopted. A state budget must be adopted by July 1.

Interim Flood Control Committee - Mr. Baughard reported that modified specifications have been completed by Tenney Pavoni on the Conrail culvert enlargement project. The project will be re-bid. The modifications are slight and will not require Conrail's re-approval.

Mr. Baughard reported that several meetings have been held with the city of Hammond and Park Dept. relative to the old Erie RR bridge and the piers underneath it. Mr. Carlson informed the Commission that after noticing dirt had been removed from a portion of the railroad embankment on the north side of the river, he proceeded to notify the proper officials in Hammond in an attempt to build the dike back to its original height. Mr. Carlson was successful in accomplishing that task and the city of Hammond built up the dike following the contour of the river. The job is now completed and Mr. Carlson stated they did an excellent job and proceeded to make a motion that a letter of appreciation be sent to the city of Hammond; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

The Commission was informed that the town of Highland has removed the debris that they had pulled from the river at the Erie bridge.

After a lengthy discussion on Erie R.R. bridge removal vs. pier removal vs. just cleaning, a motion was made by George Carlson to engage a contractor to clean all debris from the piers; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously. In the Corps plan for that area, it calls for removal of the bridge with a new pedestrian bridge being built which probably would be cost shared with the Commission.

Several meetings have been held with Wicker Park officials and Woodmar County Club officials relative to the Corps design of the levee in that area. A future joint meeting will be scheduled.

Land Acquisition/Management Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew informed the Commission that DC253 closed. Mr. Agnew made a motion to approve the increase option price of DC186 to \$1,000 from \$675 (Corps approval already given); motion seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Agnew made a motion to offer a price of \$168,000 less monies owned to the Commission for former lease for DC356 (Chase St. Produce). Commission's appraisal was \$150,000 - Evers' appraisal was \$172,656 - a compromise price of \$168,000 was established. Motion was seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Final design plans & specs have been provided to us for the east reach by the Corps. They are hoping to let bid by end of June.

Mr. Gardner referred to the Guidelines for acquisition and claiming of credits and reimbursements for local cooperation projects that is contained in the packet. He stated that staff is starting to get credit information together for Corps approval. Commission-owned properties must be re-appraised to establish current value.

Marina/Breakwaters Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke gave the marina report. He reported that one sandmining bid was received from Dyer/Superior Construction for a price of 31 cents per yard excavated sand above water and 1 cent per yard below water with completion date being 12/31/93. Subject to negotiations with the contractors to establish an earlier deadline date, Mr. Tanke made a motion to accept the bid from Dyer/ Superior; seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke, Mr. Gardner and attorney Casale will work with the city to have an agreeable Joint Venture Agreement between the Commission and the city of Portage for a public marina development signed before the next meeting. Mr. Tanke also stated that the Commission probably would have to participate in the sharing of the cost of the environmental assessment study.

Mr. Agnew added that advertising would be going out in the newspapers relative to contracting with someone to do some cleaning and mowing of our properties.

Mr. Gardner mentioned that an article on the flood control project was released in May 20th issue of Crain's magazine.

Statements from the floor - Herb Read, IWLA, questioned price of sand on the bid. He questioned where sand was going after being excavated.

William Leets questioned whether the railroad would soon be an abandoned railroad by Conrail. He was informed that even though the last active train is not running, Conrail still considers it an active line and will use it as a switching line; therefore, all regulations of Conrail apply.

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Charles Pettersen indicated he supports the bike path in Hammond and discussed the issue of the Erie bridge.

Motiryo Keambiroiro from Bentley Associates questioned whether it would be a good idea to perform an engineering study of the Erie R.R. bridge removal/cleanup.

Mike Vander Heyden questioned whether the bridge would fall down if too many piers were removed. He did not think the remaining beams would support the bridge.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 3, 1991 (this is a change from the normal meeting date of the first Thursday of the month).

/sjm

