

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

Chairperson Arlene Colvin called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Nine (9) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

George Carlson
Clyde Baughard
Charles Agnew
Dave Springman
Nathaniel Leonard
Steve Davis
Arlene Colvin
Bill Tanke
~~Bill Critser~~



Visitors:

Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Mary Jane Zak - " "
Jerry Castle - Munster
Todd Zimmerman - WJOB/WZVN
Bill Leets - Hobart
Tim Zorn - Post Tribune
Rada Indjich - The Times
Dick Wawrzyniak - DNR, Div. of
of Water
Mike Vander Heyden - Dyer
Construction Co.
Charles Petterson - Hammond
City Councilman

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Bruce Stouffer
Sandy Mordus
Betty Burrus

The minutes of the September 5, 1991 meeting were approved by a motion from Clyde Baughard; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Gardner reminded the Commission that a motion was made at the last meeting to pursue an agreement with the Corps for Section 215 for construction of the Wicker Park Manor interim levee project subject to four conditions; those conditions being that the construction will not cause any impacts downstream; the construction would not slow down project construction of overall project; interim levee would be acceptable to Corps and designed so it would not have to be replaced by future Corps levee; and commitment for repayment by the State Budget Committee in a timely manner. Mr. Gardner

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distributed a time schedule sequence for the interim levee construction. The concern regarding the Commission funding the interim levee is the distinct possibility of creating cash flow problem from the State at a later date when construction activity and cash needs are accelerated. Several Commissioners also expressed their concern. Mr. Gardner stated he will send a letter to the legislators expressing this concern. He would view the repayment of money being given to the Commission in the '93 biennium. He stated that the repayment of monies should be in addition to the regular biennium request. It was reiterated that the Commission would want a letter of approval for state funding repayment.

Mr. Gardner stated he attended a meeting with the Corps, Dyer Construction and R. W. Armstrong regarding the initiation of the contract for Phase I construction of the levee in Gary between Harrison and Broadway. Dyer Construction was given authorization to proceed. Groundbreaking plans are in the making. The target date for the groundbreaking is Nov. 1 or Nov. 8. Date will be announced as soon as it is confirmed. Coordination must be made between the offices of the Congressman, Governor, Mayor, Senators, Corps, etc.

Mr. Gardner stated he and attorney Casale met with Gary park attorney, Julian Allen and Earth Source, the firm selected to do a park plan for use of Gleason Park area compatible with Corps project. They will identify recreation uses and define the wetlands. The contract was approved at our last meeting and is between Earth Source, Gary Park Dept and the Development Commission.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer Clyde Baughard presented the financial status report for September as well as the claims. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Baughard also announced that \$404,000 has been put into the escrow account for Corps use as part of cash contribution.

Legislative Committee - Mr. Gardner announced he appeared before the State Budget Committee with the request for release of \$2 million from the 1987/89 biennium. The request was approved. As needs become known, we will put together a forecast for construction dollars based on estimates from the Corps. Staff wants to schedule a meeting with Governor's staff and budget committee soon to address future funding.

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Interim Flood Committee - Committee Chairman Clyde Baughard reported that Dyer Construction has ordered pipe for the Conrail culvert enlargement project. It should be delivered in about 2-3 weeks.

He also reported that Hammond and Highland are pursuing removing the sediment from the river at Indianapolis Blvd. site. They will cost share with FEMA to fund the project. Plans & specifications have already been done. The Commission has a set on hand for viewing.

Mr. Carlson publicly announced and thanked the Lake County Civil Defense with securing an erosion problem on the south side of the river adjacent to Erie bridge at Indpls Blvd. They anchored the area with sand bags and plastic sheeting to help stop erosion. When the sand bars are removed, the erosion problem will be further addressed.

Land Acquisition Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew announced property closing took place on Chase St. Produce corner lot. Also, all back lease payments and interest has been paid up to date from Evers lease.

Mr. Agnew made a motion to rollover the existing leases with Bult brothers; motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the Gary Hobart water line relocation, attorney has been checking legal aspects as to whose responsibility it is to pay for the relocation. Mr. Agnew made a motion authorizing staff to execute a claim after attorney researches legal liability. Final approval will be given at the next meeting. Motion seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously. By the next meeting, attorney will know whose responsibility it is to pay for relocation.

Marina Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke reported that sand removal is ongoing at the marina site. He also reported that a meeting was held with NIPSCO in regard to their property on marina site. Staff distributed a letter from Dennis Wozniak from NIPSCO citing their cooperation to work with us. We will be working toward firming up the NIPSCO commitment and in pursuing marina design/financing services.

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Mr. Gardner informed the Commission that a final draft environmental assessment of Portage waterway has been received. There will be a meeting prior to final adoption.

Statements from floor - Charles Pettersen inquired about flood insurance payments to homeowners once Wicker Park Manor was declared out of the floodplain. Mr. Gardner answered that all 283 families there would not pay flood insurance - the same for the entire flood plain area after they are proclaimed out of the flood plain area.

Mike Vander Heyden inquired as to where the flood water would have gone if it had not gone into Wicker Park Manor area. Mr. Gardner thought that the Black Oak area would have received much more water. Mr. Carlson thought that Optimist Park would have received it.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting date was set for November 7, 1991.

/sjm

