

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1992
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
Charles Agnew
Dave Springman
Nathaniel Leonard
Steve Davis
Bill Critser
Clyde Baughard
William Tanke
Arlene Colvin

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Sandy Mordus

Visitors:

Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Mary Jane Zak - " "
David Cole - Abonmarche
Donald Shapiro - Highland
Leon Wells - Lake County
Highway Dept.
Chuck Eckenstahler -
Abonmarche
Joe Wade - R.W. Armstrong
Beldon McPheron - Corps
Mike Kerr - TPA
Sivash Beik- DNR, Div. Water
Jim Flora - R.W. Armstrong
Tom Deja - Corps
Bob Huffman - Munster
John Bach - Town of Highland
Butch Zandstra - N.W. IN Food
Bank
Don Ewen
Dominic Vasile - Highland
Ed Vasquez - Gary Park Dept.
Eric Ellingson - Earth Source
Paul Lucas, DNR, Div. of Water
Joe Crnkovich - NIRPC

The minutes of the February 6, 1992 meeting were approved by a motion from Clyde Baughard; seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

Arlene Colvin congratulated Charles Agnew and John DeMeo on their recent re-appointment to the Commission for another 4 year term.

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Mr. Gardner reported on the seminar held February 13 at the Urban League Office. He will meet again with the Corps at Congressman Visclosky's Office to talk about contract letting and procedure.

Mr. Gardner referred to a letter addressed to INDOT from the city of Gary in which they expressed their concern about the elevation of the newly designed bridge at Grant Street. Their review of the drawings indicate a top elevation of 595' whereas the levee elevation is at 600'. Their concern will be addressed. The Grant St. bridge is slated for construction in the summer of '92.

INDOT plans have been announced for Cline Avenue interchange reconstruction at a cost of about \$75 million. About 17 bridge crossings are involved. Early coordination must be a priority.

Tom Deja, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, showed a video on quality control assurances in a presentation to the Commission. The Corps is very conscious of quality workmanship on the project and will oversee all stages of construction by the contractor to make sure quality control is maintained. Mr. Deja answered a question from Commissioner Baughard in regard to the Corps enforcing the bonding requirement of a contractor if the contractor did not fulfill his contract. Even change orders would have to be bonded. The Commission's "Project Engineering/ Construction Committee" will be working with Mr. Deja.

Mr. Gardner referred to documents contained in packet in which DNR has responded to the Corps providing them with requested information to fulfill some Section 215 requirements. Estimated time frame and cost figures were provided. Funding will become an issue very shortly. The Commission was informed that no bidding for the project can take place until funding is in place. A lengthy discussion was held involving questions pertaining to cost, inflation, elevation, equal protection for Highland and Hammond, etc.

Finance/Policy Committee - Committee Chairman Clyde Baughard presented the financial status report for February as well as the claims. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Gardner stated that a claim from Earth Source for \$12,000 was received after the claim sheet was issued. After Earth Source's presentation, the Commission will consider that claim separately.

Land Acquisition Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew reported a letter has been received from Gary Sanitary District requesting a parcel of property 50' x 50' the Commission owns to construct a pump station needed for the Gary sewer project. Mr. Agnew made a motion for staff to write a letter of intent to Gary Sanitary District indicating we will make the land available to them contingent upon the land not impact the Corps plan; motion seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Gardner added that he and the Corps met with Gary Sanitary District representatives prior to the Commission meeting and the Corps indicated that the 50' x 50' area needed would not impact the project.

Mr. Agnew made a motion to allow the Commission's lessee, Ed and Tim Bult, to sub-lease a 30 acre portion of the farm land to the Northwest Indiana Food Bank; the sub-lease would be for the year 1992 only running contiguous with Bult's lease; pumping responsibility will remain with the Bults'; insurance must be kept for the entire property; motion was seconded by Bill Tanke; motion carried unanimously. The attorney and staff will work out appropriate paperwork. Butch Zandstra representing the Food Bank gave a short talk on the property they have just acquired adjacent to the farmland. They are moving their headquarters to that property on 35th Street. The Food Bank services seven counties. They hope to expand property area next year.

Eric Ellingson from Earth Source Inc. gave a presentation to the Commission in which they displayed a master recreation plan for the Gleason Park area of Gary. He displayed a color map depicting the area and planned compatible facilities. Facilities included a nature education center, a wetland/9-hole golf course, pedestrian bridges, driving range, shorebird habitats, viewing platforms, trails, canoe launch, hard surface multi-purpose area, tennis court, existing sports complex, greenhouse & service facilities, multi-purpose building, created wetlands, etc. The plan was very well received. Additional comments of support for the plan were offered by Ed Vasquez, superintendent for the Gary Park Dept.

An additional claim for \$12,000 was received from Earth Source for the completion of their work. The claim was approved by a motion from Nathaniel Leonard; motion seconded by George Carlson; motion passed unanimously.

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Interim Flood Committee - Mike Kerr from Tenney Pavoni showed slides from the ConRail culvert replacement project. The slides depicted the progress of the project with slides of the completed added culverts. The project is completed and we have received the final bill from Dyer Construction.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke reported that The Abonmarche Group has been fulfilling their contract for plans for marina design. Chuck Eckenstahler gave a presentation to the Commission on their latest work. Several meetings have been held with the Commission, city of Portage and Abonmarche. Phase 1 and 2 of the contract has been completed. 4 alternate designs have been completed and a 5th one is almost completed. The 5th plan now looks like it may be the final plan. They have been working with NIPSCO and NIPSCO has agreed with the marina concept. Additional work is needed that has not been addressed in the contract. Mr. Tanke made a motion to approve the proposed work and charges subject to the approval of the Marina Committee based on another meeting in the near future to approve some modifications and additional plans; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously. The additional work included some survey land measurement in locating the NIPSCO 12 inch gas line, verifying existing property corners, waters edge, utilities, power poles, electric transmission towers, gas mains, etc., investigating boundary description discrepancies, and recording random topographic elevation data for a cost of \$1,400; and the second change was preparation of a permit application plus drawing needed for INDOT for a cost of \$600.

There were no statements from the floor.

There was no other business. The next Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

/sjm

