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

Development Commissioners:  Visitors:
Arlene Colvin  Ray Young - L.A. Flowers, Inc.,
John DeMeo  Gary
Charles Agnew  Ben Thomas - Air-Rich Cooling
Dave Springman  and Heating, Gary
Nathaniel Leonard  Doc Miller - Gary
Steve Davis  Dominic Vasile - 2405 River
Clyde Baughard  Drive, Highland
William Tanke  Siavash Beik - DNR, Div. Water

Staff:
Dan Gardner  James Flora - RWArmstrong
Lou Casale  Ola Kennedy - Lake County
Sandy Mordus  Park Board
Bruce Stouffer  Mike Vander Heyden - Dyer

The minutes of the November 5th, 1992 meeting were approved by a motion from Clyde Baughard; seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously after a correction was made to reflect that Arlene Colvin called the meeting to order - not Vice Chairman George Carlson as was stated.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner gave an update to the Commission regarding Wicker Park tie back levee project. He informed Commission that Dyer Construction has completed the job. Documentation is still needed to satisfy the Dept. of Natural Resources. Before payment is released, the contractor has to produce certain documentation per the specs. The project will be reviewed by FEMA and SEMA so it is important that the paperwork be in order. Although Siavash Bieik from DNR stated that the construction and material used looks real good, approval cannot be given until specs are met. Mr. Gardner distributed a copy to members listing out the specs that needed addressing.
Jim Flora, project engineer from R.W. Armstrong, stated he had paperwork to be signed in regard to the change order. There was an additional $4,500 charge for topsoil on the levee and an additional $315 to install a barrier rail at south end of levee to discourage trespassers. Total amount for the levee will be $37,615.

Mr. Tanke made a motion to approve the change order and the new total amount due contingent upon receipt of appropriate documentation to satisfy DNR; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Pete Zak from South Shore Marina stated he would clean out the Erie R.R. bridge the beginning of the week. The Commission has retained him for clearing out the debris built up under the bridge.

Mr. Gardner talked about additional rip-rap needing to be placed at the low flow control structure at the Conrail R.R. in Gary near Martin Luther King Drive. Since Dyer Construction had originally done the culvert project at that location, they were authorized to add additional rip-rap for an amount of $2,000. Mr. Agnew made a motion authorizing Dyer to proceed with the work for an amount not to exceed $2,000; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner spoke on the Commission's continued interest in local minority contracts within the project area. He referred to a letter written to Col. Reed concerning the subject. Mr. Young from L.A. Flowers, Inc., Gary made a presentation to the Board concerning a request for deviation in order that more minorities (blacks) be hired. Mr. Young cited a number of statistics regarding the minority population in Gary and the urban area of northwest Indiana most affected by this project. He also said such factors as the unemployment rate and the crime rate should weigh upon this decision. The Board passed a motion to write a letter to Col. Reed formally requesting a deviation from procurement regulations to address local minority hiring and subcontracting appropriate to conditions in this area. Mr. Gardner stated he would gather statistics that would support a deviation from the roughly 29% figure that is in effect with Lake County being the project catchment area.
Finance/Policy Committee - Committee Chairman Clyde Baughard presented the financial status report for October as well as the claims. One claim was added to the claim sheet - $12,600 for Area Tree Service. Mr. Baughard made a motion to approve the pending claims; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Baughard also referred to a letter received from the Corps requesting $650,000 to be placed in the escrow account. A second letter was referred to showing the withdrawal of $130,000 from the same escrow account.

Legislative Committee - Mr. Gardner informed the Commissioners that Thursday, November 19th at 1:00 p.m. is the scheduled time for the state budget hearing. Col. Reed will be present. It is hopeful that the Congressman may be present also. Chairperson Arlene Colvin will be in attendance as well as Mayor Barnes. Strong support is needed in order to stay on schedule with the Federal government. Mr. Gardner will start communicating with the area legislators.

Mr. Gardner stated that the new mayor of Hammond, Mayor Dedelow, was in the NIRPC office and he was given a brief overview of the flood control project status. He is in support of the project.

Land Acquisition Committee - Land Acquisition Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to increase the offered price of $560 to $1100 on DC45 Johnson acquisition; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering/Construction Committee - Mr. Gardner stated we are awaiting a letter from the Corps in response to our proposed procedures regarding project utility relocation/reconstruction. Mr. Gardner also referred to letter in packet for Mayor Barnes concerning the Grant Street bridge project. He also referred to a support letter contained in packet from the Congressman to the Lake County Council on behalf of the Lake County Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Gardner also will write in behalf of the agency. The Commission is in strong support of the agency remaining at their present location in Gary because they will play the lead role in putting the closure structures in place in time of severe flooding.
Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke announced that the city had selected Abonmarche for negotiation to perform the final engineering for the Portage public marina. The committee will meet in the near future with the city and Abonmarche to discuss hours and dollars. Abonmarche is preparing a cost schedule to submit for discussion.

Mr. Tanke made a motion for Abonmarche to proceed with a preliminary survey of the marina site in consultation with himself and staff; motion seconded by Charles Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke then made a motion for Abonmarche, in consultation with himself and staff, to proceed with title work necessary to confirm ownership; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke then made a motion to proceed with having the underground storage tank removed from the marina site at a quote of not more than $1,500; motion seconded by Clyde Baughard; motion passed unanimously.

There was no other business. The next Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 3, 1992 at 6:30 p.m.

/sjm