

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 1994
 AT THE HIGHLAND TOWN HALL
 3333 RIDGE ROAD
 HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Chairman George Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Nine (9) Commissioners were present. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

George Carlson
 Charles Agnew
 Steve Davis
 Robert Huffman
 Robert Trelo
 William Tanke
 Emerson Delaney
 Arlene Colvin
 John DeMeo

Staff:

Sandy Mordus
 Jim Pokrajac
 Dan Gardner
 Lou Casale

Visitors:

Herb Read - Izaak Walton
 Bill Petrites - Highland
 Ruth Mores - Hammond
 Don Shapiro - Highland
 Cecilia Wallace - NIRPC staff
 Mike Vander Heyden - Dyer
 Construction
 Virgil Meier - Highland
 Ed Lukowski - Hammond
 Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
 Mary Jane Zak - " "
 Kevin Bialas - Hammond
 Joe & Jeanette Misicko-Highland
 Rick Markley - The Times
 Mara Candelaria - Congressman
 Visclosky's staff
 Michael Griffith-Clerk Treas. of
 Highland
 John Bach-Public Works Director,
 Highland
 M/M G. J. Rausch - Hammond
 Judith Preissig - Hammond
 Dominic Vasile - Highland
 Brigit Gold - Highland
 Charlotte Sills - Highland
 Ron & Emily Platt - Highland
 Elaine Fay - Munster
 Joan Zacok - Munster
 Dave & Karen Taborski - Gary
 Gladys Hilmes - Highland
 Helen Nies - Highland
 George & Juanita Oakley-Highland
 Jim Flora -R.W.Armstrong Co.
 Ken Smith - IDNR - Water Div.
 A. Jones - Gary

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The minutes of the July 7, 1994 meeting were approved by a motion from Chuck Agnew; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman George Carlson and Ex. Dir. Dan Gardner thanked Michael Griffin, Clerk Treasurer of Highland, for allowing the Commission to use their facilities to hold the monthly meeting. It was stated that periodically the Commission would meet in the several towns or cities located in the project area - for the convenience of residents living nearby.

Chairman Carlson introduced the newest Governor's appointment, Mr. Emerson Delaney from Hammond. He was appointed to fill the vacancy that has existed for several years.

Mr. Gardner also introduced Mara Candelaria from Congressman Visclosky's staff. She will be handling water projects for the Congressman's Office in northwest Indiana.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner gave a report on the Wicker Park Manor construction project. He referred to the letter in the agenda packet from the Corps to Dyer Construction Co. relative to the Lake Calumet borrow source that Dyer wants to use as a borrow site. The letter encourages Dyer to abandon the pursuance of this site and utilize the two sites that are already approved for clay.

Mr. Gardner also referred to the letter received from Mike Griffin of Highland that relayed a citizen concern relative to the slow construction at Wicker Park Manor (only 26% complete). The concern is reaching the 50% completion mark so the town can petition to have the Wicker Park Manor area withdrawn from the floodplain.

Mr. Gardner announced that the DNR permit for construction in a floodway for removal of the abandoned Erie R.R. bridge has been approved and received. Staff is in process of assembling the bid package to go out for bids. The project will be advertised on August 13th and 20th with the bid opening being on August 31st. At the next Board meeting, a contract award will be considered. Mr. Gardner referred to the letters sent to Hammond and Highland in identifying contributed funding for this project. It is hoped that the \$18,000 from Hammond is still earmarked for this project. A letter was received from the town of Highland identifying \$5,005 that can be used toward this cost.

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Legislative Committee - George Carlson referred to Senator Coats' new release announcing \$3.3 million of federal funds for the project. He also reported that as a result of Mr. Gardner's attendance at the State Budget Committee meeting and our request for the remaining \$2 million from the 93/95 budget for drawdown purposes, it was approved by the State Budget held June 22. Mr. Gardner stated that we have received the 95/97 biennial budget forms for submittal back to the State Budget Agency by August 19th. The budget request will be for \$8 million. A critical issue that yet remains to be resolved is how we obtain the \$4 million already allotted in the 1989 and 1991 bienniums from Build Indiana funds. Our northwest Indiana legislators need to be briefed and given an update on the construction status of the project so they understand why the \$8 million is needed to stay on schedule with the Federal budget monies and construction schedule.

Land Acquisition Committee - Land Acquisition Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to increase the offer price to \$2,500 on DC244 and \$2,000 on DC245 in order to avoid condemnation; motion seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering Committee - Mr. Huffman reported that the Wicker Park Manor construction progress is at about 26% complete. A 3' base has already been laid, compacted and ready for the levee. Final completion date is still March 1995. He also reported that a final inspection on Stage II Phase 2 and Stage III should be scheduled shortly. Construction has started for Stage II Phase 3A levee construction (from Georgia to Martin Luther King).

Mr. Huffman referred to the letter that the FHA has signed and concurred with allowing the highway/bridge construction costs to be creditable against the project cost. This concurrence is critical in helping us in creditable costs.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke gave the marina report. He gladly reported that the NIPSCO lease has been signed by all parties now. Superior/Dyer can now build the haul road into the site. This road is part of the final design. We can also pursue the purchase of the surplus NIPSCO lots. Mr. Tanke made a motion to approve the \$8,400 appraisal cost of the surplus lots; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke also referred to the letter in the packet to Izaak Walton League stating our position on the sand removal at the marina site.

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Mr. Tanke also reported that the Portage Board of Works has awarded a contract for the sheet piling construction. That award is contingent upon receiving the Corps permit. That permit is still back and forth in negotiations. It is hoped that the technical problems can be worked out in the very near future.

Mr. Tanke presented an authorization for work from Abonmarche for the months of August-September-October in the amount of \$11,850 (3 months at \$3,950/month). Mr. Tanke made a motion to approve the authorization to proceed for a cost not to exceed \$11,850 for the 3 months contingent upon him receiving some additional breakdown costs and itemization of monies that will meet his satisfaction; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously. That cost would be split with the city.

Mr. Gardner spoke on the beachfront erosion at Ogden Dunes. The sand that was brought in last year for beach nourishment is now gone. He stated that Mara Candelaria from the Congressman's Office has set up a meeting on August 11th to explore the opportunities of sand being used for in-state projects.

Mr. Tanke stressed the fact that this Commission has always been on record to donate the sand on the marina site for beach erosion areas. The problem has been the expense of transporting it from one place to another.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer John DeMeo presented the financial status report for May as well as the claims amounting to \$27,659.99. He added one additional claim in the amount of \$383 for per diem and mileage for one of the Commissioners who cannot attend the next meeting. The total claim amount for approval is \$28,042.99. Mr. DeMeo made a motion to approve paying the pending claims; motion seconded by Bill Tanke; motion passed unanimously. He also reported that we have received the Commission's audit report for the years 1992 & 1993 and there were no significant findings. Mr. Gardner thanked Cecilia Wallace, the Commission's bookkeeper, for a job well done.

Other Business - There was none.

Statements from the floor - Ruth Mores, resident from Hammond, presented the Commission with a list of questions/concerns that she and other area residents have put together relative to the levee construction that will happen behind their homes. Those questions are made of these minutes and attached as Attach A. At this point, there were numerous topics discussed including why the project is needed, levee alignment, floodwall height, floodplain removal status, maintenance, tree loss, landscaping,