

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
 HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1994
 AT THE COMMISSION OFFICES
 6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD
 PORTAGE, INDIANA

Chairman George Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Ten (10) 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
 Nathaniel Leonard

Staff:

Jim Pokrajac
 Dan Gardner
 Lou Casale
 Sandy Mordus

Visitors:

Herb Read - Izaak Walton
 Bill Petrites - Highland
 Ruth Mores - Hammond
 Jim Flora - R.W. Armstrong
 Cecilia Wallace - NIRPC staff
 Mike Vander Heyden - Dyer
 Construction
 Greg Taylor - Z107 Radio
 Ken Smith - Div. of Water, IDNR
 Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
 Mary Jane Zak - " "
 Charles Siar - Izaak Walton
 LTC Robert Slockbower - Corps
 Dave Hunter - Corps
 Mara Candelaria - Congressman
 Visclosky's staff

The minutes of the August 4, 1994 meeting were approved by a motion from Chuck Agnew; motion seconded by Robert Trelo; motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Director, Dan Gardner, introduced Col. Robert E. Slockbower, the new colonel at the Chicago District who has replaced Col. Reed. Colonel Slockbower addressed the Commission and thanked them and staff for all their work to date. He proceeded to reaffirm the \$3.3 million of Federal monies secured for FY95 but expressed concern that the State monies received may not be enough to keep the project on schedule. He stated he was indeed pleased with the accomplishments made in the area of minority contracting. He reported that the technical report regarding mapping for Wicker Park Manor in Highland has been sent out so the town of Highland can proceed with FEMA. It is hoped that 50% completion for Wicker Park Manor can be met by 10/15/94.

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The Colonel also stated the completed stages and completed demolitions will be turned over to us this fall. Mr. Gardner asked the Colonel about the letter from U.S. Dept. of Interior. He said the Corps would commit to the EIS requested in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife letter. Mr. Gardner also inquired about community meetings being held, with the Corps in attendance, in order to inform those residents wanting their questions answered. The Colonel readily agreed that the Corps would attend any public meetings we wish to schedule.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner referred to our letter to the State Budget Committee for our hearing on October 19th. We have requested the Colonel to appear and he has planned on being there. His appearance will be a strong testimony to the legislators of the Corps' interest they have in securing sufficient funding.

Land Acquisition Committee - Land Acquisition Chairman Chuck Agnew made a motion to approve and sign the right of entry for Stage I Phase 4 Demolition; motion seconded by Nathaniel Leonard; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew then made a motion to approve and sign the revised right of entry for Stage II Phase 3A which now includes Marathon; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Agnew made a motion to pursue acquisition, including condemnation if necessary, DC447; motion seconded by John DeMeo; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner talked about the meeting with Gary Parks & Recreation held this afternoon. The purpose of that meeting was to emphasize to the Gary Park Dept. the importance of getting the needed easements and to discuss the greenhouse specifications. Several meetings will take place to work out technical aspects of an acceptable greenhouse. Lou Casale emphasized the need for the easements from Gary Park Board for INDOT & Gary-Hobart water line relocation. William Tanke questioned the cost of the greenhouse and the lack of cooperation of Gary Park Board. Discussion was held on the considerable amount of land that is indeed needed from the Park Board.

Project Engineering Committee - Mr. Huffman reported that the construction at Stage II Phase 3A is about 18% complete. He also informed the Commission that the grass has been cut in Stage III area. As the stages are completed, they will be turned over to the Commission for maintenance.

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Mr. Huffman also stated that many questions have arisen from the residents in Stage IV Phase 2 regarding a drainage ditch and/or drainage culvert that is planned to be constructed along Colfax to Burr. Staff will schedule a meeting time and place for those residents to be informed of the pending work, along with the Corps present to answer questions.

He reported that Wicker Park Manor construction is at about 38% complete. The levee is up to level of the old levee. Some soil borings were taken on the old levee some time back. Some analysis of the old clay will have to be taken to determine suitability.

Regarding the Erie R.R. bridge removal, Mr. Huffman made a motion to award the contract to the low bidder, Dyer Construction Company, for a bid of \$25,000; motion seconded by Emerson Delaney. The attorney will prepare an agreement upon receiving the performance bond and insurance. Removal must begin within 15 days after receiving notice to proceed and must be completed within 30 days. The town will be informed and invited to the pre-construction meeting. Mr. Agnew expressed concern with Dyer receiving the bid. Mr. Petrites, a resident near Wicker Park Manor, hoped that with Dyer receiving this award, his construction levee work will not slow down. Mr. Vander Heyden assured him it would not. Chairman George Carlson expressed delight that the bridge will finally be removed. He has advocated its removal for many years.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke gave the marina report. He reported that we are still awaiting the final Corps approval on the marina permit. After several telephone calls this week, it appears that the Detroit Corps office will make final comments and are prepared to write the permit.

Sand excavation is still underway. Below grade sand removal has not yet begun.

Mr. Gardner referred to Mara Candelaria, representing the Congressman's Office, in regard to a meeting that was held in an attempt to identify Indiana projects for sand use. Mr. Gardner emphasized the Commission's commitment to sand mitigation. He thanked Mara for organizing that meeting.

Mr. Tanke has been in communication with Abonmarche representatives in an attempt to justify their claims submittal and authorize further work that needs to be done. He has not received the documentation he desires yet so further authorization is still on hold.

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Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer John DeMeo presented the financial status report for July as well as the claims amounting to \$55,240.89. Mr. DeMeo made a motion to approve paying the pending claims; motion seconded by Bob Huffman; motion passed unanimously. Mr. DeMeo also referred to a budget amendments sheet on page 14 in the agenda packet. The budget amendment only included the transfer of monies only from one budget line to another. He then made a motion approving the budget amendment; motion seconded by Bob Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Other Business - Bill Tanke expressed his concern regarding the Commission accepting portions of the project for maintenance as they are completed. He felt that enough emphasis has not been put on the issue of maintenance. We should be receiving a maintenance manual from the Corps that will give us guidance. He suggested that a sub-committee under the auspice of the Land Acquisition/Management Committee be formed to start looking into this issue. All the members expressed an interest of serving on that committee.

Statements from the floor - Herb Read had attended the meeting that was held regarding sand mitigation and beach erosion. He said the meeting went very well and he appreciated the efforts of all involved. However, he expressed his dismay that monies could be found for the breakwaters and the marina site, but no monies are to be had to move sand.

Ruth Mores, resident from Hammond, expressed her interest in attending the meeting that would be scheduled shortly with some of the east reach residents between Colfax and Burr Street. She sees some of the same problems with the drainage issue facing these residents that she anticipates will be forthcoming when the project comes to the west reach and, namely, in her neighborhood. Mr. Gardner told her she will be invited when that meeting is set.

There being no further business, the next Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 1994. The Commission meeting will be held back at the Commission offices in Portage.

/sjm