

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1996
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE
6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD
PORTAGE, INDIANA

Chairman William Tanke called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Seven (7) Commissioners were present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

Robert Huffman
William Tanke
Robert Trelo
Steve Davis
Arlene Colvin
Emerson Delaney
George Carlson

Visitors:

Jim Flora - RWArmstrong
Mary Jane Zak - South Shore
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina
Bob Frum - Lefty's Coho Landing
Ken Smith - IDNR,
Mike VanderHeyden - Dyer
Construction

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Lou Casale
Melissa Stefanovich
James Pokrajac
Judy Vamos
Sandy Mordus

The minutes of the April 4, 1996 meeting were approved by a motion from George Carlson; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report - Chairman William Tanke reported on a COE luncheon meeting held in Chicago honoring H. Martin Lancaster, Asst. Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. The invite was extended to very few outsiders so it was an honor that the Commission was included. Various topics discussed were the permitting authority being changed to the Chicago office rather than the Detroit office; discussion of Chicago Corps Division office closing; value engineering process, etc. It was discussed that although it is still currently 25-75% cost share on water projects, the new proposal for local water projects will be 50/50% cost share. Maintenance dredging would become a local responsibility.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner informed the Board that review has been ongoing on the Operation & Maintenance Manual received from the Corps. Copies have been distributed to interested Commissioners. IDNR is also reviewing the manual as well as R.W. Armstrong Co. Mr. Gardner is requesting in writing from the COE office their best estimate on maintenance costs and where those costs are associated. Mr. Flora added that his company has completed its review on the operation manual but is still reviewing the Flood Preparedness plan manual. Ken Smith from DNR reported they are ready to meet with the Commission. A technical review meeting will be arranged to accomodate schedules.

Mr. Gardner discussed the costs of operating the pumping stations. There will be a cost incurred when the pump station is installed and then there will be ongoing electric bills. It is anticipated that each community will pick up their share of the cost as part of the commitment to protecting their communities.

Mr. Gardner also reported that an updated newsletter was sent to the Wicker Park Manor residents outlining the landscaping schedule. A letter was also sent to the residents around Deep River borrow site updating them on the schedule that clay would be removed from the site.

Land Acquisition Committee - In Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew's absence, Bob Huffman reported that no action on land acquisition items was required this month. He reported that a COE real estate meeting had been held on April 24th.

Project Engineering Committee - Committee Chairman Bob Huffman gave the engineering report. He reported that bids would be going out this summer for the Burr Street pump station. There are a few design changes that need to be made. The pump station will serve ~~not only the city but will also include the drainage from the~~ betterment levee.

He reported that the survey for the OxBow area in Hammond is completed. The city has a design engineer who is coordinating with the COE to identify costs. It will be determined what portion of the costs will be paid by the Commission and/or COE office project, and what the City of Hammond would be responsible for.

Mr. Huffman also reported that a demonstration meeting was held on the floodwarning system. The base station will be housed at the Lake County Emergency Management Agency in Crown Point, with a back-up system being in Hammond. Besides the Little Calumet River, the system will monitor other tributaries leading into it. There

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will be an agreement that we will enter into with the Lake County Emergency Agency in the near future that will address the responsibilities.

He also reported that a meeting was held on April 23 with Lake County Parks Dept. and the COE in regard to Deep River borrow site. A meeting was also held on April 25 with the Gary Parks Dept. in regard to certain revisions they are requesting to the recreation plan. The COE office is currently reviewing those changes to see if they can be done.

Marina/Breakwater Committee - Committee Chairman Bill Tanke gave the Marina report. He reported that the marina is nearing completion. Any Commissioners not having seen the marina recently really need to do so. Boats will be coming in the very near future. There is an aerial view of the marina site in today's Times which everyone has received. The construction of the roof on the bath house is now underway. Mr. Tanke referred to a letter from John Hannon to the Mayor recommending the city enter into an agreement with Portage Marina Management, Inc. (Michael Doyne) for operation of the marina.

The city is coordinating an opening ceremony of the marina. It will be after the 1st of June, after the bath house is complete and after the public access road is in. We will keep Commissioners informed.

A motion was made by Emerson Delaney to grant an easement to NIPSCO and enter into an agreement with them for their provision of electrical service to the site and bath house; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed by a majority of 6 to 0, with Commissioner Robert Huffman (a NIPSCO employee) abstaining.

Mr. Tanke presented two marina claims for approval. The first claim is to Ice Miller Donadio & Ryan for \$10,961.49 (legal services rendered and expenses incurred re: marina bond financing); and the second claim is to the City of Portage for \$514,650.88 (partial payment of floating dockage as submitted by Ellas Construction Contract #6). Abonmarche and the City both have approved the work performed by Ellas. Commissioner Robert Trelo made a motion to approve the two claims; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner referred to a letter from Abonmarche requesting revision and further authorization for an increase in Task No. 13 "Construction Administration of Phase I of the Project". The increased amount would be \$12,244.00 and this would be through the completion of the project. The increased amount was discussed with

Jeff Bartozsek earlier. A motion was made by Emerson Delaney to approve the revision to the existing contract to allow for this increase; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tanke expressed to the Commissioners that he felt we would be coming to a conclusion very soon with the city joint venture in regard to the marina project and, therefore, the past out-of-pocket expenses that the Commission has incurred over the years need to be itemized, documented, and presented to the City for reimbursement. Commissioner Emerson Delaney made a motion authorizing staff to hire any kind of temporary help they feel is necessary in order to identify these costs in a timely manner; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Finance/Policy Committee - Treasurer George Carlson gave the financial report. Mr. Carlson made a motion to approve the financial status statement; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Carlson then made a motion to approve the claims for payment totaling \$72,684.87; motion seconded by Robert Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardner mentioned the COE letter contained in the packet asking the bank for a withdrawal of \$150,000 from the construction fund escrow account.

Other Business - There was none.

Statements from the floor - Mike Vander Heyden questioned the issue of the COE having enough federal money for upcoming construction segments. Mr. Gardner explained that the COE is meeting with contractors to show obligations pending so that contractors show a spend-down of monies. This is important for the COE to show so they are able to obtain additional federal money for future projects. They need to show that progress is sufficient and more monies are warranted.

Bob Frum of Lefty's Coho Landing asked whose responsibility it was to dredge the mouth of Burns Waterway. Mr. Gardner answered that currently it is the Corps responsibility. They are trying to secure funding commitment this year to have the dredging take place. We will follow up and see what progress has been made.

There being no further business, the next regular Commission meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 1996 in Portage.