

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
HELD AT 6:00 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1998  
AT THE COMMISSION OFFICE  
6100 SOUTHPORT ROAD  
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

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Chairman Bob Trelo called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Eight (8) Commissioners were present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Quorum was declared and guests were recognized.

Development Commissioners:

Robert Huffman  
George Carlson  
Roger Chiabai  
Steve Davis  
Robert Trelo  
Charles Agnew  
Arlene Colvin  
Emerson Delaney

Visitors:

Jim Flora - RWArmstrong  
Karen Flora  
Melissa Stefanovich - IDNR  
Jomary Crary - IDNR  
Denis Buksa - Munster  
Pete Zak - South Shore Marina  
Mary Jane Zak  
RaeAnn Rockhill - Times  
Jim Spivak - LCRBDC attorney  
Donna Spivak  
Angie Usher - Casale's office

Staff:

Dan Gardner  
Lou Casale  
James Pokrajac  
Sandy Mordus  
Judy Vamos

The minutes of the January 15, 1998 meeting were approved by a motion from Roger Chiabai; motion seconded by Bob Huffman; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report - Chairman Bob Trelo announced committee assignments for 1998. A list was distributed to all Board members. A lengthy discussion was held on the proper procedure in appointing members to serve on a committee. Commissioner Carlson stressed his concern that a committee member may not want to serve on a certain committee and, therefore, should have the prerogative to refuse that particular committee. Discussion ensued on what was the past practice of previous chairmen. It appeared that the general consensus was that it was the Chairman's decision to appoint if he so chooses to do so. Chairman Trelo stated that he had talked to committee chairmen to get their approval to serve before he appointed them. Attorney Casale stated he had checked the Robert's Rules of Order and concurred that the chairman can appoint. Commissioner Carlson made a motion to accept the committees as appointed; motion seconded by Roger Chiabai; motion passed with 2 abstaining.

Executive Director's Report - Mr. Gardner referred to a February 4th letter from the COE that was mailed to Dyer Construction, Rausch Construction and Webb Construction in which they were reminded of the 40% minority participation goal. He stated that a February 24th meeting will be held at Gary City Hall for city contractors to discuss upcoming city contracts. We have been invited as well as the COE office. More information will follow after the meeting. Mr. Trelo noted that the Commission has formed a new committee, an Ad-Hoc Minority Contracting committee in which Commissioner Marion Williams will chair.

Mr. Gardner discussed a meeting held on January 26th with Jim New of J. F. New & Associates, Inc., wetland scientists and environmental engineers, whom we have entered into a contract with who will provide consultant services to us on mitigation issues/sites.

Land Acquisition Committee - Committee Chairman Chuck Agnew reported that there were no real estate motions to be made this month. Attorney Casale noted that Chase Street Farm Stand's license is expired. Attorney is working out a new license agreement with them. Mr. Agnew made a motion to continue leasing on a month-to-month basis until new agreement is complete; motion seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Project Engineering Committee - Committee Chairman Bob Huffman reported that there were no engineering motions to be made this month. He referred to a January 21st memo sent to the COE emphasizing the importance of completing the boardwalk at OxBow so that the city's contractor can begin their work in the same area. He also stated the environmental clean-up work at Gleason Park is nearing completion. Groundwater analysis is still being done for the city.

Legislative Committee - Committee Chairman Roger Chiabai made a motion for staff to send a letter to the State Budget Agency asking for approval for us to be placed on their agenda when the committee meets after the session is over. The Commission needs to have \$2 million of funds previously appropriated made available for draw down. Motion was seconded by Arlene Colvin; motion passed unanimously.

Marina Committee - In Committee Chairman Bill Tanke's absence, Mr. Gardner gave a brief report and referred to the status update report from Abonmarche. He was present at the weekly status meeting held at the marina every Thursday morning. Phase II of the marina construction appears to be on schedule. 40 new slips are being added and they have already been filled. A waiting list will

be started for future slips. He stated that it is a quality marina and Mike Doyme, harbormaster, is doing an excellent job at the operation of it.

Finance/Policy Committee - Committee Chairman George Carlson gave the financial report. He went over the financial statement and budget report explaining how the money is tracked each month. He stated that he intends to familiarize himself each month in the future so he has a better handle on income and expenses. Mr. Carlson then made a motion to approve the financial status statement for December and January and approve the claims for payment totaling \$50,800.47; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion approved unanimously. Mr. Chiabai questioned why the budget amount in the utility relocation line was lower than at the beginning of the 1997 year; he was informed that there had been a budget transfer approved at a previous meeting transferring money from one line to another in order to cover expenses in that particular budget line.

Mr. Carlson referred to a finance committee meeting held last week in which yearly service contracts for Jim Pokrajac and Judy Vamos were discussed. The revised legal contract was distributed to Board members and both parties have accepted the revised contract with an increase in hourly wage. Mr. Carlson made a motion that the contracts be approved retroactive to January 1; motion seconded by Chuck Agnew; motion passed unanimously.

Other Business - Attorney Casale informed the board members that the federal court has dismissed the Development Commission from the Ogden Dunes case.

Statements from the floor - There were none.

There being no further business, the next regular Commission meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Thursday, March 5, 1998.

/sjm