

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2005
AT THE JEAN SHEPPERD COMMUNITY CENTER
3031 J. F. MAHONEY DRIVE
HAMMOND, INDIANA

Development Commissioners:

William Biller
Robert Huffman
Arlene Colvin
George Carlson
Steve Davis

Staff:

Dan Gardner
Jim Pokrajac
Judy Vamos
Sandy Mordus
Mark Goodrich

Visitors:

Dennis Zebell – Lawson Fisher
John Fisher – Lawson Fisher
Imad Samara – Army Corps of Engineers
Elizabeth Johnson – Congressman's Office
Dan Repay – Hammond Councilman
John Gismondi – Hammond resident
Bryon K. Butala – Hammond resident

At 6:10 p.m. Chairman Biller announced that there was no quorum present for this meeting. No action items could be taken. He opened it up to the audience for general discussion.

General discussion ensued concerning the certification of the Griffith levee by FEMA. This portion of levee extends from the EJ&E RR west to Cline Avenue and then ties back to the south along the east side of Cline Avenue. When the levee was built, it was designed to IDNR 100 year protection standards. FEMA has since raised technical issues that need to be certified for the area to be eligible to be removed from floodplain designation. Lawson-Fisher presented a proposal for their engineering firm to complete a Phase 1 inspection and report of the current levee situation for a cost of \$9,700. Several other phases would be necessary; they were only seeking approval for Phase 1 at this time. Discussion ensued. No action was taken.

Several visitors expressed their concern and dismay about the length of time it is taking for the project construction to reach their area. A lengthy discussion was held updating them on the current status, and how areas north of the Borman Expressway could be considered in the floodplain of the Little Calumet River.

Hammond Councilman Dan Repay talked with the Board members about the project. He offered his assistance in any way that he could help move the project construction forward. Local share funding was identified as critical to achieving the expedited construction schedule.

A Work Study Session has already been scheduled for Saturday, October 15 at the Hammond Sanitary District. A regular Board meeting will be conducted at 8:30 a.m. first to take action on items needed. Media will be notified. Adjournment followed.