

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION HELD AT 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2010**

**Held at**  
**Munster Town Hall,**  
**1005 Ridge Road, Munster, IN**

Chairman Dan Dernulc called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. An Executive Session and Work Study Session was held prior to the public meeting. A roll call vote confirmed all five members present. Minutes of the October 13, 2010 meeting stand as posted.

**Development Commissioners:**

**Dan Dernulc, Chairman**  
**William Baker, Vice Chair**  
**Anthony Broadnax, Treasurer**  
**Tom Wichlinski, Secretary**  
**Ron McAhrn**

**Executive Director:**

**Dan Repay**

**Staff:**

**Sandy Mordus**

**Attorney:**

**Dave Wickland**

**Visitors:**

**Roberto Peredes – Army Corps**  
**John Mulesa - Munster**  
**James/Kalliope Dedelow – Munster**  
**T. Cholipski – River Drive, Munster**  
**Ruth Mores – Southmoor Road, Hmd.**  
**Bill Coomes – River Drive, Munster**  
**Leon/Alice Kozlowski – Munster**  
**Mike Echterling -Lake Co Fish & Game**  
**Bea Hanusin – Munster**  
**John Mogle – Munster**

**Visitors:**

**Don/Josie Seagraves - Munster**  
**Jeff Burton – The Times**  
**Fred Baginski - Hammond**  
**Jim Linstrom - Hammond**  
**Judy Knapp – Forest Ave., Hammond**  
**Susan Miller - Hammond**  
**Sylvia Vucich - Munster**  
**John B Drutis - Hammond**  
**Fred & Imoge Ritchie - Munster**  
**Philip Golden - Hammond**  
**B. Runberg - Munster**  
**Don Lynx - Hammond**  
**Bonnie Vavrek – Stateline, Ham'd**  
**Larry Blue - Hammond**  
**Terry/Pam Ahearn – Forest Ave., Hammond**  
**Bernie Mashura - Munster**  
**Dorreen Carey – City of Gary**  
**John/Jean Plusch - Munster**  
**Terry Hutsler - Highland**  
**Karen Lorenz – Southmoor, Hammond**  
**Peter Yackanich – Forest Ave, Ham'd**  
**Senator Frank Mrvan**  
**Arnold Schmidt - Hammond**  
**Bob Paulson - Munster**  
**Linda Cook - Griffith**  
**John/Laurie Czulno – Forest Ave, Ham'd**  
**MaryLou Daniels – Castle Dr., Munster**  
**Tom DeGiulio – Town Manager of Munster**  
**David Nellans – Munster Councilman**  
**Kim Poland – Hammond councilwoman**

Chairman's Report – Chairman Dernulc referred to the Executive Director for his report.

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Repay reported on several items:

- A productive meeting was held with the city of Gary officials. They are working on some details to improve the situation of the culverts at Chase St.
- Garcia Engineering is doing engineering/survey work for Forest Avenue. There are two (2) property owners who will not sign right-of-entries. Once individual surveys are completed, we will move forward with getting appraisals and will proceed with condemnation.
- The Army Corps is surveying area on Stateline for the design of permanent structure and semi-permanent block walls for flood control.

Commissioner Ron McAhron showed a presentation regarding FEMA requirements that was shown at a summit meeting the Commission held about a year ago. There is a process called A-99 that the Commission can apply for on behalf of the communities where insurance premiums can be lower because flooding risk is lower since lines of protection are in. This would be an interim relief process until levees become certified and the lengthy FEMA process takes the area out of floodplain designation. Information and presentation for the A-99 will be posted on the website.

Army Corps Status Report:

- SV-2 – Roberto Peredes from the Army Corps informed the Board members that the V-2 segment is substantially complete; only railroad closure punch list items remain and a small modification near a pipe inlet.
- SVII – Floodwall was completed on October 29. Miscellaneous punch list items remain.
- SVIII is about 90% complete for flood control portion. Anticipated completion of line of protection is November 22.

There was discussion on scheduling another demonstration on the railroad closure structure. Punch list items that were noted at the last demo have been completed so a second demo needs to be done asap. Roberto will relay that message as well as finding out who would be responsible if the RR closure does not work again - the Corps or the contractor.

Action Required – Chairman Dan Dernulc presented items for action.

- He referred for the claims for November to be approved in the amount of \$38,772.83. Commissioner McAhron made a motion to approve the claims; motion seconded by Bill Baker; motion passed with a roll call vote of 5-0.
- Commissioner McAhron then made a motion to approve the O&M claims in the total amount of \$7,410; motion seconded by Bill Baker; motion passed with a roll call vote of 5-0.
- Dan Repay discussed the gage station monitors placed at six locations of the river. The sites are posted on the website under "Monitors". Upon opening, a person needs to install JAVA first before elevations will appear. There is still some fine-tuning being done but they are posted. Dyer Hart Ditch is not up and running yet but will be soon, once it is approved by the Dyer Drainage Board.

**Finance** – Chairman Dernulc referred to the September Financial Statement and the September NIRPC invoice.

**Land Acquisition/Land Management** – Commission Bill Baker stated there is no update except that he is still pursuing several items, i.e. wetland mitigation, increasing amount of revenue through billboards, and other usages for the land that the Commission is responsible for.

**Project Engineering and**

**Operation & Maintenance** – Dan Repay announced that the Corps has developed a concise Emergency Flood booklet for all seven segments of the levee system. They will be distributed to each respective community. There will be another three table top “flood drills” next year so we are 100% prepared for a real event. The Corps will be finalizing a report on the drill to better improve the response.

**Legislative Committee** – Organization day for legislators is November 16. Session starts on January 5.

**Other Issues/New Business** – Commissioner Baker referred to the pictures of the 2008 flood event. He reiterated that the entire flood control system can only perform if everyone works together. There are many challenges that have to be overcome. One at a time, the Commission is working to meet those challenges. He thanked the residents for their patience.

**Statements from the Floor -**

- **John Mulesa** from Munster was glad that the number of sandbags to be used as part of the flood control is going down in number.
- **Laurie Czulno** from Forest Avenue in Hammond questioned whether a definite design plan was in place for State line. Mr. Repay stated that the Corps will be doing the design. Commissioner McAhron added that there is still a plan in place for this area in case of a flood event in the interim. The A-99 submittal will cover the area of Marshalltown to the State line.
- **Pete Yackanich** from Forest Avenue in Hammond inquired about pursuing future funding for O&M. He was assured by several of the Commissioners that it is our #1 priority and we have been talking and seeking support from legislators in this regard.
- **Senator Frank Mrvan** stressed the urgency of submitting a request/legislation before January 8. He was in agreement that those in the watershed should pay into a fund that would pay for O&M. Because of the large number of households, it would be a small amount.

Pump station repair/replacement was discussed.

- **Bob Paulson** from Munster inquired whether or not sand bags and the water bladders are certifiable. Commissioner McAhron replied that they are. Corps has to review and approve because their approval is needed to maintain the accreditation. Commissioner Baker also stressed that the Commission will make sure that the Corps identifies access points to the river.
- **John Czulno** from Forest Avenue in Hammond asked if condemnation had been started for the properties on Forest who would not sign a right to construct. Mr. Repay answered

**that the Commission has already started the process by ordering individual surveys; once they are received, appraisals will be ordered. Entire process will take at least 5-6 months.**

**Statements from the floor were closed.**

**Chairman Dan Dernulc proceeded to announce that he was just elected to the Lake County Council and will assume that position on January 1. He will be sending a letter to Governor Daniels announcing his resignation as of December 31, 2010. He thanked his fellow Board members for the outstanding job they have done serving on this Board, as well as staff.**

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50. The next meeting was scheduled for the FIRST Wednesday of the month, which will be Wednesday, December 1 at the Munster Town Hall at 6:00. (This meeting is scheduled a week earlier than usual).**