

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**HELD AT 6:00 p.m., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019**  
**Location: MUNSTER TOWN HALL, MUNSTER, IN**

Chairman Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. An Executive Session/Work Study Session was held prior to the public meeting. There were seven (7) Commission members present at roll call. Quorum was declared.

**Commissioners:**

William Baker, Chairman  
Tom Wichlinski, Vice-Chairman  
Tom Gozdecki, Treasurer  
Derek Nimetz  
Anthony Broadnax  
Ron Ware  
Dave Castellanos

**Visitors:**

Paul Daniels – Advisory Board  
Laurie Czulno - Hammond  
John Beckman – IWLA-PCC  
George Barth - DNR  
Tim Werner – Ciorba Group  
John Garcia – Garcia Consulting Engineers  
Tom Silich – Hobart Township Trustee

**Executive Director:**

Dan Repay

**Attorney:**

David Wickland

**Staff:**

Jodi Lambert

**Approval of Minutes -**

Commissioner Nimetz made a motion to approve the minutes from February 13, 2019 as presented; motion seconded by Commissioner Broadnax; motion passed with 7 aye votes.

**Chairman's Report –**

Chairman Baker welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for attending. It is the 11<sup>th</sup> year that we have been displaying the pictures of the 2008 flood event. The yellowing pictures are a great reminder of what can happen if maintenance on this \$275 million man-made flood control project is neglected. The Commission continues the practice of meeting with communities in the watershed on a monthly basis. Table Top and field exercises are also conducted with the local municipalities to ensure that we are ready in case of a flood event. The goal of this Commission is a true regional flood control project.

**Finance –**

Chairman Baker referred to the March claims in the amount of \$836,488.29. Commissioner Ware made a motion to approve the claims as presented; motion seconded by Commissioner Wichlinski. Mr. Repay explained a few of the claims starting with payment to IHC Construction in the amount of \$545,769.57 for continued work on the CFER Railroad Bridge Project in

Hobart. Garcia Consulting Engineers submitted claims for work on several projects including \$12,418.00 for the Marshalltown Paving Project, \$8,736.30 for the Hammond North V-2 Paving Project, \$13,053.60 for the Gary South Culvert Cleaning Project and \$10,882.30 for the Gary North Culvert Cleaning Project. These projects will be advertised this month and awarded at the April meeting. \$24,710.00 was paid to US Geological Survey for the quarterly monitoring of streamgages along the system. Finally, Patrick Engineering submitted claims in the amount of \$24,175.00 for work on the design of the Lake Station Levee and \$40,412.50 for management of the CFER Railroad Bridge Project. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 7-0.

**Executive Director's Report –**

Mr. Repay gave updates on some of the projects:

- The Commission is working on an agreement with the Town of Munster and Lake County for restoration of Hart Ditch. We hope to formalize the inter-local agreement within the next month.
- All offers have been sent on the remaining properties 30 properties that the Commission is required to acquire for the federal project.
- The CFER Railroad Bridge Project in Hobart is progressing. The temporary line will be shut down tomorrow as they move to the permanent line.
- Will County Forest Preserve is in negotiations to acquire Longwood Golf Course. They have been in contact with us and the Town of Dyer. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future to discuss the property.
- The repairs on the 600 feet of levee wall in Munster that was found to be leaking during the February 2018 high rain event is progressing. The USACE is working on design specifications for the repairs and hope to award the repair project this summer.
- The Harrison Street Bridge Project is progressing slowly. We have expressed our concern with the sluggish progress to our project manager, DLZ. We hope to see increased movement on the project this spring, weather permitting.
- Bidding on the Kennedy Avenue Bridge Project has been suspended. The project should be ready to re-bid this fall.
- The Chase Street Pedestrian Bridge Project should be moving this spring. The contractor was able to find an alternate route to the project site. The original route to the site was blocked due to INDOT work on Chase Street.

Commissioner Broadnax stated that the Pump Station Easements needed for the Federal Project seem to be coming in under budget. Mr. Repay said that most of the easements needed are on municipal owned properties. We hope to get the necessary easements donated by the municipalities which is why we are coming in under budget.

Commissioner Ware asked if Ellas Construction would be moving at an accelerated schedule for the Harrison Street Bridge Project. Mr. Repay stated that there were significant delays on the project due to NIPSCO utility relocations. Now that the weather is clearing, we expect significant progress on the project. The project is expected to be completed this summer.

Chairman Baker asked if the replacement of the Main Street Bridge will have any impact on the system. Mr. Repay stated that the effects will be negligible, but the bridge replacement may help with erosion along Harts Ditch.

**Other Issues/New Business –**

Commissioner Castellanos made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to advertise for bids on the Marshalltown Levee Paving Project; motion seconded by Commissioner Gozdecki. Mr. Repay stated that the levee has sank in some areas. We plan to build up the low areas and pave the trail so it can be used for maintenance and recreation. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Broadnax made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to advertise for bids on the Hammond North Stage V-2 Levee Paving Project; motion seconded by Commissioner Ware. Mr. Repay stated that the area between Indianapolis Blvd. and the railroad tracks needs to be paved so that it can be accessed for maintenance. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Wichlinski made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to advertise for bids on the Gary South Culvert Cleaning and I-Wall Repair Project; motion seconded by Commissioner Castellanos. Mr. Repay stated that the Commission is required by the USACE to inspect and video the culverts and sluice gates every 5 years. We will also inspect and repair the caulking the joint walls. The project area is from Chase Street to Martin Luther King Blvd. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Gozdecki made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to advertise for bids on the Gary North Culvert Cleaning and I-Wall Repair Project; motion seconded by Commissioner Broadnax. Mr. Repay stated that as with the Gary South Project, the Commission is required by the USACE to inspect and video the culverts and sluice gates every 5 years. This project area is from Cline Avenue to Martin Luther King Blvd and also includes the 4 culverts underneath the expressway. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 7-0.

**Statements from the Board –**

Commissioner Castellanos stated that there is a Construction and Skilled Trades Day scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Gary Area Career Center. He also said that Roman Bronson, Area Director for the Indiana Plan and Kevin Comerford from the Construction Advancement Foundation were guests on the LCRBDC Radio Show on WLTH AM 1370.

**Statements from the Floor –**

No Statements from the floor.

There being no further business, the next meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at the Munster Town Hall.