

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

HELD AT 6:00 p.m., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 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 five (5) Commission members present at roll call. Quorum was declared.

Commissioners:

William Baker, Chairman
Tom Wichlinski, Vice-Chairman
Levon Whittaker, Secretary
Ron Ware
Dave Castellanos

Visitors:

Laurie Czulno - Hammond
John Beckman – IWLA-PCC
George Barth - IDNR
Salvatore DiBernardo – 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 Whittaker made a motion to approve the minutes from March 13, 2019 as presented; motion seconded by Commissioner Castellanos; motion passed with 5 aye votes.

Chairman's Report –

Chairman Baker welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for attending. It is the 11th 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 April claims in the amount of \$363,753.23. Commissioner Ware made a motion to approve the claims as presented; motion seconded by Commissioner Whittaker. Mr. Repay explained a few of the claims starting with payment to IHC Construction in the amount of \$169,424.37 for continued work on the CFER Railroad Bridge Project in Hobart. Great Lakes Electrical Maintenance submitted a claim in the amount of \$16,081.00 for

monthly pump station inspections. This month, G.L.E.M. also completed detailed maintenance of each Pump Station in anticipation of our annual inspections. The City of Crown Point submitted a reimbursement for the Sauerman Woods Watershed Project in the amount of \$22,600.00. Ellas Construction submitted a claim in the amount of \$24,381.00 for continued work on the Harrison Street Bridge Project. Patrick Engineering submitted claims in the amount of \$33,845.00 for design of the Lake Station Levee and \$17,090.50 for monitoring and management of the CFER Railroad Bridge Project. \$80.00 was paid to Microbac Laboratories for quarterly testing of the natural spring on Chase Street. Finally, Weedpatch Co. submitted a claim for \$3,240.00 to complete weed control application along the system. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 5-0.

Executive Director's Report –

Mr. Repay gave updates on some of the projects:

- The Chase Street Pedestrian Bridge Project has been started. The project had been delayed due to INDOT work on Chase Street.
- Pre-Bid meetings for the Marshalltown Levee Paving, Hammond North V-2 Levee Paving, Gary North Maintenance and Gary South Maintenance were held during the month. Bids for the projects will be opened later in the meeting.
- The Harrison Bridge Project is progressing. The project is expected to be completed this summer.
- We are currently working with the School City of Gary to purchase property owned by them along Deep River. Lake County Parks is also a partner in this project.
- A large beaver dam was removed from an area that was affecting the in-project mitigation project.
- The Griffith Chapter of the Izaak Walton League conducted a clean-up near the river. The Commission supplied dumpsters for debris and tires.
- All offers have been sent on the remaining properties 30 properties that the Commission is required to acquire for the federal project. We are also working on obtaining the remaining Pump Station easements.
- USACE annual inspections are scheduled for this spring. Pump Station inspections will be conducted the 16th-18th of April. The Hammond, Highland and Munster segments of the project will be inspected beginning May 6th.
- The repair on the 600 feet of levee wall in Munster that was found to be leaking during the February 2018 high rain event will be awarded May 31st.

Commissioner Wichlinski asked if there was any money remaining in our tree reimbursement fund. He stated that NIPSCO will be removing numerous trees throughout the area and communities may want to take advantage of our reimbursement program.

Other Issues/New Business –

Commissioner Castellanos made a motion to open bids on the Marshalltown Levee Paving Project, Hammond North Stage V-2 Levee Paving Project, Gary North Culvert Cleaning and I-Wall Repair Project, and Gary South Culvert Cleaning and I-Wall Repair Project and award to the

lowest and most responsive bidder, pending review by engineer, attorney and staff; motion seconded by Commissioner Wichlinski. Mr. Repay stated that the culvert inspections are required to be conducted every 5 years by the USACE. The Marshalltown Levee sunk in 2 areas, the paving will build-up these areas as well as allow for maintenance and recreational use. After the February 2018 high rain event, it was determined that we would benefit from paving the Hammond North V-2 section of the levee to allow for access of equipment and personnel. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 5-0. The bid openings were as follows:

Marshalltown Levee Paving

Walsh & Kelly, Inc.	\$230,667.00
Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.	\$368,018.07

Hammond North Stage V-2 Levee Paving

Walsh & Kelly, Inc.	\$90,624.50
Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.	\$171,110.05
Site Services, Inc.	\$157,749.00

Gary North Culvert Cleaning and I-Wall Repair

Grimmer Construction, Inc.	\$302,699.00
Hasse Construction Co., Inc.	\$439,992.20

Gary South Culvert Cleaning and I-Wall Repair

Grimmer Construction, Inc.	\$111,925.00
Hasse Construction Co., Inc.	\$188,000.00

Combined Gary North and South Culvert Cleaning and I-Wall Repair

Grimmer Construction, Inc.	\$302,699.00
Gariup Construction Co., Inc.	\$499,700.00

Commissioner Ware made a motion to approve the 3rd Addendum to the Employment Agreements of the Executive Director and Office Manager; motion seconded by Commissioner Whittaker. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Wichlinski made a motion to approve an agreement with Garcia Consulting Engineers for oversight and monitoring of the Marshalltown Levee Paving Project in an amount not to exceed \$14,440.00; motion seconded by Commissioner Whittaker. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion Passed 5-0.

Commissioner Wichlinski made a motion to approve an agreement with Garcia Consulting Engineers for oversight and monitoring of the Hammond North Stage V-2 Levee Paving Project in an amount not to exceed \$14,400.00; motion seconded by Commissioner Castellanos.

Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Wichlinski made a motion to approve an agreement with Garcia Consulting Engineers for oversight and monitoring of the Gary North and Gary South Culvert Cleaning and I-Wall Repair Projects in an amount not to exceed \$36,080.00; motion seconded by Commissioner Whittaker. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 5-0.

Statements from the Board –

Commissioner Castellanos stated that members of the Audubon were guests on the LCRBDC Radio Show. The radio show is broadcast the 2nd Monday of every month on WLTH AM 1370.

Commissioner Wichlinski thanked everyone who participated in the Izaak Walton Little Calumet River Clean-up.

Commissioner Whittaker thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He stated that the construction season is off to a good start. The Commission continues to promote minority participation and will work to ensure that our contractors are in compliance with the goals.

Commissioner Ware thanked everyone that makes an effort to attend our meetings and stay informed.

Statements from the Floor –

John Beckman, Hammond, stated he read an article in the NWI Times regarding beavers, and encouraged the Commission to collaborate with the Lake County Surveyor's Office and DNR to locate a place where beavers can live without causing problems.

Laurie Czulno, Hammond, said she recently walked the levee near her home. Everything seemed to be in good shape, and she saw a beaver for the first time in the area.

There being no further business, the next meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at the Munster Town Hall.