

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
HELD AT 6:00p.m., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2017
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 six (6) Commission members present at roll call. Quorum was declared.

Commissioners:

William Baker, Chairman
Tom Wichlinski, Vice-Chairman
Tom Gozdecki
Anthony Broadnax
Levon Whittaker
David Castellanos

Executive Director:

Dan Repay

Attorney:

Dave Wickland

Staff:

Jodi Lambert

Visitors:

Natalie Mills – USACE
Laurie Czulno – Hammond
David Nellans – Munster Town Council
Judy Knapp – Hammond
Mark Gordish – City of Hammond
Charlie Svitko – Munster
Tom Silich – Hobart Township Trustee
Erik Sprenne – NWIPA
Sandy O'Brien – Hobart
Mike Yacullo – Ciorba Group
John Beckman – Catalysteco Consulting
Jennifer Miller – Lake Station
T. Ahearn – Hammond
E. Stafford – Hammond
Bob Fulton – City of Hobart

Chairman Baker referred to the minutes from the May 10, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Whittaker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Commissioner Castellanos; motion passed with 5 aye votes; Chairman Baker abstained.

Chairman's Report –

Chairman Baker stated that inspections were just recently completed on the \$275 million man-made flood control project. Preliminary indications by the USACE are that this will be the first time in the history of the project where all segments will receive an acceptable rating. Chairman Baker reminded everyone to not lose sight of the reason we are here, as he referred to the yellowing pictures of the 2008 flood event. There is ongoing maintenance necessary with the project and we still need to keep a watchful eye on things. However, we are far better prepared now than we ever have been in the past.

Finance –

Chairman Baker referred to the June claims in the amount of \$807,849.17. Commissioner Gozdecki made a motion to approve the claims as presented; motion seconded by Commissioner Castellanos. Chairman Baker called for any discussion on the motion. Mr. Repay proceeded to explain a few of the claims, starting with the \$500,000.00. This is the fifth and final payment of the six million dollar loan from the RDA. The City of Hobart was paid \$25,727.50 for continued work on the Wisconsin Street study. \$22,135.00 was paid to C&H Mowing for the 1st cycle of mowing the entire levee. The next mowing is scheduled for the last week of June. Patrick Engineering was paid \$37,578.20 for continuing work on the G&W/CF&E Railroad Bridge Study. Finally, \$14,125.94 was paid to Xylem Water Solutions for repairs to pump #2 at the Grant Street West Pump Station. Chairman Baker asked if there were any further questions and called for a roll call vote. Motion passed 6-0.

Executive Director's Report –

- USACE inspections of have been completed. The inspections went well and all indicates that we should receive at least a minimally acceptable rating on all segments. A final report should be available by September.
- Proposals for the Chase Street Manhole Extension Project will be opened later in the meeting.
- Bids will be opened later in the meeting for the Hammond and Gary North Levee Paving Projects. The Hammond Project will pave the tops of the levees from Calumet Avenue to Northcote and the Gary North Project will pave the tops of the levees from Chase Street to Martin Luther King Blvd.
- The Gary South Levee Paving Project, which paved the tops of the Levee from Chase Street to Martin Luther King Drive, has been substantially completed.
- Proposals for a SCADA System for the Burr South, Burr North and Grant Street West Pumps Stations will be reviewed and awarded later in the meeting.

Commissioner Wichlinski requested further information on the condition of Lateral 6 in Hobart Township. Mr. Repay stated that he and Chairman Baker have a meeting scheduled with the County to discuss this area. The area will be an ongoing battle due to repair blockages and beaver dams.

Commissioner Wichlinski stated the importance of having a connection point between the Gary South and Gary North Levee segments. Since both sections will paved, a lot more foot and bicycle traffic can be expected.

Commissioner Whittaker asked about additional work being done by Patrick Engineering as stated on their latest invoice. Mr. Repay stated that it is his understanding that the work will come at no additional cost to the Commission.

Update from the USACE –

Natalie Mills from the USACE gave the following updates:

Work continues at the Hobart Marsh Mitigation Project. This is a five year contract, with the contractor currently working on clearing and seeding of the site.

The contractor at the State Line Tie-Back is making progress. They received initial approval of the borrow site, with a final report on the material expected next week. The contractor further informed that they anticipate completion of the tie-in by the end of July. Ms. Mills stated that she feels an August complete date is more accurate. The contractor is planning survey work on the concrete wall for next week instead of waiting for the entire project to be completed. This will hopefully enable the as-builts to be submitted to FEMA as quickly as possible for approval of the CLOMR.

Other Issues/New Business –

Commissioner Whittaker made a motion to open bids for the Hammond Levee Paving Project and award to the lowest and most responsive bidder, pending review by attorney and staff; motion seconded by Commissioner Castellanos. This project will pave the tops of the levee from Calumet Avenue to Northcote Avenue in Hammond. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a vote; motion passed with 6 aye votes. The bids were as follows: Walsh & Kelly - \$152,184.50, Rieth-Riley - \$235,276.70.

Commissioner Broadnax made a motion to open bids for the Gary North Levee Paving Project and award to the lowest and most responsive bidder, pending review by attorney and staff; motion seconded by Commissioner Gozdecki. This project will pave the tops of the levee from the EJ&E Railroad Tracks to Martin Luther King Blvd. Chairman Baker asked if there were any questions and called for a vote; motion passed with 6 aye votes. The bids were as follows: Walsh & Kelly - \$415,885.00, Rieth-Riley - \$494,078.83.

Commissioner Castellanos made a motion to open proposals for a SCADA System for the Burr South, Burr North and Grant West Pump Stations and award to the lowest and most responsive bidder, pending review by attorney and staff; motion seconded by Commissioner Broadnax. Mr. Repay stated that this technology would allow us to remotely monitor the Pump Stations. Cameras and intrusion alarms can be added to the system. Commissioner Gozdecki recommended a complete technical review of the proposals to ensure that all the necessary features of the SCADA System were included in the proposal. After further discussion, the original motion was withdrawn. Commissioner Castellanos made a new motion to review proposals and award to the recommended contractor, pending technical review; motion seconded by Commissioner Broadnax. Proposals were received by Gasvoda and Associates, Metropolitan Industries and Wunderlich-Malik. Mr. Repay stated that, after review of all proposals, his and the engineer's recommendation was the proposal submitted by Metropolitan Industries. Discussion was held regarding SCADA Systems in general, the equipment to be used, and their use in various applications. Commissioner Castellanos asked Ms. Mills of the USACE, regarding her experiences with SCADA Systems. Ms. Mills stated that SCADA systems were used frequently throughout the district and she reported no major issues with the systems. Commissioner Whittaker stated his concerns regarding the technology offered and wanted to make sure that the equipment would not be obsolete within a few years. Chairman Baker asked if there were any further questions and called for a roll call vote. The motion passed 6-0.

Commissioner Wichlinski made a motion to open proposals on the Chase Street Manhole Project and award to the lowest and most responsive bidder, pending review by attorney and staff; motion seconded by Commissioner Whittaker. This is the last of the manholes projects to be completed. We have previously repaired the manholes inside the levee at Harrison and Broadway, and Lyman Avenue. Chairman Baker asked if there were any further questions and called for a vote; motion passed with 6 aye votes. The bids were as follows: R.A. Oros - \$81,750.00, Hasse Construction - \$110,814.00, Gariup Construction - \$149,700.00, Grimmer Construction - \$89,415.00.

Commissioner Gozdecki made a motion to amend the pending licensing agreement with Maya Energy, LLC, by granting an extension on the lease start date to December 1, 2017; motion seconded by Commissioner Broadnax. Mr. Wickland stated that Maya Energy has proposed to build a recycling facility on land that we lease to them. They have secured the necessary licenses and permits, but need additional time to secure their financing. Chairman Baker asked if there were any further questions and called for a vote; motion passed with 6 aye votes.

Commissioner Castellanos thanked Bob Fulton from the City of Hobart for the great discussion on the Commission's radio broadcast on WLTH AM 1370. He also stated that he hopes the bidders of the current projects include minority participation.

Chairman Baker reminded everyone that they can go to our website at www.littlecalumetriverbasin.org for information and to sign-up for updates.

Commissioner Whittaker commended the board and the staff for the job well done with the recent USACE Inspections.

Statements from the Floor –

Erik Sprenne, NWI Paddling Association stated that the Little Calumet River Paddling Event that was to be held on May 20th was cancelled due to inclement weather. He also mentioned gurgling noise heard from the Burr North Pump Station. Mr. Repay felt the noise was the sump pump, but would check into it.

Bob Fulton, City of Hobart, thanked Commissioner Castellanos for inviting him to participate on the WLTH radio broadcast. He also invited everyone to the Water Fest held in Hobart's Festival Park on Saturday from 10-5.

There being no further business, the next meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 12th at the Munster Town Hall.