



Kankakee River Basin Commission

6100 Southport Road Portage, Indiana 46368

(219) 763-0696
Fax (219) 762-1653

October 20, 2010

State Budget Agency
Attn: Jack A. Mynatt
Statehouse
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Mynatt:

Enclosed please find documents outlining the mission and goals of the Kankakee River Basin Commission, its membership and budget for 2010 and a summation of our projects, completed, ongoing and planned. If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,

Jody Melton
Executive Director

MISSION STATEMENT

The Kankakee River Basin Commission coordinates the water resources and water-related land resources of the Kankakee River basin in Indiana by promoting and protecting the varied aspects of the drain infrastructure with projects for flood control, drainage maintenance and environmental enhancements for natural resource conservation and recreational development.

VISION STATEMENT

The Kankakee River Basin Commission will provide an organizational environment to promote and sustain the development of surface and ground water for agriculture, residential, recreational and commercial purposes; to address water quality and in stream issues; to restore and protect fisheries; wetlands and aquatic habitat; and to ensure future availability of water supplies in the basin.

Flood control and protection

The Kankakee Basin floodplain must be protected from uncontrolled flooding. The existing levees must be stabilized and protected from erosion. There must be a permanent maintenance program. The program must be managed and implemented on a watershed basis to provide maximum coordinated protection.

Drainage maintenance

The economic power of the Kankakee Basin is agricultural production. The basis of that production is founded in the drainage of the basin. The existing drainage system must be protected, enhanced, and supported basin wide to provide for good storm water management.

Conservation and recreation

As the Kankakee Basin becomes more developed, the need to protect farmland and existing natural areas from overdevelopment for residential and business uses is very important. The opportunity to create and enhance areas to provide storm water management compatible with natural resource conservation and recreational development can be exceptionally valuable for economic development.

The Commission exists as created by IC 14-30-1. The KRBC contracts with the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission for staff and office space. In 2009 and 2010 the KRBC assisted the counties of the Kankakee Basin with flood fighting, levee repair and log jam removal. This occurred because of near record flooding in fall 2008 and winter 2009 and again spring 2009.

The next two years will be spent identifying additional areas that need levee repair and conducting a levee project involving repair of a vital levee near several homes in Jasper County. A potential failure at this site could inundate thousands of acres of cropland and directly affect the town of DeMotte and Interstate I 65 and the Norfolk and Southern Railroad leading to NIPSCO's Schaefer Generating Plant.

Our success is measured by the public consensus and support we can gain and by proving the economic worth of maintenance of the levee and drainage system.

The KRBC would like to work to obtain other grants besides direct appropriations for this type of work but without Corps certification and with levees in private ownership, the prospects are not good.

The KRBC has 24 members representing 8 counties: Jasper, Lake, LaPorte, Marshall, Newton, Porter, St. Joseph and Starke. Each county is represented by an appointee of the County Commissioners, the County Surveyor or his employee, and a member of the county's Soil and Water Conservation District. The Commission has one employee who is contracted through the Northwestern Indian Regional Planning Commission.

Attached are a members list and the operating budget for 2010.

Kankakee River Basin Commission (IC 14-30-1)
(6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN 46368)

Chris Knochel, Chairman, Newton County Surveyor, Kentland
Ken Purze, Vice-Chairman, LaPorte County Commissioners' Representative, LaPorte
Jim Lambert, Secretary, Porter County SWCD Representative, Kouts
Kevin Breitzke, Treasurer, Porter County Surveyor, Valparaiso
Eric Blad, St. Joseph SWCD Representative, South Bend
Ray Borggren, Marshall County Commissioners' Representative, Grovertown
Dan Bridegroom, Starke County Commissioner, North Judson
Dennis Estok, Starke County Surveyor, Knox
Larry C. Fisher, Marshall County Surveyor, Plymouth
Randy Glinge, Marshall SWCD Representative, Bremen
Myrna Harder, LaPorte County SWCD Representative, LaPorte
Tom Larson, Lake County Surveyor's Representative, Shelby
John Law, St. Joseph County Surveyor's Representative, South Bend
Brad Lawrence, Starke County SWCD Representative, Knox
John Nelson, Lake County SWCD Representative, Schneider
Jim Pistello, Newton County Commissioner, Sumava Resorts
Anthony Hendricks, LaPorte County Surveyor, LaPorte
Russell Pumroy, Porter County Commissioners' Representative, Kouts
Gerry Scheub, Lake County Commissioner, St. John
Kenneth Sebasty, Sr., St. Joseph County Commissioners' Representative, New Carlisle
Vince Urbano, Jasper County Surveyor, Rensselaer
James Walstra, Jasper County Commissioner, DeMotte
Vacant. Jasper County SWCD Representative
Vacant Newton County SWCD Representative
Jody Melton, Executive Director, DeMotte

Proposed Budget 2010

Income Source for 2010

Jasper	\$	3,800.00
Lake		5,450.00
LaPorte		11,350.00
Marshall		
Newton		2,700.00
Porter		5,500.00
St. Joseph		
Starke		6,800.00
Rental on River Edge house		3,000.00
Rental on River Edge Farm		15,000.00 (est.)
Rental on Thayer Farm		15,000.00 (est.)
Auditor of State of IN		67,658
Interest income		-----
Misc. income		-----
total	\$	<u>136,258</u>

Proposed Expenditures

NIRPC (Salaries, fringe)	\$	68,784.00
Accounting & Office		12,564.00
Phones, Postage, Copying		8,000.00
Expenses, Mileage, Meetings		8,000.00
ASFPM Dues and Conference		1,500.00
Property maintenance and insurance		5,000.00
total		<u>\$ 103,848.00</u>

Savings/Checking \$ 32,410.00