

SKAGIT RIVER FLOOD CONTROL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

May 18, 1982

A joint meeting of the Board of Skagit County Commissioners and the Skagit River Flood Control Committee was held in Hearing Room "C", Skagit County Administration Building, May 18, 1982.

At approximately 8:30 p.m., the Board of County Commissioners adjourned their portion of the meeting and Chairman Jess Knutzen called the Skagit River Flood Control Committee meeting to order.

Committee members in attendance were: Chairman Jess Knutzen
Secretary Arnold Hansen
Gwynne LeGro
Robert Dean
William White

As this attendance did not make a quorum, no formal action could be taken. However, discussion did continue.

The Chairman stated that a motion had been passed at the last Committee meeting requesting formal adoption of the Committee's Flood Control Plan by the Board of County Commissioners and that this would be the main topic of business for this meeting.

Commissioner Norris commented that he felt the Board of County Commissioners had recognized the Committee's report.

Mr. Arnold Hansen stated that he felt the Federal Emergency Management Agency had misinterpreted some of the meaning in the floodway report and he was concerned that this not happen to the Flood Control Plan.

Commissioner Miller asked the Chairman if a resolution was in order.

Commissioner Mansfield stated that he felt the Board of Commissioners had endorsed the context of the report and suggested this item be placed on next week's Commissioners' agenda.

It was agreed to formalize the plan at that time.

Donald Nelson, Skagit County Flood Control Engineer, made a report on a remote station pickup. This pickup has been recommended to Skagit County by the National Weather Service and will give the County the ability to read the Sauk River gage as well as rainfall at Darrington and Marblemount. Skagit County is in the process of obtaining this addition to the Early Flood Warning System.

The Committee indicated approval of this step forward in the Early Warning System.

Mr. William White expressed appreciation to the Commissioners for attending the meeting, stating that the reason for the joint meeting was to see some action taken on the report and that the Committee was interested in trying to help.

Commissioner Mansfield stated he felt the Committee should stay in close contact with the Commissioners as certain changes will certainly occur as the plan is implemented.

Commissioner Norris expressed his thanks to the Committee for their hard work stating that he felt the Committee had a good cross-county representation and he realized the committee had put in a lot of night work for no pay.

Commissioner Norris went on to say that Skagit County was in the process of negotiating with the Federal Emergency Management Agency on the floodway recommendation and it appeared that a workable agreement could be reached. Commissioner Norris expressed his desire to have the Committee help in these negotiations.

Commissioner Norris stated that a game plan could be worked out for the Flood Control Plan.

Mr. William White stated that one of the most important recommendations in the report was the Sauk River project. Mr. White expressed a strong desire to see a little something started on this project.

Commissioner Miller stated that the U. S. Congress is not likely to change its mind on the Wild and Scenic Act until a disaster occurred; that we must lay the ground work and implement a plan of action as quickly as possible should this happen.

Mr. Arnold Hansen stated we must try to communicate and request a Sauk River study along with some action on the other items recommended in the report.

Commissioner Mansfield stated that we must seek help; we will not get anything if we do not go after it. Mr. Mansfield requested the committee's assistance in seeking this help.

Commissioner Mansfield went on to say regardless of what has happened in the past, we must work for the future.

Mr. William White stated the committee must continue to communicate with the Board of County Commissioners on some regular basis to keep the Flood Control Program together.

Some general discussion took place.

Meeting was adjourned.



DONALD E. NELSON
Flood Control Engineer

DEN:bjs