

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NE(205)336-3287
SKAGIT COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ERNON, WASHINGTON 98273

W.H. 'BILL' SULLIVAN
1st DISTRICT
ROUTE 1, BOW

ARNOLD M. HANSEN
2nd DISTRICT
ROUTE 1, BURLINGTON

HOWARD A. MILLER
3rd DISTRICT
423 TALCOTT, SEDRO WOOLLEY

Handwritten initials and scribbles.

RECEIVED
JUN 4 1974
SULLIVAN

May 29, 1974

Senator Henry M. Jackson
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Sir:

The City of La Conner has requested the assistance of the Board of Skagit County Commissioners with regard to the settling and damage occurring along the Swinomish Channel in La Conner. The Board attended a meeting of the Town Council of La Conner on February 12, 1974 to discuss this situation.

We are aware, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is also studying the problems along the Channel, primarily concerned with the continuing necessity to dredge the Channel to maintain depth for traffic. The Corps has several alternatives proposed, some of which offer more permanent solutions for all concerned. We are also aware of the concerns of other private individuals and public bodies with regard to the problems resulting from dredging and traffic on the Channel. The problems of the City of La Conner are the most apparent and acute right now and others are of continuing concern.

The Board of Skagit County Commissioners feels that a permanent long term solution to the problems of the Channel should be the objective of all local people concerned and also in the best interest of those Federal and State agencies concerned with maintenance of the Channel as an important waterway. Such permanent solutions should include the following:

1. Maintaining the Channel at the depth required for commerce with a minimum of yearly dredging and damage to property along the Channel.
2. Repair of damage and prevention of further problems within La Conner and including the Port of Skagit County Marina.
3. Incorporation of a large enough and safe enough outfall for Drainage District 15.
4. Flood spillways for protection of the town and private dikes along the east side of the Channel in the event of a Skagit River flood.

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5. Sufficient stabilization and protection for the property along both sides of the Channel - that of the Swinomish Indian Tribe, and private owners.

Out of our discussions with the Town Council, it was decided that a meeting of the above concerned groups as well as private individuals should be called with the Conservation District, at the request of the town, acting as the original sponsoring body. This meeting was held on March 14 of this year.


It was decided at this meeting that the concerned public bodies and private individuals would request the assistance of the Corps in working out permanent solutions to these related problems. We also request the Corps to offer alternative methods of financing these solutions.

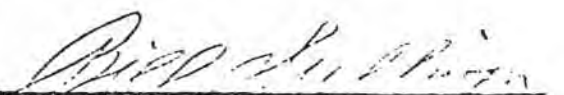
We would appreciate your immediate attention to this request.

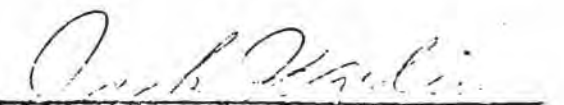
Respectfully,

BOARD OF SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By:


Howard Miller, Chairman


W.H. 'Bill' Sullivan, Commissioner


Jack Wylie, Commissioner

cc: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Representative Lloyd Meeds
Senator Warren G. Magnuson

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