

SKAGIT COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL COUNCIL

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 8, 1978 MEETING

Mr. Lloyd Johnson, Skagit County Engineer, called the meeting to order as acting Chairman.

Mr. Johnson informed those in attendance that the meeting was called to reactivate the old "Skagit County Flood Control Council", to help coordinate the proposed Lower Levee Flood Control Project with the Army Corps of Engineers. Also, the Army Corps of Engineers' personnel would bring us up to date on the Lower Levee Project.

Mr. Johnson introduced Mr. Howard Miller, Chairman of the Board of Skagit County Commissioners and Mr. Bud Norris, Commissioner, District 2.

Mr. Miller addressed the meeting and pledged the cooperation of the Board of County Commissioners to the Lower Levee Project. Mr. Miller extended Skagit County's welcome to those attending and to the members of the Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Johnson stated considerable right-of-way will be required to construct the Lower Levee Project. That Districts 1, 2, 3, 12, 13, 15 and 17 were most affected. That it will be necessary to acquire additional rights-of-way in these districts. The reestablishing of the "Skagit County Flood Control Council" could most effectively accomplish this task. Mr. Johnson added the new officers should be from these vitally affected districts. Also, the "Skagit County Conservation District" should be represented on the Flood Control Council. Mr. Johnson suggested a nominating committee be appointed to reform the Flood Control Council and nominate the new officers.

Mr. Earl Hanson, Dike District #17, suggested nominations be made from the floor.

Mr. Pete Walker, Dike District #12, raised a question of By-Laws for the Council. He thought the committee approach may be the best.

Mr. Hanson moved that the districts affected hold a committee meeting, elect officers and trustees. The committee will function for the council.

Mr. Bill Roozen, Dike District #1, amended the motion to include members from the County Engineers office as members of the council and the committee.

Motion as amended was seconded and passed.

Mr. Roozen moved that the Skagit County Conservation District be included in the council and the committee.

Motion seconded and passed.

Mr. Bob Hulbert, Skagit County Conservation District, accepted the invitation to be included on behalf of the Conservation District.

Mr. Hulbert suggested the council meet and have their business in order by March 22, 1978. This is the day the Army Corps of Engineers would hold a public hearing on the Lower Levee Project.

Mr. Johnson introduced Mr. Ray Skrinde, retired Army Corps of Engineers. Also Mr. Vern Cook and Mr. Forrest Brooks of the Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Cook introduced Mr. Ernie Sabo and Mr. Bob Frey, also of the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Cook addressed the meeting as to the status of the Lower Levee Project. It was stated the Skagit River Lower Levee Project is the number 1 project in the Seattle District Corps of Engineers' projects. We were made aware of the difficulty of obtaining funding and cautioned against complacency at this stage of the project. The Lower Levee Project is now in the advance stage of Engineering and design. The Lower Levee Project will give the Skagit River the capacity to carry a 120,000 c.f.s. flood from I-5 to the mouth of the river at a cost of approximately \$15,000,000.00. This amount is for construction only. Construction will begin in the summer of 1980 and will take approximately two years.

All rights-of-way necessary for the project will have to be acquired by the local Government at their expense. This right-of-way acquisition must comply with Federal Law. Upon completion of the project, ownership of the dikes and the right-of-way will be in the name of Skagit County and the various Dike Districts. The various Dike Districts will maintain the dikes as in the past. The acquisition of this additional right-of-way must be accomplished prior to the time of construction, (Summer - 1980) or the project will be abandoned.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Cook about the status of the Levee Project from I-5 upstream to Sedro Woolley. Mr. Cook stated that part of the flood control protection for the Skagit River was in the study stage. Mr. Cook continued all aspects of flood control must be addressed to achieve 100 year flood protection. These would include levees, by-pass, and upstream storage (dams). That should the Wild and Scenic River Classification of the Skagit drainage basin become reality, the aspect of upstream storage would be lost.

Mr. Cliff Magin, Commissioner Port of Skagit County, stated the Wild and Scenic River Classification could come at anytime and cautioned against loss of this option of flood control.

Mr. Hulbert moved the County Engineers call a meeting of the Skagit County Flood Control Council Committee, comprised of the Skagit County Engineers, Skagit County Conservation District, and those Dike Districts most affected, 1,2,3,12,13,15 and 17, within the next ten (10) days to elect officers and set up the business of the Flood Control Council. That a meeting of the Council be held as soon as possible after the committee meeting.

Motion seconded and passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,


DONALD E. NELSON
Acting Secretary

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