PRE-FLOOD FIGHT MEETING

Skagit County Courthouse
Mount Vernon, Washington

October 16, 1980

Don Nelson, Skagit County Public Works Department, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. on October 16, 1980.

There were 38 people present.

Mr. Nelson gave a brief talk on what has been done since our last flood on the Skagit River. Items which were covered are as follows:

1. A new recording device has been installed that will handle four calls at a time. This recorder will have an update on the projected river level every hour. This updated message will state projected levels at the Concrete gauge and the Mt. Vernon gauge on the Skagit River and any other vital information.

2. The local person at Hamilton to contact is Ron Wood. He will be the Hamilton Flood Coordinator.

3. Mr. L. Lewis is the local person at Cape Horn who is assigned as Flood Coordinator.

4. Skagit County has purchased four new radios which will allow using both the Skagit County Public Works' radio frequency and the dike districts' radio frequency.

5. Skagit County Public Works has increased their supply of sand bags and Mr. Nelson reminded other agencies to do the same.

6. There has been a change in when the Corps of Engineers will be moving into the Skagit River basin. They will be moving into this area when -0- damage is projected at the Concrete gauge instead of the Mount Vernon gauge. This will help the downstream areas and provide earlier assistance to the upriver area just downstream from Concrete.

7. Skagit County will use one sand supply pit which will be the Inman pit.

Mr. Don Nelson asked Mr. Sabo, of the Corps of Engineers, to give a brief talk. Mr. Sabo covered the following items:

1. Before any contractor can get paid by the Corps, they must be hired by the Corps. Mr. Sabo stressed that all contractors contact the Corps office which will be set up at Skagit Valley College in Room T-11 of the Technical Trades and Industries Building. This room will be well marked. Local contractors can get on the Corps hiring list now by contacting the Seattle District Office of the Army Corps of Engineers. The policy is to use local contractors if possible.
2. The Army Corps of Engineers can't pay for clean up after the flood is over. The Corps' responsibility is over when the river has begun to recede or the danger has passed.

3. Mr. Rus Nichols, of the Department of Transportation, wanted to know who was going to pay for his equipment if it was needed in a flood fight effort. A person from the Corps stated that they could not pay for this type of equipment due to the fact that it was owned by the State of Washington.

Mr. Don Nelson asked Gene Sampley, Public Works Director, if he had any comments. Mr. Sampley's comment was now is the time to get your sand bag supply to have on hand when needed.

One question asked of Mr. Nelson was who is going to help the people at Cape Horn evacuate and where will they go. Mr. Joe Cain, Skagit County Emergency Services Director, said he will take care of this problem.

Mr. Don Nelson briefly went over evacuation plans and the way to use them.

Mr. Nelson was asked to contact the Washington State Game Department in regard to the problem of beaver in the Conway Hill ditch and Fisher's Slough. Mr. Nelson stated he would send a letter to the Game Department on this matter.

Mr. Nelson then opened the meeting for discussion and encouraged those present to mingle and meet with other members of the flood fight team.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY: LARRY W. THOMAS
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Engineering Aide

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