

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, July 30, 1984

- 9:00 a.m. Discussion - Streambank Repair on Samish River - Commissioners of Drainage District #25.
- 11:00 a.m. Discussion - Proposed Timber Land Sales by State Board of Natural Resources on Irene Creek and Grandy Creek - Harold Villager, Department of Natural Resources.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, July 30, 1984, with Commissioners Norris and Rohrer present. Commissioner Mansfield was absent.

DISCUSSION - STREAMBANK REPAIR ON SAMISH RIVER - Commissioners of Drainage District #25.

Barney Scott, Lloyd Loop, and Dale Pierson, Drainage District #25 Commissioners, were present to request the County's assistance with a dragline and the supply of rock for preparing the Samish River streambank in order to prevent damage to the County road.

Jay Ensley, Assistant Director of the Public Works Department, stated that this project could be coordinated in August with other rip-rap projects.

Barney Scott also initiated discussion of another area in District #25 which was in need of repair. He explained that the problem occurs when flood waters leave a particular farm, removing the soil. He stated that the owner is in the process of placing cement blocks on his property to slow down the speed of the water as it leaves. The Planning Department, however, requested that the owner stop placing the cement until he obtained a Shorelines Permit.

Bob Schofield, Director of the Planning Department, stated that the owner has applied for a permit. Discussion followed with regard to the permit process. The Board explained that the permit process is the County's way of preventing harm to property.

The Board agreed to assist Drainage District #25 with their rocking project discussed earlier, since it was in the best interest of protecting the County road. The District should now make formal application for the rock at the Public Works Department.

DISCUSSION - PROPOSED TIMBER LAND SALES BY STATE BOARD OF NATURAL RESOURCES ON IRENE CREEK AND GRANDY CREEK - Harold Villager, Department of Natural Resources.

Harold Villager, Area Manager of DNR, introduced Ed Summerfield, of the Timber Sales Division in Olympia, and Jack Halsey, Mr. Villager's assistant, who handles timber sales.

Discussion of the Good Night Irene, Cascade, Irene Switchback, and Challenger timber sales followed. The Board was informed that all four sales are Forest Board sales. The revenue from the four sales would amount to \$1.7 to \$2 million, of which 75 percent would come back to the County.

Harold Villager stated that the Good Night Irene sale was some distance away from Irene Creek. He stated that there would be minimal drainage impact from this 80-acre clearcut sale, located approximately 3/4 mile uphill south of the Cascade River.

In response to questions regarding drainage impact, Jack Halsey stated that forest hydrology is a complicated issue. He stated that clearcutting timber has less of an impact on drainage than people would think, because during the wet seasons, the trees aren't growing and using the water anyway. He explained that new growth timber uses more water than old trees.

The Cascade sale is comprised of 90 acres. The Board was concerned with the cutting of trees bordering Cascade Creek. Harold Villager stated that 30 percent of the trees within 200 feet of a shoreline of State-wide significance can be cut in a 10-year period. He explained that DNR abides by the Forest Practices Act and the Shoreline Act in making their decisions.

Jack Halsey stated that DNR marks the trees to be taken within 200 feet of the shoreline, so it isn't arbitrarily left up to the logger.

In response to a question from Chairman Norris, Mr. Villager responded that the impact of restricting logging to outside of the 200-foot shoreline setback would only minimally affect the Cascade sale, while it would significantly impact the timber sales State-wide. He stated that DNR would, if requested, consider restricting the 200-foot setback on this particular sale.

The Challenger sale, consisting of 113 acres, would leave a buffer of alder in the floodplain of Grandy Creek. Beyond the buffer would then be clearcut. Mr. Villager stated that the design of this cutting would have zero impact on Grandy Creek.

The fourth sale, Irene Switchback, consisting of 180 acres, is located further up the hill from the Cascade sale.

Jim Merritt, a retired forester from the Forest Service, asked for clarification on several items. He asked how 30 percent of the trees in the 200-foot setback could be logged without damaging the other 70 percent. Mr. Villager explained the procedure that would be used in this particular case.

The Board thanked everyone for being present for this discussion, and asked that they meet again in the future for further discussion.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The Board approved for signature the Contract between Shapiro & Associates, Inc., and Skagit County for preparation of the Cypress Island Environmental Impact Statement, as recommended by Bob Schofield, Director of the Planning Department.


ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Rohrer motioned to adjourn the proceedings. Chairman Norris seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

  
Bud Norris, Chairman

  
Jerry Mansfield  
Skagit County Auditor  
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the  
Board of County Commissioners

Jerry Mansfield, Commissioner

  
Dave Rohrer, Commissioner