

**SEWARD/BEAR CREEK FLOOD SERVICE AREA
WORK SESSION
SEAVIEW PLAZA BUILDING, SUITE 122
Friday 11 January 2008
6:30 PM**

A. ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS

Chairman Bill Williamson
Vice Chairman Randy Stauffer
Bob White
Tom Gillespie

STAFF

Christina Stauffer
Administrative Assistant

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of this meeting was to prioritize the SBCFSA's planned projects for 2008 with input from the members of the public in attendance.

C. SUMMARY

Chairman Bill Williamson welcomed the public attending and explained how the project prioritizing process had worked last spring. He introduced the sheets of paper on the walls, each headed with the name of a service area waterway that was in need of some kind of flood mitigation effort. He encouraged the public present to write on these sheets about flood problems they were having on their property because of a particular stream. He also asked the public present to share their opinion of the urgency of each situation.

Vice Chairman Randy Stauffer summarized the concerns regarding Salmon Creek of **Bob Venable**, a Bear Creek resident who was unable to attend the work session in person. Mr. Venable feels that there are problems on Salmon Creek that need to be addressed from Kwechak Creek all the way to the Resurrection Bay. Mr. Venable expressed his frustration at the many impediments faced by property owners who would work in their portion of the stream to improve and rechannel the water and protect and harden the stream banks. Different agencies have conflicting opinions on what can and cannot be done. He is also frustrated by band aid fixes attempted in the past that do not work.

Nancy Erickson stated that the Salmon Creek problems as they involve the Marathon View subdivision had been listed as a priority last year and nothing had been done. She is frustrated that the mill rate citizens are being charged for the SBCFSA is not being used where it is most needed.

Jim Conant suggested that, as the effort made on Clear Creek last year was less than successful that a dredging of Salmon Creek below the confluence with Clear Creek was absolutely necessary to keep Clear Creek from backing up again. He

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is concerned that with spring high water the problem for residents along Clear Creek will be a grave one.

Maggie and Allan Baumunk of Marathon View subdivision expressed concern about a weak spot on the corner of their property where the hardened bank has failed that allows flooding through their property and down through all the properties below them.

Bob White, board member, added to the information on Salmon Creek by describing the enormous bed load through Eadsville to the Salmon Creek Road Bridge and beneath the Nash Road Bridge on Salmon Creek up and down stream.

Discussion was held about the possibility of adding to the previously planned projects on Salmon Creek to try to address as much of its length as possible. It was discussed as to the best way to accomplish this given the short time within the fish window and the fee charged by DNR for gravel removed from this “navigable” stream. The difficulties in obtaining permission from one particular property owner who has proven difficult in the past were brought up and it was suggested that the borough legal department be brought into the situation as soon as possible.

W.C. Casey offered some suggestions regarding projects that needed to be done within the city limits. He particularly emphasized work needed on Scheffler Creek which would need to be done within the fish window. He cited the need for culvert removal, engineering and a pedestrian bridge. Seward also has need for bed load removal on Japp Creek, dredging on the Resurrection River below the rail road bridge and for rip rap along Lowell Point Road to prevent coastal erosion.

Bill Williamson also reminded the board that property owners on Spruce Creek had been to previous meetings and expressed concern regarding some bank repair that is needed out there.

It was generally agreed that major work needs to be done on Salmon Creek this spring and that the board members and administrative assistant would start gathering information and beginning the permitting process right away to see what could be accomplished. It was also agreed that at least one project needed to be done inside the city limits this year.

Bill Williamson thanked everyone for coming and giving their input and encouraged them all to take a moment to write down their contact information and concerns on the wall charts.

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The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Christina Stauffer
Secretary

Notes Approved 18 February 2008
Date of Approval