

## Dredging of Doctors Pass and Approaches

You all have in front of you our depth chart. This chart was prepared by a volunteer who has formulated a method of calculation by linking his depth sounder a certain distance ahead of his GPS unit, charting the bottom of the bay and feeding this information into his computer – a process which he is presenting to the national conference of Power Squadron officials this week for their acceptance to be used by all Power Squadrons. He accomplishes these soundings in a few hours and then produces the shaded charts in about 4 hours, but he says this is becoming a shorter process.

You can see the problems we face.

We must assume that after a month the wording of the City Council budget item for the dredging of Doctors Pass has been completed. If not, why has it taken this long? Why, when the intent was clear, did the City have to wait a month to make the correction of a few words?

Has the Coastal Planning and Engineering Co. been hired to do our measuring and permit securing?

Now that we are at this point, how long will the measuring and permitting take? Why does it cost so much to make the depth and removal calculations? We have a person who does this voluntarily and it takes him a few hours to sound the depths and since this is an engineering firm, they must have the surface area of each shoal depth and the cubic yardage to be removed easily formulated.

So now there is a permit meeting (2) with the state. The preparation of these reports will take a bit of time. So when can we expect the meetings with the FDEP to take place? And the Army Corp of Engineers?

How long do we estimate the state will take to issue the permits?

How and when will we move forward in selecting the company to do the dredging? Are you prepared to select this company on credentials vastly different from the last selection? Will we find out all their past experience? Will we know that they own their own equipment? Will they have a date by which they must have their equipment in place to begin the job as well as a start date for the work and a time limit on finishing? Can we make our selection before the permits are collected so that we are able to move forward?

Since the last accompany was terribly ill equipped and substandard in every way, I would like to know if we ever collected on their bond? That was supposed to be our protection on that job and as we know, it afforded us very little because we had to pay another firm to complete their job. So that cannot be considered a protection in this year's contract.