

CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

Date: June 6, 2019
Time: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Location: Aberdeen Rotary Log Pavilion: 1401 Sargent Blvd, Aberdeen, WA 98520

ITEM	FORMAL ACTION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
1. Consent June 6, 2019 Agenda; Approval of April 4, 2019 Meeting Summary.	Decision: Agenda approved. April 4, 2019 meeting summary approved.	No follow-up action.
2. 2019-2021 Budget	Discussion	OCB staff will develop a memo summarizing the overall 2019-2021 spending plan and associated deliverables for all major work elements. OCB staff will continue discussion of the 2019-2021 budget at the July Board meeting.
3. Evans School Consulting Lab Presentation	Discussion/Direction	OCB staff will engage the Board on some of the topics raised by the Evans School Team that are connected to the long- term strategy assessment discussion at the July Board meeting.
4. Ruckelshaus Center & Governor's Office Involvement	Discussion	No follow-up action.
5. Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP)	Discussion/Direction	OCB/WDFW staff will continue discussion of the ASRP at the July Board meeting.
6. Community Flood Assistance & Resilience (CFAR) Program	Discussion/Direction	OCB staff will continue to develop draft criteria for the CFAR program with input from local governments, and determine

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		what topics will require Board input related to building a policy framework. OCB staff will provide recommendations in the fall for the scope of additional channel migration zone or erosion hazard mapping and assessments. OCB staff will provide a draft recommended public outreach approach based on milestones during the process to engage the both the communities and the public.
7. Long-term Strategy Assessment	Discussion/Direction	OCB Staff will continue discussion of the long-term strategy assessment at the July Board meeting, focusing on what Board members define as success, and what type of assurances are needed to develop a successful program.
8. Next Steps and Closing	Discussion	The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2019.

Attendees

Chehalis Basin Board Members Present:

- Edna Fund, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- J. Vander Stoep, Office of the Governor
- Jay Gordon, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Steve Malloch, Office of the Governor
- Tyson Johnston, Quinault Indian Nation
- Vickie Raines, Chair, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

Chehalis Basin Board Ex-Officio Members Present:

- Bart Gernhart, Department of Transportation
- Maia Bellon, Department of Ecology

- Stu Trefry, Conservation Commission

Welcome, Introductions

Chair Vickie Raines called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m., and welcomed the Board, staff, and audience. Chair Vickie Raines acknowledged the attendance of Representative Brian Blake (19th District House Representative) and Rob Duff (Office of the Governor).

Consent Agenda

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [June 6, 2019 agenda](#).

BOARD DECISION: Agenda approved by consensus with all voting member's thumbs up.

Approval of April 4, 2019 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [April 4, 2019 Meeting Summary](#).

BOARD DECISION: April 4, 2019 meeting summary approved by consensus with all voting member's thumbs up.

2019-21 Budget Update

OCB Director McNamara Doyle provided a number of updates on the final 2019-2021 Capital Budget appropriation for the Office of Chehalis Basin (OCB) and the approach Ecology will use to cover funds for core OCB operations and staffing that were not included in the agency's final 2019-2021 Operating Budget.

OCB Director McNamara Doyle confirmed with the Board that moving forward, the Board has discretion to allocate funding between on-the-ground projects/construction and advancing the long-term strategy. Before any budget changes are made that would shift the distribution of funds between these two categories, it would be brought to the Board for discussion and decision. Decisions made at the OCB Director level would include any shifts between line items within each category.

Below are links to the information presented on the 2019-2021 Capital Budget appropriation for the Office of Chehalis Basin:

- [2019-21 Budget Update Presentation](#)
- [2019-2021 Capital Budget Appropriation for Office of Chehalis Basin memorandum](#)
- [Chehalis Basin Strategy Capital Budgets Graph](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board Members affirmed the approach OCB Director McNamara Doyle proposed for how the 2019-2021 Capital Budget appropriation will be managed.
- Board Members requested OCB staff develop a memo summarizing the overall 2019-2021 spending plan and associated deliverables for all major work elements.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB staff will develop a memo summarizing the overall 2019-2021 spending plan and associated deliverables for all major work elements. OCB staff will continue discussion of the 2019-2021 budget at the July Board meeting.

Evans School Consulting Lab Presentation

Jim Kramer (Ruckelshaus Center) introduced graduate students from the University of Washington Evans School of Public Policy, who provided a presentation on their evaluation of the Chehalis Basin Strategy process. The Evans School Team included five graduate students and supervision from a senior UW professor. OCB contracted with the Evans School Team to conduct a process evaluation at this key transition point in the process where support from the Ruckelshaus Center is ending and the transition to OCB is complete. The Evans School Team presentation included their findings on where the Chehalis Basin Strategy is succeeding, identified opportunities for change, and diagnosed components of the collaborative process that have hindered progress, as identified through the students' in-person interviews.

Below are links to the presentations from the Evans School's Collaborative Governance in the Chehalis Basin evaluation:

- [Evans School Presentation](#)
- [Evans School Consulting Lab Logic Model](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Evans School students evaluated the interview results against an academic model of collaborative processes and found a number of strengths in the current Chehalis Basin Strategy process and some key issues to be addressed for future success.
- Evans School students appreciated that the people who agreed to be interviewed for the project were responsive and open during the interview process. The students appreciated hearing about the lived experiences of people in the basin, and the investment of time and energy required to be involved in this process.

Evans School Consulting Lab Activity

Evans School students provided each Board member and meeting participant seven dot stickers. Board members and participants were asked to put their stickers on the strengths and challenges related to

the Chehalis Basin Strategy process, as identified through the interviews, which resonate with them the most.

Below is a link to the results of the Evans School Consulting Lab Activity:

- [Evans School Thought Exercise](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Some Board members and meeting participants discussed the challenge of leadership turnover, and how there can be a loss of institutional knowledge when key individuals leave the process.
- Some Board members and participants noted their perception that levels of trust have improved over time in the process, and that the challenge of trust in this process is not focused on trust amongst the Board, but rather science and process-based trust. The question of whether people can trust that the Board's final recommendations will represent their needs. Some Board members noted that trust could be defined as assurances in the process, and how those assurances are ensured at the institutional and legal level.
- Board Members discussed that the definition of 'capacity' for this group is not necessarily related to the capacity to make complex decisions, rather it is the capacity to know if those decisions are the right decisions.
- Board members highlighted that using science-based knowledge provides the best foundation for decision-makers to make complex policy decisions, while recognizing there is always a level of uncertainty.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB staff will engage the Board on some of the topics raised by the Evans School Team that are connected to the long-term strategy assessment discussion at the July Board meeting.

Ruckelshaus Center & Governor's Office Involvement

Michael Kern (Ruckelshaus Center Director) provided the Board his reflections on the Ruckelshaus Center's involvement in the Chehalis Basin Strategy and upcoming transition out of project. He shared a letter written by Bill Ruckelshaus supporting the ongoing development of the Strategy and his thanks for the opportunity to be a part of the work that has been done thus far. Below is a link to the letter from the Ruckelshaus Center:

Ecology Director Bellon acknowledged the Ruckelshaus Center's involvement as its Chehalis Basin Strategy work ends, thanking the Center for its support of this important effort. Maia provided special thanks to the Center's Director, Michael Kern, for providing strategic advice and suggestions at important junctures of the process over the past seven years, including around creation of the OCB and Chehalis Basin Board.

OCB Director McNamara Doyle provided additional acknowledgements and thanks to Rob Duff for his hard work, dedication, and support of the Chehalis Basin Strategy, OCB, and the Chehalis Basin Board.

Below is a link to the letter shared by Michael Kern on behalf of Bill Ruckelshaus and the Ruckelshaus Center:

- [Ruckelshaus Center Letter](#)

Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP)

Emelie McKain (Department of Fish and Wildlife) reviewed the Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP) restoration scenarios for the Phase 1 ASRP document, and requested Board guidance regarding the ASRP vision statement and additional information needed to assess the scenarios prior to public release of the document in the fall.

Board members and meeting participants were divided into three small groups for facilitated breakout sessions to discuss the ASRP vision statement.

Below is a link to the ASRP presentation:

- [ASRP Presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Some Board members and meeting participants suggested that the ASRP vision statement's messages and ideas are very scientific, and thought should be given to how the vision statement can resonate with a broader, non-scientific community, identify how the ASRP fits into the broader Chehalis Basin Strategy process, and honor the local communities that are being represented.
- Board members requested more clarity on the common messages that will be used to describe the ASRP, and where these messages will be distributed.
- Board members agreed that the vision statement needs a story to accompany it; something that evokes passion while encompassing the science. There is a need to create a picture that people can relate to, words that people can connect to, and inspire emotions that pique interest and lead them to want more information.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB/WDFW staff will continue discussion of the ASRP at the July Board meeting.

Community Flood Assistance & Resilience (CFAR) Program

Chrissy Bailey (Office of Chehalis Basin) presented the Board with background information and a history of the evolution of the Community Flood Assistance and Resilience (CFAR) program. Chrissy then presented two case studies intended to exemplify how programs like CFAR could vary based on the policy foundation.

Below are links with more detail on the information presented on the CFAR program:

- [CFAR Presentation](#)
- [CFAR Example Case Studies](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members agreed landowners should be responsible for some part of the cost of retrofitting flood-prone structures.
- Board members agreed having a program that allows landowners to “pay along the way” rather than paying up front would be a more practical approach for the types of communities present in the basin. Board members suggested the fee structure be built to inspire and incentivize participation.
- Board members suggested staff engage with the Chehalis Basin Flood Authority to shape how the CFAR program is deployed at the local level.
- Audience members suggested that the CFAR program should also address structures that have not yet experienced loss or damage, but fall within the floodway or have the potential to be damaged by erosion/channel migration.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

- OCB staff will continue to develop draft criteria for the CFAR program with input from local governments, and determine what topics will require Board input related to building a policy framework.
- OCB staff will provide recommendations in the fall for the scope of additional channel migration zone or erosion hazard mapping and assessments.
- OCB staff will provide a draft recommended public outreach approach based on milestones during the process to engage the both the communities and the public.

Long-term Strategy Assessment

OCB Director McNamara Doyle provided several updates on the long-term strategy assessment, including the timeline associated with all of the major work elements in the 2019-2021 biennium. OCB Director McNamara Doyle identified several issues that the Board, OCB staff, and other stakeholders will need to collaborate on to enable the Board to reach informed, consensus-based decisions for the long-term strategy assessment. For each of these issues, the Board will need to identify which ones Board members are best situated to engage on, and which would be better delegated to a different forum.

Below is a link to the presentation on the Long-term Strategy Assessment:

- [Long Term Strategy Assessment presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members suggested local governments be involved in development of the CFAR program, and the Board's focus be related to the level of investment in CFAR rather than program development.
- Board members expressed interest in developing a process for how the Board can interact with local governments regarding addressing current and future approaches to land use.
- Board members expressed interest in looking at a federal briefing and federal strategy, and suggested that the Board explore long-term bond measures as a way to provide the long-term funding assurances that are needed for this effort.
- Some Board members noted that defining long-term governance, roles and responsibilities for management decisions should be the Board's top priority.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB staff will continue discussion of the long-term strategy assessment at the July Board meeting, focusing on what Board members define as success, and what type of assurances are needed to develop a successful program.

Next Steps and Closing

The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2019 in Centralia, WA.