

CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

Date: May 17, 2021
Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Location: Zoom online meeting

ITEM	FORMAL ACTION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
1. Consent May 17, 2021 meeting agenda	Decision: Current agenda approved; May 17	No follow-up action.
2. 2021-23 Budget Recommendations	Discussion / Direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• OCB Staff will provide the Board additional information on how much of the re-appropriated 2019-21 funds are currently unobligated.• OCB Staff will re-examine all proposed work elements to determine if any additional refinements can be made to reduce budget costs• OCB Staff will provide the Board more detail on the cost estimates for the \$22M in ASRP New Projects and how those projects would be prioritized.
3. Director's Report and Legislative Updates	Discussion	No follow-up action.

Attendees

Chehalis Basin Board Members Present:

- Vickie Raines, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Edna Fund, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Jay Gordon, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- J. Vander Stoep, Office of the Governor
- Steve Malloch, Office of the Governor
- Glen Connelly (alternate to Harry Pickernell), Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
- Tyson Johnston, Quinault Indian Nation

Chehalis Basin Board Ex-Officio Members Present:

- Michael Garrity, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Josh Giuntoli, Conservation Commission
- Bart Gernhart, Department of Transportation
- Rich Doenges, Department of Ecology

Board Staff/Board Guests Present:

- See Attachment A

Welcome, Introductions

Chair Vickie Raines called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. and welcomed the Board, staff, and audience.

Consent Agenda

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [May 17, 2021 Agenda](#)

BOARD DECISION: Agenda approved by consensus.

2021-23 Budget Recommendations

OCB Director Andrea McNamara summarized the potential major work elements and projects presented at the May 1, 2021, Chehalis Basin Board meeting for consideration as part of the 2021-2023 Capital Budget-spending plan. Updates also included additional information in response to Board member questions and suggestions in previous discussions.

Below is a link to the presentation materials:

- [2021-23 Budget and LTS PPT](#)
- [2021-2023 Capital Budget Spending Plan Memo](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members discussed the possibility of using unobligated 2019-21 funds, where appropriate, to advance 2021-23 budget priorities, and requested additional information on how much of the re-appropriated 2019-21 funds are currently unobligated. Board members were reminded of the value in holding some contingency funds to address unforeseen budget needs (e.g., cost overruns, new project identification).
- Board members suggested OCB staff re-examine all proposed 2021-23 work elements to determine if any additional refinements can be made to lower budget estimates.

Integrated

- Board members did not raise questions or concerns for funding the Integrated elements equally from the \$33.05M allocations for aquatic species and flood damage projects.
- Board members questioned and expressed reservations about the \$3M in funding for property acquisition within the Integrated elements, which would be over and above the property acquisition for habitat projects under the ASRP workplan and the property acquisition for flood damage projects under the CFAR workplan.

- Board members expressed support for other Integrated elements and did not raise questions or concerns about funding for the remaining proposed Integrated budget elements.

Aquatic Species Habitat Restoration

- Board members requested more detail on the cost estimates for the \$22M in New Projects and how those projects would be prioritized.
- Board members did not raise questions or concerns about any particular aspect of the aquatic species habitat restoration budget.
- Board members expressed support for having the ASRP Steering Committee make recommendations to the Board for how to adjust the habitat budget elements and how to prioritize specific projects within the overall funding level the Board sets for the ASRP.

Flood Damage Reduction

- Board members sought clarification and expressed support for adjusting the 2021-2023 budget to more explicitly identify which projects and other work plan elements would carry forward the work of the Local Actions Program (LAP).
- Board members expressed interest in a more coordinated approach to the development of recommendations for a comprehensive, basin-wide flood reduction plan. Discussion included:
 - Support for an approach that builds on the past work by the LAP advisory groups, and also encompasses other flood damage reduction efforts (e.g., North Shore Levee, CFAR, Flood Authority projects, etc.), to produce a coordinated set of options and recommendations for the Board to achieve its comprehensive, basin-wide flood damage reduction objectives, with or without the flood retention facility.
 - Staff clarified that capacity funding for state and local agencies, tribes, NGOs, and consultants to engage in an ongoing LAP advisory group process was not included in the 2021-23 budget spending estimates.
- Board members expressed support for completing the SEPA and NEPA EISs and further developing and refining avoidance, minimization, and compensatory mitigation (AM&M) analyses.
- Board members questioned and requested more detail about the \$6M estimate for preliminary engineering and design activities for the flood retention facility, and the timing of when additional engineering and design work would happen. Discussion included clarifications that:
 - \$6M would likely not be sufficient to reach 60% design of the facility
 - Some additional design/engineering work is likely needed to respond to the draft SEPA and NEPA EIS comments and to refine AM&M analyses (e.g., for fish passage components of the facility), and
 - Some additional design/engineering work would be needed to prepare preliminary draft permit applications for federal and state water quality permits.
- Board members sought clarification that funding requested for the North Shore Levee was not duplicative of funding the cities of Aberdeen and Hoquiam had received through other sources. With that clarification, no concerns or objections were raised about the level of funding requested for the West Segment.

- Board members discussed possible ways to adjust funding levels for local projects (e.g., include just the top five ranked projects, totaling \$9.4M) and expressed support for having the Flood Authority make recommendations to the Board for prioritizing local projects within the overall funding level the Board sets for the local projects.
- Board members suggested de-emphasizing new CFAR project implementation funding for retrofit/floodproofing and acquisition projects until current carryforward funding is used. No concerns or objections were raised about providing new funding for OCB to continue providing technical assistance to local and tribal governments, residents, and business owners through the CFAR program.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

- OCB staff will provide the Board additional information on how much of the 2019-21 budget appropriations are currently unobligated.
- OCB staff will re-examine all proposed 2021-23 work elements to determine if any additional refinements can be made to lower budget estimates.
- OCB staff will provide the Board more detail on the 2021-23 cost estimates for the proposed \$22M in New Projects for the Aquatic Species Restoration Plan and how those projects would be prioritized.

Director's Report

OCB Director Andrea McNamara Doyle acknowledged the efforts made for Board members to meet in person, highlighting the importance it has in the engagement process. Moving forward, OCB staff will continue to find meeting locations that can accommodate the new hybrid model, if possible.

Next Steps and Closing

Jim Kramer (Facilitator) reminded the Board of their next regularly scheduled Board meeting on June 3, 2021.

Board Staff/Board Guests:

- Alex Gustafson, Trout Unlimited
- Arthur Grunbaum, Friends of Grays Harbor
- Andrea McNamara Doyle, Department of Ecology, Director, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Brandon Rakes, Chehalis-Centralia Airport
- Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam
- Brian Stewart, Conservation Northwest
- Chrissy Bailey, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Celina Abercrombie, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Cindy Bradley, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Curt Hart, Department of Ecology
- Christina Riley, LECET/LIUNA
- Carson Coates, Rep. Jamie Herrera Beutler Office
- Colleen Suter, Chehalis Tribe, ASRP Steering Committee
- Dave Bingaman, Quinault Indian Nation, ASRP Steering Committee
- Dan Penn, Chehalis Tribe
- Emelie McKain, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Frank Corbin, Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee
- Frank Gordon
- Heather Page, Anchor QEA
- Jenn Tice, Ross Strategic
- Jim Kramer, Kramer Consulting (Facilitator)
- Jared Ross, LIUNA
- John Robinson, Consultant to Flood Control Zone District
- Ken Ghalambor, Ross Strategic
- Lee First, Twin Harbors Waterkeeper
- Lizzie Jespersen, Pyramid Communications
- Mark Glyde, Quinault Indian nation
- Mara Zimmerman, Costal Salmon Partnership
- Nat Kale, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Pete Krabbe, Pinchot partners
- Steven Lyle, Town of Bucoda
- Scott Boettcher, Staff to Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Shelby Thomas, Ross Strategic
- Tammy Domike
- Trent Lougheed, City of Chehalis, Flood Authority