

CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

Date: May 6, 2021
Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Location: Zoom online meeting

| ITEM | FORMAL ACTION | FOLLOW-UP ACTION |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Consent May 6, 2021 meeting agenda | Decision: Current agenda approved; April 1 meeting summary approved | No follow-up action. |
| 2. 2021-23 Budget Recommendations | Discussion / Direction | <p>OCB staff will provide the Board more information on how agency, tribal, and other partner participation costs are included throughout 2021-23 budget elements.</p> <p>OCB staff will provide the Board more information about how work elements and projects were identified for the “Integrated” category.</p> <p>OCB staff will provide the Board more detail on construction projects and on-the-ground results expected to be completed next biennium.</p> <p>OCB staff will provide the Board more information on 2019-21 funded projects that will be completed in the 2021-23 biennium.</p> |
| 3. Format of Future Chehalis Basin Board Meetings | Discussion / Direction | OCB staff will pursue options to provide the Board with an in-person/online hybrid meeting space for future meetings. |
| 4. Director’s Report and Legislative Updates | Discussion | No follow-up action. |

Attendees

Chehalis Basin Board Members Present:

- 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:

- Stephen Bernath, Department of Natural Resources
- 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

Acting Chair Edna Fund called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and welcomed the Board, staff, and audience.

Consent Agenda

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [May 6, 2021 Meeting Agenda](#)

BOARD DECISION: Agenda approved by consensus.

Approval of April 1, 2021 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [April 1, 2021 Meeting Summary](#).

BOARD DECISION: April 1, 2021 meeting summary approved by consensus.

2021-23 Budget Recommendations

OCB Director Andrea McNamara provided the Board an update on the current status of 2021-2023 biennium budget and work plan estimates, and the major factors, projects, and program elements the Board needs to consider in order to approve its 2021-23 biennium budget and work plan. Board members were reminded that they need to approve a 2021-23 spending plan by June 3 to avoid risking delays in the ability to begin spending new appropriations by July 1.

The Legislature approved 2021-23 capital budget includes a \$70 million appropriation for the Chehalis Basin Strategy split between projects to protect and restore aquatic species habitat (\$33.05M), projects to reduce flood damage (\$33.05M), and operations of the Office of Chehalis Basin and Chehalis Basin Board (\$3.9M). The legislative proviso does stipulate that “Specific projects must be approved by at least six of seven voting members of board..., and the Board has discretion to reallocate funding ... if needed to meet the objectives of this appropriation and approved by at least six of seven voting members.”

2021-23 Biennium Budget element summary

OCB staff created four main funding categories for the range of actions proposed within the Basin: Aquatic Species Habitat Restoration Actions, Flood Damage Reduction Actions, Integrated Actions, and Core OCB and Chehalis Basin Board Operations and Staffing. Each main category includes sub-categories

with specific work elements and budget estimates. The table below summarizes the total high-range budget estimates received to-date for each category in the 2021-23 biennium.

2021-23 Initial Budget Totals (High estimates)

| BUDGET ELEMENT | 2021-2023 (IN MILLIONS) |
|--|--------------------------------|
| AQUATIC SPECIES HABITAT RESTORATION | |
| New Projects | \$22.6 |
| Implementation Support | \$6.2 |
| Program Participation | \$4.2 |
| All-H and Predation Integration | \$0.1 |
| <i>Sub-Total</i> | <i>\$33.1</i> |
| FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION | |
| Flood Retention Facility and Airport Levee | \$20.7 |
| Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee | \$4.0 |
| Flood Authority Local Projects | \$10.0 |
| Community Floodplain Assistance & Resilience Program (CFAR) | \$3.0 |
| Local Area Structural Flood Protection & Floodplain Mapping/Modeling | \$2.0 |
| <i>Sub-Total</i> | <i>\$39.7</i> |
| INTEGRATED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS | |
| Skookumchuck Dam Analysis | \$0.5 |
| Erosion Management | \$0.3 |
| Floodplain Acquisition Program & Land Use Recommendations | \$3.6 |
| Community Outreach/ Engagement | \$0.3 |
| State, Tribal, and Local Agency Program Participation | \$2.1 |
| <i>Sub-Total</i> | <i>\$6.8</i> |
| MANAGEMENT, COORDINATION, AND ADMINISTRATION OF STRATEGY | |
| Core OCB and Chehalis Basin Board Operations and Staffing | \$3.9 |
| TOTAL | \$83.6 |

OCB Director Andrea McNamara summarized the anticipated work to be completed for each of the budget elements above, acknowledging that the total \$83.6M budget is significantly higher than the \$70M appropriation, and that the Board will ultimately need to reduce estimates for some budget elements. Other major factors and variables highlighted that the Board should consider included:

- Funding for integrated strategy elements will need to come from one or both of the allocations for aquatic species and flood damage projects
- The ASRP Steering Committee recommended a budget for the \$33M (except All-H and predation integration)
- Funding to continue supporting state, local, and tribal participation is beyond OCB and Chehalis Basin Board administrative costs
- Flood retention facility cost estimates include up to \$6M for completing 60% design of the flood retention facility

- The Cities of Aberdeen and Hoquiam received \$9M through other capital budget sources, and have shifted their request to \$4M for the West Segment of the North Shore Levee
- Funding for some flood damage reduction and integrated work is more readily scalable than for other projects (e.g., CFAR, Flood Authority projects, other local actions, and floodplain acquisition)

Below is a link to the presentation materials:

- [2021-23 Budget and LTS PPT](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members discussed the model for making budget decisions under the proviso and their role in making allocation decisions across budget categories.
- Board members requested more detail about how work elements and projects were identified for the “Integrated” category.
- OCB staff provided the Board an update on the conversations occurring with TransAlta regarding the Skookumchuck Dam analysis. OCB staff will provide the Board more information at future Board meetings.
- Board members requested more information on more info on how agency, tribal, and other partner participation costs are included throughout 2021-23 budget elements.
- Board members discussed the idea of scheduling a decision halfway through the 2021-23 biennium for the Board to assess spending and progress on projects and work plans, and to make any modifications to the spending plan as appropriate.
- Board members requested more detail on construction projects and on-the-ground results expected to be completed next biennium.
- Board members requested more information on 2019-21 funded projects that will be completed in the 2021-23 biennium.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

- OCB staff will provide the Board more information on more info on how agency, tribal, and other partner participation costs are included throughout 2021-23 budget elements.
- OCB staff will provide the Board more information about how work elements and projects were identified for the “Integrated” category.
- OCB staff will provide the Board more detail on construction projects and on-the-ground results expected to be completed next biennium.
- OCB staff will provide the Board more information on 2019-21 funded projects that will be completed in the 2021-23 biennium.

Format of Future Chehalis Basin Board Meetings

OCB Director Andrea McNamara Doyle reminded the Board of their assumption that all Board meetings will be held virtually between January-June 2021. As health and safety requirements change, and there has been a change in both Board and public exceptions of having virtual meeting options, OCB staff asked for guidance from the Board on the format for future Board meetings.

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members expressed interest in having future meetings that would accommodate a hybrid approach with both virtual and in-person options.
- Board members highlighted the need to have a facility that had sufficient safety protocols in place to ensure comfort for those participating in-person.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB staff will pursue options to provide the Board with an in-person/online hybrid meeting space for future meetings.

Director's Report

OCB Director Andrea McNamara Doyle introduced Nat Kale (OCB Staff) who provided the Board a summary of a recent restoration economy synthesis memo related to the ASRP. While some estimates of restoration activities give wide estimates of job creation, OCB and WDFW staff estimate that restoration activities undertaken under the Aquatic Species Restoration Plan support about 16 jobs per \$1 million dollars spent, or about 700 total jobs between July 2015 and April 2021. Staff are recommending that Board members use these estimates for messaging regarding economic benefits related to the ASRP.

Below is a link to the presentation materials:

- [Restoration Economy Synthesis Memo](#)

Next Steps and Closing

Jim Kramer (Facilitator) reminded the Board of their next regularly scheduled Board meeting on May 17, 2021.

Board Staff/Board Guests:

- Arthur Grunbaum, Friends of Grays Harbor County
- Andrea McNamara Doyle, Department of Ecology, Director, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Brandon Rakes, Chehalis-Centralia Airport
- Brett Swift
- Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam
- Brian Stewart, Conservation Northwest
- 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 Granberg, Department of Natural Resources
- Dave Bingaman, Quinault Indian Nation, ASRP Steering Committee
- Diane Butorac, Department of Ecology
- Deken Letinch, LIUNA
- Devin Reck, Department of Transportation
- 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
- Ken Ghalambor, Ross Strategic
- Kris Koski, City of Aberdeen
- Larry Karpack, Watershed Science and Engineering
- Lee First, Twin Harbors Waterkeeper
- Izabella Zucker, Pyramid Communications
- Mark Glyde, Quinault Indian Nation
- Mara Zimmerman, Coastal Salmon Partnership
- Merri Martz, Anchor QEA
- Nat Kale, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Nicole Czarnomski, Department of Fish and Wildlife, ASRP Steering Committee
- 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