



**10:00 a.m. via Zoom
September 15, 2022 - Meeting Notes**

Flood Authority Members Present			
Representative	Jurisdiction	Representative	Jurisdiction
Edna Fund	Lewis County	Duane Crouse	Napavine
Vickie Raines	Grays Harbor County	J. Vander Stoep	Pe Ell
Darrin Raines	Cosmopolis	Mike Olden	Montesano
Brian Shay	Hoquiam	Brad Murphy	Thurston County
Richard Armstrong	Oakville	Tony Ketchum	Chehalis
Steve Lyle	Bucoda	Ron Averill	Centralia

Flood Authority Members Absent			
Dee Anne Shaw	Aberdeen		

Staff Members Present			
Scott Boettcher	Megan Sathre	Lee Napier	

Others Present			
Jeffery Budnick	David Curtis	Nat Kale	The Chronicle
Jay Gordon			

1. Call to Order

Vickie Raines, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

2. Introductions & Determination of Quorum

Introductions were made. 12 Flood authority members were present, there was a quorum.

3. Approval of September 15, 2022 Agenda

Vickie called for a vote to approve the meeting agenda for September 15, 2022. The agenda was approved.

Meeting materials were posted to

https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1492/34798/meetings.aspx#Sept2022

4. Approval of May 19, 2022 Meeting Notes

Vickie called for a vote to approve the meeting notes from July 21, 2022. The minutes were approved.

5. Financial Reports

Lee Napier from Lewis County Community Development reported that expenditures for July were \$8,605.49 for salaries and wages (Lewis County Staff) and consulting services (Scott). Expenditures for August were \$8,104.78 for the same budget lines.

Ron asked if the money paid for consulting services is paid in advance or reimbursed. Lee responded that they are reimbursed.

Vickie asked for approval of the financial reports. There was consensus to approve.

6. Flood Warning System

A. Presentation by Dave Curtis

Dave Curtis from WEST Consultants gave his annual update presentation on the Chehalis River Basin Flood Warning System. (*See presentation for details*).

Dave will provide an update to the 2023 O&M costs prior to the next Flood Authority meeting.

After the conclusion of the presentation, the members of the Flood Authority asked questions and participated in discussion. J. Vander Stoep brought up concerns regarding the Black River gage.

Richard Armstrong asked about the Grand Mound situation and the members discussed avenues for improvement. Dave suggested drafting a letter to raise awareness and request action. Vickie asked if there were any objections to Scott drafting a letter to the National Weather Service, the senator, and the office of the Chehalis Basin. The members had no objections. Scott will draft a letter and bring it back to the next meeting.

Scott, Dave, and Edna will be meeting with the Chehalis Basin Board next week to talk with them about promoting and getting the word out about the Flood Warning System.

Dave is going to look at the USGS gages to see the benefits that they bring and have future discussion and decision making on how to continue funding them.

7. Outreach Visits

Scott gave an update on the recent and upcoming outreach visits. Between June and September, 12 visits were completed. There are two visits remaining for Thurston County and Cosmopolis.

8. 2023-25 Local Projects

A. 2023-25 Requests

Scott gave a presentation giving an update on the 2023-25 local projects. This presentation was also provided to the Chehalis Basin Board recently. (*See presentation for details*).

Scott will be sending letters out today to request additional information from those who submitted project request. The review team will then be looking at budgeting and return on investment as well as whether the funding could be shared by other entities.

B. Request for 2021-23 Reserve Funds

Scott presented documentation outlining requests for additional 2021-23 unobligated reserve funds. On July 7th the Chehalis Basin Board entertained a request to fund 7 local projects totaling \$1.4 million. That was honored and the money is secured. On August 3rd the Flood Authority submitted a letter asking for an additional \$2.8 to \$3.4 million for additional projects. The focus was to jumpstart projects and pre-purchasing some pumps and generators. The request is still pending.

C. 2023-25 Request Offset by 08/03/2022 Reserve Funds Request

Scott displayed a slide showing the 2023-25 cost if modified by the 08/03/2022 funding request. Scott is still working with the office of the Chehalis Basin. As Scott learns more he will keep the members informed.

Vickie noted that not many people are asking for these funds. Scott has done a great job securing funds and looking ahead.

9. Flood Authority Look Ahead

Scott shared a document looking at Flood Authority matters requiring significant staff attention over the remainder of the 2021-23 biennium. (*See document for details*.)

Scott will be reaching out and forming a plan for succession. Many of the members expressed their appreciation for Scott and the work he does for the Flood Authority.

10. Chehalis Basin Board

Jay Gordon: Jim Kramer is stepping out of his role so we have been looking for a replacement. The Board did hire someone to do a mid-course assessment to analyze where the Chehalis Basin Board is at. The analysis is in progress and should be done mid-November to early December. There will be a special budget meeting on September 30th at 9:00 via Zoom to define all the expenses and projects for the next couple years.

J. Vander Stoep: The budget meeting is going to be how the Board will propose and forecast the next capital budget. Scott displayed a document from J. showing Flood Flow Peaks from 1996 versus 2022 for the Upper Chehalis, Newaukum, Skookumchuck, and Mellen Street. The Upper Chehalis saw significant improvement, which demonstrates the value of water retention in an overall 100 year flood. Ron noted the impact of this on the transportation corridor.

Vickie Raines: The Board is trying to submit the 2023-25 budget and filling Jim Kramer's position.

Edna Fund: The Board is sending out postcards asking people to complete a survey about how flooding impacted them. There is a webinar about the Skookumchuck Webinar on September 28th at 6:00pm.

11. Public Comment

There was no public who wished to comment.

12. Reports

A. Chair's Report

Chair Raines did not have any additional information to share.

B. Member's report

There were no member's reports.

C. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report out.

13. Confirm Next Regular Meetings, Topics and Location

The next meeting will occur on November 17, 2022, 10:00 A.M. via Zoom or in person.

Adjournment was at 11:18.