

## DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

### Office of Chehalis Basin *Chehalis Board Appointment Process/Scope*

Following document is intended to outline for discussion purposes with Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority members several key elements to be considered as part of the Chehalis Board appointment process.

**1. Board purpose as defined in statute.**

- a. Oversee implementation of the Strategy, which is to include:
  - A detailed set of actions to reduce flood damage and improve aquatic species habitat.
  - An implementation schedule.
  - Quantified measures for evaluating the success of implementation.
- b. Amend the Strategy as necessary to include new scientific information and needed changes to the actions to achieve the overall purpose of the Strategy.
- c. Develop biennial and supplemental budget recommendations to the Governor.

**2. Statutory considerations for appointments.**

- a. The legislature provided guidance that Board membership should collectively:
  - Provide expertise necessary to provide strong oversight for implementation of the Chehalis Basin Strategy,
  - Provide extensive knowledge of local government processes and functions, and
  - Have an understanding of issues relevant to reducing flood damages and restoring aquatic species.
- b. Additionally, [Act](#) stipulates no member may have a “financial or regulatory interest in the work of the Board.”

**3. Initial terms proposed in 2017 legislation.**

Board terms are four years, except for the initial staggered terms. Current law does not define initial terms. Terms in 2017 request legislation (suggest all terms be calculated from July 1):

<b>Position:</b>	<b>2017–2019 (2 years)</b>	<b>2017–2020 (3 years)</b>	<b>2017-2021 (4 years)</b>
Governor #1	X		
Governor #2		X	
Flood Authority #1	X		
Flood Authority #2		X	
Flood Authority #3		X	
Chehalis Tribe			X
Quinault Nation			X

**4. Timeline for initiating and completing Board appointment process is tentatively anticipated for April 2017; however, timeline is also in-flux for reasons described further.**

May be appropriate to delay by a few months. Several inter-connected items are in play:

- a. **2017 proposed legislation to clarify process for Board appointments:** [HB 1150](#) and [SB 5097](#) are being heard. Clarifies tribal appointments and specifies initial staggered terms.
- b. **Governor’s Work Group Strategy:** Expected to be completed in June. We don’t want to complicate the transition from the Work Group to the new Board.
- c. **Programmatic EIS is being finalized:** Timing and approach still being resolved.
- d. **Clarifying “no financial or regulatory interest” provision in statute:** Questions raised at recent Work Group meeting. Need to ensure these provisions are workable and clear. Clarify as part of current legislation?

5. **Initial suggestion for Board member selection process:**

- a. Flood Authority identifies appointment process for the three FA members: Interests to be represented; solicitation process; decision process.
- b. Issue a joint solicitation for Governor and Flood Authority positions: Timing TBD.  
Question: How do we differentiate between these two sets of appointments for interested applicants?
  - Can we characterize the Governor positions as representing region-wide or state-wide interests; and the Flood Authority positions as representing local governments and local community interests -- even though the legislation is not explicit?
- c. Set a deadline for application: Request submittals by a date certain.
  - Governor's Boards web site information does not include such deadlines. But they will work with parties to use "request" deadlines to achieve a timely process.
- d. Content of application form:
  - Governor's form is at <https://fortress.wa.gov/es/governor/boardsapplication>
  - FA form can be much simpler.