

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
Telephone Meeting -- 9:00 A.M.
August 17, 2017 -- Meeting Notes

Board Members Present: Edna Fund, Lewis County Commissioner; Richard Armstrong, City of Oakville; Lonnie Willey, Town of Pe Ell; Ron Averill, City of Centralia; Frank Chestnut, City of Cosmopolis; Bud Blake, Thurston County Commissioner; Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam; Kris Koski, City of Aberdeen.

Board Members Absent: Vickie Raines, Grays Harbor County Commissioner; Jim Haslett, City of Napavine; Alan Vanell, Town of Bucoda; Trent Lougheed, City of Chehalis; Dan Wood, City of Montesano.

Others Present: J. Vander Stoep, Town of Pe Ell alternate; Dale Lewis, Congresswoman Herrera Beutler office; Lee Napier, Lewis County; Jim Kramer, Facilitator; Scott Boettcher, Staff.

Handouts/Materials Used:

- Agenda
- Meeting Notes from July 20, 2017
- Local Projects Update
- Outreach Update
- Financial Report
- See https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1492/34798/meetings.aspx#August2017

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Fund called the meeting to order.

2. Introductions

Self-introductions were made as people phoned in.

3. Approval of Agenda

One change was proposed and added to the agenda regarding USGS proposal. With that change, the Agenda was approved by consensus.

4. Approval of Meeting Notes

A few small punctuation and usage edits were noted by Ron Averill and Kris Koski and directed to Pat Anderson. With that, no further corrections or additions were made and the notes were approved by consensus.

5. Update -- Chehalis Basin Board Decision to Continue Basin Strategy

Jim updated the Flood Authority on recent funding actions of the Office of Chehalis Basin Board. At their 8-03-2017 meeting, several funding options were presented to the Board. The Board selected an option that would carry the full Chehalis Basin effort forward (local projects, EIS, restorative alternative, ASARP, etc.) through November 2017. This option enables continuing to move forward as well bringing several efforts to a logical stopping point should there be no further funding. Should there be new funding (i.e., a new 2017-19 Capital Budget), then “borrowed” funds from local projects and habitat projects would be returned (i.e., deobligations would be reobligated). Jim noted that the decision of the Board, in that it was unanimously supported, highlights a hallmark of the overall Chehalis Basin effort, i.e., sharing, collaborating, and looking beyond strictly jurisdictional boundaries when times call for such.

6. Update -- Local Projects

Scott provided a brief update on status of local projects. Scott noted that the following local projects are facing tentative funding deobligations as follows:

- Aberdeen -- Fry Creek Restoration -- \$80,000.
- Centralia -- China Creek -- \$897,000.
- Thurston CD -- Innovative Farm Pads -- \$450,000.
- WCC -- Farm Pads & Evacuation Routes -- \$87,000.
- WDFW -- Lower Satsop Relic Channel -- \$100,000.

7. Update -- Outreach

Scott provided updates on the Southwest Washington Fair and the TVW ten-year anniversary documentary.

Regarding the Fair, all materials are posted to the Flood Authority’s EZview site for members to view as well the current roster for covering the Flood Authority booth. Scott relayed how over the course of the past couple days at the booth he had had several substantive conversations with several members of the public. These tended to broaden people’s understanding and appreciation of the breadth of flood hazard reduction and aquatic species protection activities occurring in the Basin.

Regarding TVW, Scott relayed how Mike McClanahan (TVW) is in an active information-gathering phase that includes conducting interviews, collecting photos and video, reading, and understanding what activities are completed, planned or underway in the Basin. Mike will use August and September for information gathering and then October, November, and December for production.

8. Approval – Expedited Process to Consider USGS Proposal

Flood Authority members were briefed on a time-sensitive cost-sharing proposal brought to the Flood Authority by the USGS. Proposal is for the USGS to resurvey and reset gage datums for 16 USGS gages in the Basin. Cost to the Flood Authority is \$17,100 and \$10,000 for the USGS (Flood Authority pays 60% and USGS pays 40%). Staff reported benefits of the USGS proposal (elevation consistency with maps, models, and gages; coincide with similar Ecology effort for six Ecology gages; greater overall accuracy in stage measurement and forecasting; and 60% cost to Flood Authority). Staff thought it best that the Projects Committee and technical consultants (WSE and WEST) weigh-in first before agreeing to move forward. Flood Authority members unanimously concurred with staff recommendation that due to short timing (USGS proposed agreement needs to be signed by 9-15-2017 before next Flood Authority

meeting) Flood Authority's Projects Committee should meet ASAP along with Larry Karpack (WSE) and Dave Curtis (WEST) and if that group determines the proposed USGS agreement has merit then staff should proceed to work with RCO and Lewis County to determine how to implement the agreement. If the agreement is implementable, staff should seek concurrence to move forward from the Executive Committee. Flood Authority members should be briefed at the 9-21-2017 Flood Authority meeting.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Financial Report

Ms. Napier reported that the total expenditures for July 1 through July 31, 2017 was \$12,972.64, which included salaries, wages, and consulting services.

11. Reports

a. Chair's Report

There was no report given.

b. Member Reports

Cosmopolis - Mr. Chestnut stated that the Mill Creek Dam project is well underway and that there is a webcam to follow the construction progress. See here --
<https://www.senserasystems.com/public/project/millcreekdam>

c. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

d. State team report

There was no report given.

12. Confirm Next Regular Meeting.

The next meeting will be a phone meeting on September 21, 2017. October meeting (10/19/2017) will be in-person, held in Cosmopolis, and include tours of select Lower Basin projects.

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.