

May 8, 2019

Members of the Chehalis Basin Flood Authority:

It has been my pleasure to serve for the past two years as one of the three Flood Authority appointees on the Office of Chehalis Basin (OCB) Board. I thank you for your consideration of this application for re-appointment. Much has been done the past two years, with much more work yet to accomplish.

I've been involved with the major and minor projects for decades, well before there was a Flood Authority or OCB, and have served on the Governor's Workgroup for two Governors.

We are now transitioning toward implementation of plans for a water retention structure, with funding for the environmental review process. The Flood Authority has successfully implemented countless local projects over the last few budget cycles. The work on the North Shore levy now has funding support and is progressing because everyone from the Flood Authority to the OCB team to the Governor's team and legislators saw the importance of this infrastructure upgrade.

Flood damage reduction **and** long-term improvements to our fisheries are compatible. It will not be easy to do both and will require careful, thorough steps to assure we achieve both important actions. I have been part of the effort to navigate that course and know we can and must achieve both. We know more floods are coming, and if we do nothing, the fisheries will continue to flounder or decline.

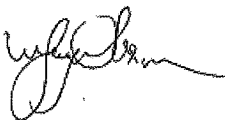
Science and history tell us inaction is an option, but it is a poor one. To achieve the best interests of our valley, our actions must be taken carefully, collaboratively, and wisely. I hope the following summary gives you a glimpse of the skills, experience, and perspectives I have developed over many years and that come with my offer of service on this Office of Chehalis Basin oversight board.

I bring the following experiences and perspectives to this position: **Office of the Chehalis Basin Board; Chehalis Basin Governor's Workgroup; Washington State Dairy Federation Policy Director and previous Executive Director; Gordon Farm, since 1979. We are DEFINITELY in the flooding zone; Board member, William D. Ruckelshaus Center; Grays Harbor Conservation District Board Member and Associate member; Washington State Conservation District Association, Treasurer**

I have 30 years of board experience, association management, and collaboration activities focused mostly in helping farmers and encouraging conservation on, with and for our natural resources in Washington State and here in this Chehalis Valley.

I ask for your support to continue in this role on the OCB, and I would be glad to attend future Flood Authority meetings in that role.

Sincerely,



W. Jay Gordon
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Jay Gordon Letter of Interest