

# CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

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**Date:** May 5, 2022  
**Time:** 9:00 am to 2:00 pm  
**Location:** Zoom Meeting

ITEM	FORMAL ACTION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
1. Consent May 5, 2022 meeting agenda	Decision: Current agenda approved; April 7 meeting summary approved	No follow-up action.
2. Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road Project	Decision: Board approved GHCD moving forward with \$60k for initial analysis of Chehalis River reach scale project (RM13-20).  Decision: Board approved funding the \$125K needed for Haul Road erosion project, with the understanding that any concept design proposal be compatible with ASRP and provide mitigation measures for any short-term erosion control measures used.	GHCD will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request additional funding needs for Chehalis River reach scale project (RM13-20).  PoGH will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request funding needs for final construction and mitigation costs of Haul Road project.
3. Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative (LAND)	Discussion	Board members were encouraged to attend the May 16-18 Values Planning workshop.
4. Future Climate Change Projections	Discussion	OCB staff will determine if Board members are interested in participating in a virtual briefing on the updated climate change projections.
5. FCZD Proposed Flood Retention Facility Project	Discussion	FCZD will return to a future Board meeting to provide additional updates on the other areas identified as a primary concern in the draft SEPA and NEPA EISs.

ITEM	FORMAL ACTION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
		FCZD will return to a future Board meeting to provide more detail sediment transport issues related to fish passage.
6. SW WA Farmer's Coop & Grain Project	Discussion	No follow-up action.
7. 2021-23 Budget Status and Spending	Discussion / Direction	No follow-up action.
8. Chehalis Basin Strategy Assessment	Direction	National Policy Consensus Center & Oregon Consensus Center will return to a future Board meeting to discuss next steps in the assessment process for selecting a new CBB facilitator.
9. Next Steps and Closing	Discussion	No follow-up action.

## Attendees

### Chehalis Basin Board Members Present:

- Vickie Raines, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority (participated virtually for portion of meeting)
- Edna Fund, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- J. Vander Stoep, Office of the Governor
- Steve Malloch, Office of the Governor
- Glen Connelly, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
- Jay Gordon, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Tyson Johnston, Quinault Indian Nation

### Chehalis Basin Board Ex-Officio Members Present:

- Alex Smith, Department of Natural Resources
- Bart Gernhart, Department of Transportation
- Rich Doenges, Department of Ecology
- Michael Garrity, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Josh Giuntoli, Washington State Conservation Commission

### Board Staff/Board Guests Present:

- See Attachment A

## Welcome, Introductions

Acting Chair Edna Fund called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. and welcomed the Board, staff, and audience.

## Consent Agenda

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [May 5, 2022 meeting agenda](#).

**BOARD DECISION:** Agenda approved by consensus.

## Approval of April 7, 2022 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [April 7, 2022 Meeting Summary](#).

**BOARD DECISION:** April 7, 2022 meeting summary approved by consensus.

## Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road Project

### Port of Grays Harbor (PoGH) - Haul Road Erosion

Scott Boettcher (Flood Authority) introduced Randy Raymond (Parametrix) who provided the Board with background on the Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road erosion concerns. The Chehalis River is currently threatening critical infrastructure including PoGH power and water mains, and the overhead fiber optic wires. Significant acceleration of erosion has happened between November of 2021 and March 2022. PoGH is currently working on permitting, refining solutions, and finding funding partners to address erosion concerns. The proposed action may include rock armoring and mitigation at a reach scale with key considerations with flood season, cost, resources, and constructability. Current funding of \$125K is needed to address permitting and design.

Board members were provided with three options that could be used to fund the \$125k PoGH request, including:

- 1) Release funds from the '21-23 \$8.5M reserve
- 2) Look for funds that could be shifted from existing underspent programs
- 3) Use unspent funds from either '19-21 and/or '21-23

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road Project Presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members are interested in learning more about the main causes of erosion along this reach of the Chehalis River and how those can be addressed in the long term, and what regulatory issues need to be addressed.
- Board members discussed the importance of having erosion management projects be compatible with ASRP priorities.
- Board members specified that any type of short-term erosion control measure taken must include mitigation.

- Board members are interested in seeing the PoGH return to future a Board meeting with other identified funding partners to support this project.
- Board members approved funding from unspent '19-21 funds.

**BOARD DECISION:** Board approved funding the \$125K needed for the Haul Road erosion project with unspent '19-21 funds, with the understanding that any concept design proposal be compatible with ASRP and provide mitigation measures for any short-term erosion control measures used.

**FOLLOW-UP ACTION:** PoGH will return to a future Board meeting to discuss funding options and a request for final construction and mitigation costs for the Haul Road project.

## **Reach-Scale Planning - Keys Road Bridge to SR107 Bridge**

Nat Kale (OCB) reminded Board members of their previous approval to fund \$60K from the '21-23 Erosion Management Program to address challenging erosion, channel migration, habitat, and built-environment issues along the 7.5-mile reach on the main stem of the Chehalis River from River Mile 13-20.

Scott Boettcher (Flood Authority) and Anthony Waldrop (Grays Harbor Conservation District) requested Grays Harbor CD begin developing a reach-scale design immediately (with \$60,000 from OCB) to build off work done through ASRP and develop a scope of work and permitting plan and return to a future Board meeting to discuss additional funding needs for the reach-scale design.

**BOARD DECISION:** Board approved GHCD moving forward with \$60k for initial analysis of Chehalis River reach scale project (RM13-20).

**FOLLOW-UP ACTION:** GHCD will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request additional funding needs for Chehalis River reach scale project (RM13-20).

## **Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative (LAND)**

Glen Connelly (LAND Steering Group Co-Chairs) provided an overview of the April LAND Steering Group (SG) meeting, including a recap of the discussion related to key messages for the LAND project, work groups being convened to address priority topics, and measures of success for the LAND project.

Todd Chaput (LAND SG member) shared perspectives on the April 25 Chehalis Basin site tour for elected officials and local government representatives that were unable to attend the previous tour. Participants toured key locations in the upper basin, including Centralia and Chehalis, that experience flood damage, a selection of flood damage reduction projects, and areas that have the potential for further flood damage reduction in the future.

Alex Dupey (MIG) provided Board members an overview of the agenda for the Values Planning workshop May 16-18 and led the Board through an exercise to identify values related to the LAND process.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [2022-04-19 LAND SG Meeting 7 Synthesis](#)

**FOLLOW-UP ACTION:** Board members were strongly encouraged to attend the May 16-18 Values Planning workshop.

## Future Climate Change Projections

OCB Director Andrea McNamara Doyle reminded the Board of their previous discussions related to future climate change projections. OCB staff and consultants have outlined flooding and other streamflow estimates under existing conditions and future climate conditions to support technical studies for the Chehalis Basin Strategy efforts. The information provided in the updated future climate projections for estimating frequency of Chehalis River flood and low streamflow events and Flood Retention Expandable (FRE) operations can be used on all other technical aspects of the Strategy.

Nat Kale (OCB) presented additional visualizations for the projected frequency of flood events and FRE operations. By using climate change predictions from the Climate Impacts Group, it shows increased precipitation is expected to increase the number of major and catastrophic flood events. This would result in triggering the use of the FRE more frequently than under current conditions.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [Updated climate change memo](#)
- [Flooding Increase Infographics](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Some Board members expressed interest in an additional call with OCB staff and appropriate technical consultants to discuss updated climate change projections to better understand confidence levels of future flooding frequency and peak flows in future climate change modeling.

**FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:** OCB staff will determine which Board members are interested in participating in a virtual briefing on the updated climate change projections, and schedule accordingly.

## FCZD Proposed Flood Retention Facility Project

Jim Kramer introduced Erik Martin (Lewis County), Matt Dillin (Lewis County) and David Skinner (HDR), who provided the Board with an update on the work the FCZD has done to fulfill their commitment to clarify questions related to concerns identified in the draft SEPA and NEPA EISs. The FCZD has currently evaluated seven of the ten resource areas of primary concern. The current focus includes environmental health and safety, recreation, fish passage, and land use.

Commitments:

- **Environmental health and safety:** Facility will be constructed to meet strict state and federal seismic standards. Possibility of such a coincident event occurring is 1-in-2.5 billion (SEPA DEIS). *(Dam Safety Standards and Seismic Fault Study Review, February 23, 2022)*
- **Recreation:** Project area is currently private property with limited access requiring permits. Public property creates more opportunity for public access. *(FRE Facility - Conceptual Level Recreational Improvement Options)*
- **Fish passage:** Land use designation will be changed to be consistent with zoning. *(Transfer of Use and Jurisdiction, June 1, 2021)*

- **Land use:** No picket barrier. A velocity barrier will be used, providing a safe and effective means of passage with a 91% projected survival rate. *(2020 SEPA DEIS; Description of Construction-Phase Fish Passage Facility Technical Memorandum, 8/20/2021; Construction Phase Upstream Fish Passage Alternatives Selection and 10% Design Technical Memorandum, 2/25/2022)*

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [FCZD project updates](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members are interested in learning more about the fish passage strategy post-construction, including the design and passage style proposed as part of the FRE development.
- Board members discussed considerations of the inundated area above the FRE and the impact to fish.
- Board members are interested in learning more about sediment within the impoundment area and analysis of sediment in the context of fish passage.

#### **FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:**

- FCZD will return to a future Board meeting to provide additional updates on the other areas identified as a primary concern in the draft SEPA and NEPA EISs.
- FCZD will return to a future Board meeting to provide more detail on sediment transport issues related to fish passage.

## **SW WA Farmer's Coop & Grain Project**

Mike Peroni (Northwest Agriculture Business Center) provided an update on the SW WA Farmer's Coop and Grain project. Closure of several SW WA frozen food businesses have caused local farmers to identify production of small grains as a new potential market. This new market allowed for the creation of the Southwest Washington Growers Co-op and other food hubs and grain projects. These activities have received support by several organizations, including Washington State University and Oregon State University.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [Northwest Agriculture Business Center presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members discussed the effect of climate change for small grain farmers in SW WA.

## **2021-23 Budget Status and Spending**

Ken Ghalambor (Ross Strategic) provided the Board with an overview of projects and current spending of 2021-2023 biennium funds for all major work elements. Major 2021-23 budget categories include OCB base and core staff, Integrated projects, Aquatic Species Habitat Restoration, and Flood Damage

Reduction. Of the \$70M appropriation, the Board has authorized \$52.9M and has a reserve of \$17M. At future meetings, Board members will discuss when and how to release reserved funds and begin thinking about '23-25 biennium budget priorities.

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members are interested in learning more about anticipated re-appropriation requests.
- Board members were reminded that expenditures rely on project sponsor invoicing, and it can be a lagging indicator.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [2021-23 Budget Status and Spending](#)

## Chehalis Basin Strategy Assessment

Board Chair Vickie Raines reminded Board members that they will be discussing major topics over the next year, including the final SEPA and NEPA EISs, releasing budget reserves, Skookumchuck Dam, and the Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative. Chair Raines noted that Jim Kramer (CBB facilitator) is phasing out of the process, and the Board will need to hire a new facilitator through a list of qualified individuals. The Chehalis Basin Strategy assessment would be a tool for the Board to begin their process of selecting a new facilitator and take advantage of the moment of transition to reflect on the Office and Board's work and process to date.

Jim Kramer introduced Peter Harkema (Oregon Consensus Center) & Laurel Singer (National Policy Consensus Center) who provided additional information about the Centers and options for an assessment.

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members discussed their top priority being hiring a facilitator that is impartial, well versed in the work developed so far, and that can effectively address the legislative mandate.
- Board members expressed some concern of losing momentum but noted that an assessment is a great opportunity to gain more understanding and grow in the process.
- Board members supported NPCC returning to discuss next steps in the assessment process for selecting a new CBB facilitator.

**FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:** National Policy Consensus Center and Oregon Consensus Center will return to a future Board meeting to discuss next steps in the assessment process for selecting a new CBB facilitator.

## Next Steps and Closing

Jim Kramer (Facilitator) thanked Board members for their participation and adjourned the meeting. The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2022, to be held hybrid (in-person/online). Board members and presenters are encouraged to attend in-person and public should continue participating online.

## Attachment A

### **Board Staff/Board Guests:**

- Alex Dupey, MIG
- Arthur Grunbaum, Friends of Grays Harbor
- Austin Majors
- Andrea McNamara Doyle, Department of Ecology, Director, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Brandon Parsons, American Rivers
- Brian Stewart, Conservation Northwest
- COL Ron Averill, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Colleen Granberg, Department of Natural Resources
- Cindy Bradley, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Dave Bingaman, Quinault Indian Nation, ASRP Steering Committee
- David Skinner
- Diane Butorac, Department of Ecology
- Emelie McKain, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Erik Martin, Flood Control Zone District
- Ellie Probus, Pyramid Communications
- Jennifer Tice, Ross Strategic
- Jennifer Hennessey, Office of the Governor
- Jerilyn Walley, Grays Harbor Conservation District
- Jim Kramer, Kramer Consulting (Facilitator)
- Ken Ghalambor, Ross Strategic
- Larry Karpack, Watershed Engineering
- Lee First, Twin Harbors Waterkeeper
- Mark Glyde, Quinault Indian Nation
- Mike Peroni, NABC
- Matt Dillin, Flood Control Zone District
- Nat Kale, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Nichole Czarnosmski, Department of Fish and Wildlife, ASRP Steering Committee
- Scott Boettcher, Flood Authority
- Tammy Domike
- Teri Wright, Sierra Club