

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

Telephone Meeting - 9:00 A.M.

July 20, 2017 - Meeting Notes

Board Members Present: Edna Fund, Lewis County Commissioner; Alan Vanell, Town of Bucoda; Lonnie Willey, Town of Pe Ell; Trent Loughed, City of Chehalis; Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam; Ron Averill, City of Centralia; Bud Blake, Thurston County Commissioner; DeAnne Shaw, City of Aberdeen

Board Members Absent: Vickie Raines, Grays Harbor County Commissioner; Richard Armstrong, City of Oakville; Jim Haslett, City of Napavine; Frank Chestnut, City of Cosmopolis

Others Present: Kris Koski, Rick Sangder, City of Aberdeen; Tom Clingman, AQEA; Mike Olden, City of Montesano; Jessica Hausman; Tom Kollasch, Grays Harbor Conservation District; Henry Hu, WEST Consultants; Blake Lord, KPFF.

Handouts/Materials Used:

- Agenda
- Meeting Notes from June 15, 2017
- Local Projects Update
- Financial Report
- See https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1492/34798/meetings.aspx#July2017

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

There were no changes to the Agenda; it was approved by consensus.

4. Approval of Meeting Notes

There were no corrections or additions to the meeting notes; they were approved by consensus.

5. Update – Documentary by TVW

Mr. Boettcher reported that Dan Wood had approached TVW about the 10-year anniversary of the historic flood. They took the concept to their board and they are considering this a top project. A story line has not been determined yet. There will be more information as these projects move along.

6. Update – First Meeting of Chehalis Basin Board

Mr. Kramer stated at the first meeting the members explained why they were interested in serving and how the communities can benefit from this office. It was informative for the members to hear the tribal perspectives about the importance of the Chehalis Basin to the two tribes. Also discussed were the rules for government bodies, such as the Open Public Meetings Act and Public Disclosure. At the meeting the members walked through an initial work program for the first biennium.

The meetings will be held on the first Thursday of every month and all of the members are interested in seeing the basin; field trips will be scheduled before the weather turns. All Flood Authority members, as well as the general public, are welcome to attend the meetings. The locations will rotate between jurisdictions.

7. Update - Sponsorship of Dam by Lewis County Flood Control Zone District

Commissioner Fund stated she is the chair of the Lewis County Flood Control Zone District (LCFCZD) which includes the other two county commissioners. This group met on July 6 and passed its first resolution to apply for permits for a water retention facility. Another resolution created the LCFCZD advisory committee. The group is requesting people to serve on that committee, and to apply by July 28. Erik Martin is administrator of the District.

8. Update - Local Projects

Mr. Boettcher stated he created a new format for the local projects. They are listed top to bottom as to amounts unappropriated, with billing through May. Several June payments have not been made yet. The largest outstanding numbers are associated with projects that are either in construction already or are just starting construction. Blue projects are construction projects. Orange projects are design and study projects. Green projects are completed projects.

Mr. Averill stated the larger blue projects were delayed by the Army Corps of Engineers. He also stated that a contractor for the China Creek project has been selected. There was other money besides Flood Authority money that went into this and that is why there is such a large balance. Mr. Boettcher stated the horizontal bar shows the start of the project.

Mr. Kramer stated that Ecology wants to know if there is unspent funding that can be moved to other projects.

9. Update - Capital Budget

Commissioner Fund stated she spoke with a State Legislator from eastern Washington and was told there would be no capital budget. The first issue that must be addressed before funding is the Supreme Court decision regarding Hirst vs Whatcom County. If there is agreement can be reached between legislative leaders then the Governor will call for another session.

10. Updates – Project Committee and Outreach and Education Committee

Mr. Boettcher stated the Project Committee has reached out to prioritize the #1 projects and asked for updated scopes of work; those are coming in – the original ones were produced in the fall of 2016. We want to make sure those sponsors have current timeline budgets and move them into the RCO timeline. #2 projects are still being collected and the Small Projects Committee is holding more projects for the future. These include Hoquiam (levee); GHC and the Port are partnering on a proposal for an industrial water well; Montesano is continuing to think about the waste water treatment plant in light of erosion of the Wynoochee River and whether it should include retention or a change in location.

Outreach and Education – Last month Mr. Boettcher signed up for Flood Authority booths at the Southwest Washington Fair and will send an email for signing up for shifts. TVW will do a documentary; Thurston County Conservation District is brainstorming regarding a 10-year anniversary of the historical flood, which may be a recognition event in Feb/Mar 2018.

11. Financial Report

Mr. Boettcher reported that the total expenditures for June 1 through June 30, 2017 was \$121,908.23, which included the usual salaries, wages, consulting services, as well as the flood warning system, gage study and transmitter upgrade.

12. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

13. Reports

a. Chair's Report

This was already given: the highlights of the Chehalis Basin Board.

b. Member Reports

Centralia - Mr. Averill stated the old meat packing plant is gone. The septic turned out to be a bigger issue than first imagined.

Bucoda – Mr. Vanell stated he and Mr. Boettcher attended a meeting for flood mitigation at Thurston County regarding flood mitigation for a 5 year plan. It has been going well – 4 meetings so far; another is planned for September. He felt there will be a cohesive exchange of information between that group and the Flood Authority.

Aberdeen – Mr. Koski submitted a box of documents on the levee project to FEMA which is in review now. There will be an open house on July 27 at 5pm regarding the Fry Creek project.

c. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

d. State team report

Jessica Hausman stated there would be an announcement for a director for Office of Chehalis Basin. Mr. Kramer would ask Pat to send out for distribution.

14. Confirm next regular meeting.

The next meeting will be a phone meeting on August 17. In September Hoquiam will host the in-person meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.