Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District Regular Meeting Minutes

Location:

Lewis County Commissioners Hearing Room, 2nd floor of the Historic

Courthouse, 351 NW North St., Chehalis WA 98532

Meeting Date:

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Meeting Time:

2:30 pm

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District Supervisor Swope at 2:31 p.m., Wednesday, February 24, 2021. Those in attendance were:

Sean Swope Chehalis River Basin FCZD Supervisor
Lindsey Pollock Chehalis River Basin FCZD Supervisor
Gary Stamper Chehalis River Basin FCZD Supervisor
Erik Martin Chehalis River Basin FCZD Administrator
Betsy Dillin Chehalis River Basin FCZD Engineer (Zoom)

Lara McRea Interim Clerk, Board of Supervisors

Jim Waldo Chehalis River Basin FCZD Consultant (Zoom)

Frank Corbin Chehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee Member John Henricksen Chehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee Member

Edna Fund Office of the Chehalis Basin Board Member

J. Vander Stoep Office of the Chehalis Basin (Zoom)

Amber Smith Civil Deputy, LC Prosecutor's Office (Zoom)

Bob Guenther President, TLMCCLC (Zoom)
Claudia Yaw Reporter, Chronicle (Zoom)
Nicole Desmond Desmond & Louis, Inc. (Zoom)
Lou Desmond Desmond & Louis, Inc. (Zoom)

Cara Peterman Phipps USGS (Zoom)

II. Verification of a Quorum

There is a quorum of three district supervisors.

III. Introductions

Introductions were made.

351 NW North St Chehalis, WA 98532-1900

IV. Approval of minutes for January 27, 2021

Supervisor Stamper made a motion to approve the minutes of January 27, 2021. Supervisor Pollock seconded the motion.

Motion approved.

V. Public Comment

No public comment.

VI. <u>Invoice approvals</u>

(Grant 17-1373 Chehalis Basin Strategy Participation)

Vendor	Date	Service	Amount
Gordon, Thomas,	January 2021	Governmental affairs svcs-Dec	18,085.00
Honeywell			
LC Public Works	January 2021	Staff time/Betsy Dillin	3,980.24
LC Administration	January 2021	Staff time Martin/McRea	2,342.04
HDR Engineering	January 2021	Eng Svcs for AMM 12.27-	43,150.89
		1.30.2021	
HDR Engineering	January 2021	Eng Svcs 12.27-1.30.2021	55,592.02
Kleinschmidt	January 2021	Eng Svcs 12.26-1.29.21	1,699.00
		TOTAL ALL EXPENSES:	124,849.19

(Grant 18-2599 Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan-Phase 2)

Vendor	Date	Service	Amount
LC Public Works	January 2021	Staff time for B. Dillin-CFHMP	236.92
Perteet Engineering	January 2021	Eng Svcs 1.1-1.31.2021	5,623.56
		TOTAL ALL EXPENSES:	5,860.48

(Grant .09 Distressed Counties Funding)

Vendor	Date	Service	Amount
Desmond & Louis,	January 2021	Public Education &	6,000.00
Inc		Communication Program	
Kleinschmidt	January 2021	Stakeholder engagement strategy	1,490.67
		12.26-1.29.2021	
		TOTAL ALL EXPENSES:	7,490,67

351 NW North St Chehalis, WA 98532-1900

Motion made by Supervisor Stamper to approve the invoices totaling \$138,200.34. Supervisor Pollock seconded the motion.

Erik gave a briefing of the expenditures.

Motion approved.

VII. Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP) update – Betsy Dillin

Erik reported that there was supposed to be a CFHMP meeting this week but the consultant is housed in Wenatchee and could not attend the meeting due to inclement weather. The meeting is rescheduled for Tuesday, March 16th at 10:00 am.

VIII. Legislative outreach

Erik said the district has been reaching out to some legislators in the past few weeks to make sure they are informed of what is happening with the project. There was a productive meeting last week with some of the legislators, to include two representatives, the senator from the 20th district, and Representative Joel McIntire. At the meeting, they reviewed the purpose and need of the project and some other details about it. Erik had a follow up discussion with Rep. McIntire and he asked a few more detailed questions about the project.

Erik discussed the water retention facility visualization video that he showed the legislators. He said there will also be a meeting this evening at 7:00 p.m. for the Democratic legislators in the area.

IX. Project update

Erik noted the project is currently in a planning phase. The district is finishing up the work on the initial phase of the Avoidance, Minimization and Mitigation that was done in response to the governor's letter at the request of the Office of the Chehalis Basin (OCB). He said one of the key issues that came out in the SEPA was water temperature. As the district puts the vegetation management plan into place in the water temperature model conducted by Portland State University, the effects are greatly diminished. Erik said there needs to be more work done and more verification but it is looking promising.

J. Vander Stoep noted the SEPA document came out a year ago and up until then the process had been moving toward consensus on many different points. Then the document came out and it appeared to say in the executive summary that building this facility would have a major impact on the fishery in the Chehalis Basin. He further discussed.

John asked what the state's reaction is to Shane Cherry's conclusions and to the computer model.

Erik discussed scientific data and noted the state should examine what they are presented and test it for themselves. SEPA itself has not responded because the governor has not asked them to go forward yet.

351 NW North St Chehalis, WA 98532-1900

He said Fish and Wildlife, DOE and DNR all have seats at the table at the OCB and they are listening carefully and want to know more.

Supervisor Stamper asked what the timeline is for the project.

Erik noted that SEPA and NEPA have both been happening but the governor put a halt on SEPA last summer. The governor wanted to make sure the district knew the project could be mitigated for. That is the work the district has been doing the past year. Erik noted he hopes that OCB will be discussing this and making a recommendation back to the governor that the district has done enough work to say that there are plenty of opportunities to mitigate. The Army Corps has never stopped with their work (NEPA). They have taken comments on the draft EIS and are moving towards a final EIS.

J. said within the next 9 months OCB expects SEPA and NEPA to be completed. Next the legislature is deciding on its biennial budget for the capitol budget. The governor has a \$70 million ask in for his proposal and this would for a serious discussion with the Chehalis Basin Board. He further discussed the budget process.

Erik shared the infographic that Betsy Dillin created that shows the relationships between the different entities.

Sean asked if the Chehalis River Basin Strategy is the same as the Chehalis Basin Partnership. Edna noted the basin strategy is under OCB and the partnership is its own entity.

- J. noted the Chehalis River Basin Partnership has been around for about 20 years. The partnership's focus is on fish.
- J. further discussed the history of each.

Supervisor Swope discussed the importance of highlighting past flood issues and how they were mitigated by talking about them on the radio and continually discussing them in public.

Frank also asked if there was a flood control zone district equivalent under the aquatic species restoration plan (ASRP).

Erik noted the ASRP is housed under WDFW.

Edna discussed the emergent situation with the Satsop erosion. She also showed a PowerPoint of the Skookumckuck Dam consideration and discussed potential options for analyses. They have just started the research and OCB passed a motion to start looking at this. She further discussed.

J. discussed the history and purpose of the dam.

X. Announcements

Edna invited everyone to attend the OCB meetings online via Zoom.

Jim Waldo discussed weather patterns and changing temps with the project.

351 NW North St Chehalis, WA 98532-1900

XI. Adjournment

Supervisor Stamper made a motion to adjourn, Supervisor Swope seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lara McRea Interim Clerk