Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Lewis County Commissioners Meeting Room 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse 351 NW North St Chehalis WA 98532

Meeting Date: May 9, 2019 Meeting Time: 8:00 am

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Bill Brumsickle at 8:01 a.m., Thursday, May 9, 2019. Those in attendance were:

Erik Martin Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District Administrator

Lara McRea Interim Clerk, Board of Supervisors

Bill Brumsickle

Chehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee Member
Steve Grega
Chehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee Member
Chehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee Member
Chehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee Member

Absent:

Lonnie WilleyChehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee MemberCharles CoddingtonChehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee MemberJohn HenricksenChehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee MemberDave MullerChehalis River Basin FCZD Advisory Committee Member

II. Approval of Minutes for February 14 and April 11, 2019

Bonnie made a motion to approve the minutes of February 14, 2019 and April 11, 2019. Steve seconded the motion. Motion approved.

III. Meeting with the Tribes

Erik said that reps from the district met with members of the Chehalis and Quinault Indian Tribes on May 1st at the Chehalis Tribe Community Center. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss facility operations impacts on cultural resources but the discussion also focused around the impacts of operations on aquatic species as well. Ed Zapel from HDR Engineering who worked on the hydrology of the project presented. There were a few fish biologists in attendance and much of their conversation was centered on the impacts of the fish.

Some examples of the questions the tribe asked were: How much flow will be in river when dam was operating? How long will it take for the reservoir to empty?

The district is compiling responses to their questions and Erik said the district will likely have more meetings with both tribes.

IV. Meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers

Erik reported that the district reps met with the Army Corps of Engineers last Thursday. The previous day the Corps sent the district the project need purpose and description statement which didn't give the district much

time for review. The document is a combination of information and data the district has sent to the Army Corps over the past several months. The district had specific comments for the Corps that were noted in the document. Most of the changes the Corps had no issue with. The document has already been sent back to the Army Corps as the districts own submitted work. Erik noted he would have preferred that the advisory committee review the document before sending but due to the tight timeframe it wasn't possible.

Erik reviewed the map and blue area that was noted as the flood damage reduction target area to which the dam would have the greatest effect. This map will help develop alternatives options. Some of the alternatives could include levees, flood plain restoration or there may be no action at all.

The Army Corps decides what alternatives to look at and the district will not know what the alternatives are until the draft EIS is published.

Erik said the district discussed what it would look like if the map showed expanding the target area. He said doing so would probably exclude most other alternatives which is not good due to legal defensibility.

Erik discussed the metrics which the Army Corps will use decide on alternatives. One of the metrics is to remove about 635 structures of value from flooding risk during a 100-year flood. Language was added to the document that discusses the project benefits upstream and downstream of the target area.

The additional wording that was added is as follows:

The facility is proposed to be located upstream of Pe Ell and therefore those communities immediately downstream are considered to be valuable partners with the District for the success of this project.

Erik said Supervisor Jackson had a concern that there may be an inference that this is the only alternative the district has considered, which was not the case. He also wanted to make sure that the additional communities affected are addressed.

Dan asked if there were any alternatives that the Corps may want us to consider. Erik explained that the Army Corps wouldn't ask the district to spend time on this as they will come out with their own conclusion. They make the determination of impacts with projects.

He did indicate that the district will try and foresee some impacts and will start working on mitigation on those impacts.

Discussion was held regarding hydrological dams.

Discussion was held regarding the timeframe for SEPA and NEPA.

V. CFHMP update

Discussion was held about the Comprehensive Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan (CFHMP) meeting that was held on April 30th. Erik said the CFHMP is a plan used as a guidance and planning document for this district. Erik also noted that the CFHMP will help with the CRS rating system and flood insurance rates.

Lara read an email that Betsy had sent as an update for the CFHMP:

First stakeholder meeting was held where the consultant went over stakeholder committee expectations and organization. There was discussion of goals and objectives of the plan and critical facilities. The next stakeholder meeting will continue with goals and confirming critical facility definition. The next meeting will also go over policies. We also may be able to extend the schedule until Aug 31. If this happens we may hold an additional stakeholder meeting or reschedule one.

VI. 2019 Budget Amendment

Lara reviewed the proposed budget amendment which will increase revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$42,144. The amount is a carryover from 2018 for the RCO grant with the WRDA #214 agreement and the RCO grant for the Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP).

Bonnie made a motion to recommend the budget amendment in the amount of \$42,144 move forward and be approved via resolution. Dan seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Erik discussed an additional budget request to the Office of the Chehalis Basin for mitigation efforts.

VII. Advisory Committee Member Vacancy

Erik noted that John Henricksen had spoken with Mayor Lonnie Willey about his continuation on the advisory board. The mayor indicated he has too many other obligations and can no longer serve on the board.

Discussion was held about filling the position or leaving the committee at 9 members.

Dave made a motion to recommend to the supervisors that the advisory committee stay with 9 members. Jason seconded the motion.

Motion approved.

Erik noted he will bring this information to the next supervisors meeting on May 22nd. He recommended that the supervisors recieve a formal resignation from Mayor Wiley.

VIII. Good of the Order

Discussion was held regarding a field trip to Mudd Mountain Dam in Pierce County. Lara will look into a tour for the group this summer. The Mudd Mountain Dam will operate very similar to the districts proposed dam.

Discussion was held about who would be operating the dam in the future.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting ended at 8:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lara McRea

Interim Clerk, Board of Supervisors