



10:00 AM In-Person Meeting

September 19, 2024 - Meeting Notes

Flood Authority Members Present			
Representative	Jurisdiction	Representative	Jurisdiction
Edna Fund	Lewis County	Ron Averill	Centralia
Brian Shay	Hoquiam	Vickie Raines	Grays Harbor County
Steven Lyle	Bucoda	Mike Olden	Montesano
Tony Ketchum	Chehalis	Frank Chestnut	Cosmopolis
Lonnie Wiley	Pe Ell	Rick Sander	Aberdeen
Nick Bird (tour only)	Aberdeen		

Flood Authority Members Absent			
Duane Crouse	Napavine	Richard Armstrong	Oakville
Wayne Fournier	Thurston County		

Staff Members Present			
Scott Boettcher	Katrina Sukola	Sarah Hensley	Katie Johnson

Others Present			
J. Vander Stoep	Jay Gordon	Bill Teitzel, Port of Chehalis	Celeste Wilder, City of Chehalis
Amanda Pierce, SLR International (Consultant)	Kat Dickey, ECY	Matt Dillon, FCZD	

Meeting Materials:

https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1492/34798/meetings.aspx#September%202024

1. Call to Order

Vickie Raines, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:11am. Staff and Member introductions were made.

2. Determination of Quorum

Ten members were present; there was a quorum.

3. Approval of September 19, 2024, Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda for the September 19, 2024 meeting. The meeting agenda was approved.

4. Approval of July 18, 2024, Meeting Notes

A motion was made to approve the meeting notes from July 18, 2024. The meeting notes were approved.

5. Approve Transfer of Lewis County Goods and Services to SBGH

SBGH-Partners is requesting to transfer Lewis County \$5,000 goods and services budget to SBGH for unplanned activities of preparing for and participating in SWWA Fair, closing and transferring Cosmopolis' RCO agreements to Hoquiam, and preparing for and conducting a new round of in-person outreach to councils and commissions. Lewis County is in support of this transfer.

The Flood Authority members voted and approved the transfer of the \$5,000 goods and service budget to SBGH.

6. Status of 2025-2027 Local Project Proposals

Nine projects were submitted and reviewed. There will be two mid-basin projects considered for the second order funding. There is a table included in the memo that outlines low, medium, and high funding costs for 2025-2027. Scott Boettcher stated that once projects in the lower basin are completed, the focus will begin to shift from the lower basin to the middle basin.

See the presentation on the [EZ View](#) website.

7. Status of Current Local Projects

Katrina Sukola gave an update on the current projects. On August 1, 2024, the Chehalis Basin Board approved using \$363,000 in unallocated 2023-25 funds to support capital improvements identified in the Flood Warning System's five-year capital improvement plan.

Cosmopolis' sponsorship is being changed to Hoquiam. There is a table provided that outlines the projects and their status for this biennium. There were three projects closed. There are a total of 16 projects listed.

See the [EZ View](#) website for the table summarizing each project's details.

8. Chehalis/Port of Chehalis Project Update

Celeste Wilder from the Port of Chehalis gave a presentation on the Flood Storage Investment Plan. The project map shows the city of Chehalis, east to west. The Project Team went to Chehalis Fest on July 26, 2024, to engage with the community. The community feedback showed limited interest in discussing previous flooding events or history and showed more interest in discussing what is being done about it. The Project team received QAPP (Quality Assurance Project Plan) approval on July 30, 2024. An advisory committee was created to gather information and insights from multiple disciplines and points of view.

See the [EZ View](#) website for the presentation.

9. Legislature Site Visit and OCB Community Outreach

Scott Boettcher gave an update on the OCB Legislative field trip to the Skookumchuck area on September 27, 2024. The tour is at capacity. There will only be three members of the Chehalis Basin Board attending the trip to avoid a quorum. The purpose of this trip is: To provide an opportunity for legislators/legislative staff to learn more about the state's investment in the Chehalis Basin Strategy; To create a venue for dialogue and discussion between legislators/legislative staff, Chehalis Basin Board members, Office of Chehalis Basin staff, and basin partners (e.g., Flood Authority); and To highlight collaborative work across organizations to implement habitat restoration and flood damage reduction in the basin.

See the [EZ View](#) website for the itinerary of this trip and other details.

10. 2024 Flood Authority Outreach Visits to Member Councils and Commissions

The first visit will be on Monday, September 23, 2024.

See the [EZ View](#) website for the draft schedule.

11. 2025 O&M for Flood Warning System

Scott Boettcher gave an update of the Breakdown and Comparison of Annual O&M Costs. There are 11 gages in both the lower and middle basins. The proposed allocation cost approach is Grays Harbor with 40%, Lewis County with 40%, and Thurston County with 20%. The goal for the alerts signs up is 5,000. The main thing that is driving the cost increase is transitioning to local expenditures. The Flood authority will vote to enact this new allocation cost approach at the next meeting.

See the [EZ View](#) website for DRAFT O&M Staff memo.

12. Update on the proposed flow through dam for flood control.

J Vander Stoep commented on the impact to communities and the importance of remembering the impact of the previous flood events. Matt Dillon gave a presentation about updates on the Flood Retention Facility Project within the Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone. This type of dam will allow fish and water to flow through the dam and continue down the river. A typical dam will hold back water and fish, causing floods.

See the [EZ View](#) website for the presentation.

13. Financial Report(s)

Sarah Hensley from Lewis County Community Development reported expenditures for the months of July and August. All payment of claims via warrants issued by the Lewis County Auditor's Office are entered into Board of County Commissioners' meeting minutes in compliance with the Washington State Auditor's Office, Budgeting, Accounting, and Reporting system manual requirements.

- Expenditures for July were \$11,026.30 for salaries and wages for Lewis County staff, including consulting services for SBGH. No contracts were executed during this period.
- Expenditures for August were \$12,088.21 for salaries and wages for Lewis County, including consulting services for SBGH. No other expenditures during this time.

14. Report(s)

A. Chair's Report

Any reports have been suspended due to being over the meeting end time.

B. Member Reports

Any reports have been suspended due to being over the meeting end time.

C. Correspondence

Any reports have been suspended due to being over the meeting end time.

15. Confirm Next Regular Meeting, Topics, and Location

The next meeting is an in-person meeting on November 21, 2024. This meeting will be virtual on Teams.

Adjournment was at 12:31 PM.