

**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: July 9, 2020

Meeting Time: 8:00 am

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by John Henricksen at 8:03 a.m., Thursday, July 9, 2020. Those in attendance were:

Erik Martin	Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District Administrator
Lara McRea	Interim Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Betsy Dillin	District Engineer
Dan Maughan (teleconference)	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
John Henricksen	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Steve Grega (teleconference)	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Frank Corbin (teleconference)	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Charles Coddington (teleconference)	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
David Fenn (teleconference)	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Bonnie Coumbs (teleconference)	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Bill Brumsickle (teleconference)	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Lou Desmond	Desmond & Louis, Inc.
Nicole Desmond	Desmond & Louis, Inc.

Absent:

Dave Muller	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Jason Humphrey	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member

II. Approval of Minutes for May 14, 2020

Frank made a motion to approve the minutes of May 14, 2020. Dan seconded the motion. Motion approved.

III. Draft SEPA EIS discussion

Introductions were made.

Erik reported that the comment period for the SEPA EIS closed in May. All comments on the EIS have been compiled and are on the Department of Ecology's website. He noted the district has been looking at the comments trying to get trends and the Dept. of Ecology may be doing the same thing.

John asked if there has been any conversation between the district and Ecology about the comments made about climate change and the effect of the facility on fish runs.

Erik noted that the district will reach out to Diane Butorac at the Dept. of Ecology and have a meeting with her to try and understand what the comments are and what the plan is moving forward.

Betsy reported that HDR is working on the biological assessment and vegetation management plan. They are also working on the Dept. of Army Corps permit which will be submitted in August. All three elements will be submitted to the Army Corps in August right before the NEPA is released in September.

Kleinschmidt who is the district's mitigation consultant is finishing up the mitigation opportunities report. The district reviewed the draft and felt it was really good. The report will be published at the end of July. The report will state what is available and possible for mitigation for the project.

Betsy noted that over 300 points of mitigation were identified.

IV. Communications Plan

Erik said there has been much discussion on how the EIS delivers information. The EIS conflates climate change and project impacts. It makes it difficult for decision makers to discern what are project impacts and what are impacts from climate change.

One of the main goals in looking at a communication plan was to better help the public understand what the project is and isn't and what the impacts are.

Lou Desmond introduced himself and discussed his firm. They moved to Winlock in 2019.

He noted it is important to understand what the public thinks and what the perceptions are of the project.

It is a public education campaign that will be executed on behalf of the project.

Further discussion was held regarding the communications plan.

John said the district has two major areas of concern. Mitigation is the first and the other is communication.

Dave asked how they would get the information out since much of the media is fractured.

She noted they have over 20 years of experience in crafting messages that are easy to digest for new reporters.

They will be using social media to push out accurate messages about the project.

Further discussion was held.

V. Good of the Order

John said he received a letter from Bill Ralph on the Salzer Creek Flood Control Committee. He outlines a number of things in the Salzer Creek area they feel has caused problems and needs to be mitigated. John felt this piece of communication should be passed along to the Flood Authority.

Erik felt it would fit better under a small project under the Flood Authority. John will communicate this to Mr. Ralph.

Dan discussed the Pike Minnow fish in the Chehalis which eats the salmon smelt. In the Columbia River the state of Washington has placed a bounty on them.

He noted it may make the Chehalis River more viable if it had the same bounty program.

Erik said there is a website called pikeminnow.org and shows how you can get paid.

Erik said HDR project manager Rona Spellacy will be filling in for Betsy while she is on leave.

VI. Adjournment

Frank made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan seconded the motion. Meeting ended at 8:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lara McRea". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lara McRea
Interim Clerk, Board of Supervisors