



# Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District

*Erik P. Martin, P.E., District Administrator*

*351 NW North St  
Chehalis, WA 98532-1900*

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## **Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** Lewis County Commissioners Hearing Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Historic Courthouse, 351 NW North St., Chehalis WA 98532  
**Meeting Date:** Thursday, January 13, 2022  
**Meeting Time:** 8:00 am

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### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by John Henricksen at 8:01 a.m., Thursday, January 13, 2022. Those in attendance were:

Erik Martin	Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District Administrator
Lara McRea	Interim Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Dan Maughan	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
John Henricksen	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Steve Grega	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Frank Corbin	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Dave Muller	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
David Fenn	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Charles Coddington	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
Jason Humphrey	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member
J. Vander Stoep	Office of the Chehalis Basin board member
Edna Fund	Office of the Chehalis Basin board member
Austin Majors	Lewis County Public Information Specialist
Susan Remund	Citizen
Scott Boetcher	Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
Eric Rosane	Reporter, the Chronicle
Sean Swope	Chehalis River Basin FCZD Supervisor

### **Absent:**

Bill Brumsickle Chehalis River Basin FCZD Adv Committee Member

### **Approval of Minutes for December 9, 2021**

Frank made a motion to approve the minutes of December 9, 2021. Dave Fenn seconded the motion. Motion approved.

### **Office of the Chehalis Basin Update**

J. Vander Stoep presented stats on the recent flood event, focusing on the comparison to the 1996 flood.



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### **100 year/1996 flood flow peaks:**

- Newaukum = 13,000 cfs (cubic feet per second)
- Skookumchuck = 11,000 cfs
- Chehalis River = 49,000 cfs
- Relative contributions of the water ways in a 100 year flood.

### **2022:**

- Chehalis River = 35,000 cfs
- 1996r w/Retention 29,000 cfs (if the water retention facility been in place)

J. showed several flood inundation maps and compared the 96 flood with the most recent event.

He also reported the following:

#### **Boistfort Valley Area:**

- 1996 flood~ estimated 12-15 homes were flooded
- Curtis store was flooded
- 2022 flood~ no known homes flooded

#### **Adna Area:**

- 1996 flood~ many homes flooded including homes on Diekman Road
- One house washed away and another house was left standing with only 4 walls
- 2022 flood~ no known homes flooded

#### **Centralia Area:**

**Properties not affected if an upstream dam would have been constructed based on a 1996 flood event.**

#### **Utilizing the 2022 flood stats:**

- Washington Elementary School
- Jefferson Lincoln Elementary school
- Fairway shopping center area (Salzer able to release water to Chehalis)
- Kresky/Gold streets commercial area (Salzer able to release water to Chehalis)
- Fairgrounds (Salzer able to release water to Chehalis)
- Tree Streets neighborhood (Chehalis river water didn't follow railroad tracks)
- Long Road neighborhood – future commercial (Chehalis river water didn't follow railroad tracks)

**Properties not affected if an upstream dam would have been constructed based on a 1996 flood event.**

#### **Utilizing the 2022 flood stats:**

- South/Woodland Streets neighborhood (Chehalis river water didn't follow railroad tracks or top Long road levee)
- Mellen Street commercial area (Chehalis river water low enough to allow China Creek to release into it)
- Mellen Street police training facility



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- Borst Park – Chehalis river water didn't go as high in Borst Park resulting in damaging ballfields
- Oakview neighborhood – west of Borst Park
- Centralia High School - no water (hit in 2007)

Between Centralia/Chehalis – 1996 Security state bank HQ, 9 inches of water, Fairway shopping center, Roses Furniture, KELA, KITI, Sunbirds  
2022 – none of these structures flooded

J. noted that people regularly hear that they have to choose between protecting people or protecting fish and that is a falsehood. The only way this process goes forward is if there was hundreds of miles of habitat restoration for the fishery in the Chehalis Basin. On December 16, the flood zone district submitted the state the best science on the specific impacts of the water retention facility itself on the fishery in the upper Chehalis Basin and the district has made a public commitment that this facility will not be permitted if it has a negative net impact on the aquatic species habitat.

### **Land Owner Engagement**

Erik noted that the district needs to start looking at the needs for mitigation for the project and it will need to rely on people along the river to allow for mitigation through access on private property. He also discussed the Hyporheic pilot project which infuses pockets in the river of cold water where fish could find refuge as they swim upstream. Kleinschmidt has been working on this project for the past couple of months and have been reaching out to landowners to get access to properties so they can look at spots of the river that might be potential locations for the project.

Further discussion was held.

### **Social media and communications update**

Erik said that Austin Majors who is the county's Public Information Specialist acted as the PIO for the county's incident management team that was dealing with the recent flood event. He worked closely with the county's Emergency Management Group. Austin was sending out 3 to 4 press releases every day of flood information and informing people where they could go to get help.

Erik also discussed the importance of signing up for the Lewis County Alert notification system.

### **Announcements**

No announcements

### **Adjournment**

Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Frank seconded the motion. Meeting ended at 9:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lara McRea  
Interim Clerk, Board of Supervisors

