

Chehalis Watershed Cooperative Meeting

Thursday September 27, 2012

Call to order:

1:45 pm

Board Members present:

Mark White, Chehalis Tribe - Chair
Grays Harbor County Commissioner Terry Willis – Vice Chair
Thurston County Commissioner Karen Valenzuela

Others present:

Alan Vanell – City of Bucoda
Mark Swartout – Thurston County
Glen Connelly – Chehalis Tribe

Agenda:

The agenda was approved by consensus.

Minutes:

The minutes from the July 26, 2012 meeting were approved by consensus.

Unfinished Business

CWC Strategic Plan: Mr. Swartout reviewed the CWC's strategic plan with the group. The group enjoyed word-smithing some of the specific wording of the plan and agreed to continue the discussion at the next CWC meeting.

Legislative Funding: Mr. Connelly reported that the Chehalis Tribe had signed their approval for several projects that had been proposed by the Flood Authority and the Flood Authority had approved a project requested by the Tribe. The exchange of projects continues.

The group discussed the potential state budget for the next biennium and what projects they might request funding for. The concept of attaining high quality topographical data via basinwide LiDAR was discussed. The group also discussed using that data in a study to identify built obstructions in the flood plain that might be increasing flood damages in the basin.

Sickman Ford/South Bank Road Project Update:

Mr. Connelly said that the Tribe is continuing the design and hydraulic study of the proposed flood relief bridge. Consultants were gathering survey data and boring test holes to ensure the soils can support a bridge. They hope to have improved hydraulic modeling data in late October/early November.

Harris Creek Culvert Project:

Chehalis Tribe – Mr. Connelly announced that the Tribe had almost completed the replacement of the culverts where South Bank Road crosses Harris Creek. The project looks good and should be complete in early October, just in time for the flood season. The new culverts will allow improved water flow during lower flow periods, improved fish access and decrease the amount of flood water that used to pool up on the east side of the road, causing flooding in Oakville and on the Chehalis Reservation.

Floodplain Roundtable:

No new topics of discussion.

New Business

No new business.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be October 25th, at 1:30pm in the small meeting room at the Tribal Community Center.

Good of the Order:

none

Adjourn:

4:05 p.m