

**CHEHALIS BASIN PARTNERSHIP**  
**Chehalis Tribe Lucky Eagle Casino, Eagles Landing Hotel Conference Room**  
**Rochester, Washington**  
**November 15, 2013**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**Meeting Summary**

**MEMBERS, ALTERNATES & GUESTS PRESENT**

Amy Spoon, WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife	Jane Atha, Chehalis Basin Partnership
Chanele Holbrook, Thurston County Citizen	Jim Hill, Citizen, Lewis County
Chuck Turley, Department of Natural Resources	John Lucas, Lewis County Farm Bureau
Commissioner Frank Gordon, Grays Harbor County	Julie Balmelli-Powe, Lewis County Farm Bureau
Lyle Hojem, Lewis County Citizen	Kahle Jennings, City of Centralia
Mark White, Chehalis Tribe	Michael C. Mizell, Chehalis Tribe
Bonnie Canaday, City of Centralia	John Ferguson, Anchor QEA
David Rountry, Washington Department of Ecology	Jim Kramer, Ruckelshaus Center
Cindy Wilson, Thurston County	

**SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS:**

<b>Approval of Meeting Summary</b>	There was no quorum; therefore meeting minutes for October were not approved.
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**GENERAL PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS**

**Quorum requirement of 10 met:** No.

**MEETING AGENDA**

**1) Discuss 2014 meeting schedule**

Jane distributed proposed schedule for 2014 meeting. The May Partnership meeting was rescheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup> in order to avoid Memorial Day weekend. Bonnie Canaday will be unavailable to attend the May 16 meeting.

**2) Presentation on Chehalis Aquatic Species Enhancement Plan**

Jim Kramer introduced the ongoing work to mitigate flood damage in the Chehalis. The State's House of Financial Management has funded a study lead by John Ferguson, a senior biologist at Anchor QEA, as part of the broader effort to assess Chehalis flooding. Kramer reminded the group of the history of flooding in the basin, and the financial toll of \$938 million in 2007. Kramer provided the background on the formation of the Governor's Work Group. The group is using a basin-wide strategy to address the future of flooding. This includes assessing the feasibility of a dam in the Chehalis mainstem, localized flood projects, and I-5 improvements; all in addition to enhancing aquatic species. Ferguson presented on the Aquatic Species Enhancement Plan (ASEP) and stressed his desire for input from the community regarding sources of data, restoration projects and methodologies. Eric Netherland is co-leading the project with Ferguson. Ferguson informed the group that WDFW's Habitat and Fish Program is conducting research and collecting data on current restoration inventories in the basin. The Dept of Ecology habitat experts are also involved with modeling aspects. ICF International developed the EDT model used for the study, and is part of the team to update the model for the ASEP. Confluence developed the use of the (existing) Shiraz model and is on the team as well as BioAnalysis who is looking at limiting factors. The Chehalis Tribe is also involved with collecting smolt data, among other things. The ASEP's primary goals are to character aquatic resources, evaluate potential enhancement, and evaluate effects of

potential future flood projects. The scope of the ASEP is very large as it will cover the effects of flood projects on the entire basin. The main model used, EDT, accounts for tributaries. The emphasis is on WRIA 23, but will cover the whole basin. The results of the ASEP will be used for the cost benefit analysis undertaken by the economists. The first draft of the whole completion report will be available for viewing July 2014. There will be workshops to train folks who would like to use the model. It will be a living document that can provide information beyond the original participants.

There was discussion after the presentation regarding dissemination of the information to interested parties to provide input for the study. Atha mentioned that a timeline for deadlines for input to the study would be useful for distribution. David Rountry asked if there is agreement among the community on the outcome(s) that they would like to see. Rountry commented that it is difficult to engage with the community because folks are often too busy to attend meetings and do not have one collective voice. Kramer recognizes that it is heterogeneous community with more than one perspective, and that it is not one size fits all. Kramer's strategy is to wait until the information is available from the feasibility assessments to have public forums regarding a dam, etc, in order to know the implications of such projects. Kramer said that he welcomes suggestions on community engagement a bit further in the process. Cindy Wilson asked if Ferguson has seen Andrew Nelson's presentation on morphology of the basin. He has not yet, but would be useful.

### **3) CBP Legislative Outreach Update**

Atha informed the group that the STC meeting discussed moving forward with an updated focus and vision for the CBP in light of the lack of continued funding from Ecology towards watershed management. There were ideas put forth on different angles to highlight the CBP to legislators. John Lucas mentioned that he knows a legislative liaison for the Farm Bureau that may be helpful for legislative outreach. Chanele Holbrook said that the Chehalis is a critical area for recreation and tourism. This seems like a good avenue for future marketing and fund-raising efforts. Canaday mentioned that transportation issues are being talked about, and certainly flooding is important to transportation. Canaday also mentioned that education is being highlighted and CBP involvement in education and outreach would be worthwhile to bring forward to the legislature. Hill mentioned focusing on jobs in the basin, and how enhancement of the watershed is critical to fisheries, tourism, and others. Making connections between what the CBP is undertaking with these important multi-benefit considerations will be critical.

### **5) Chehalis Basin Partnership Elections**

The CBP held elections at this meeting. The Partnership came to the conclusion that the nominees, Bonnie Canaday for Chair and Mark White for Vice Chair, can be elected if there are no members who actively oppose their election. It was put to the group and there was no opposition. Canaday and White have been elected as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

### **6) Chehalis Basin Partnership and Lead Entity website updates**

Atha informed the CBP that she has been working with Deborah Holden on updating the Partnership website. There are now links to the 2013 meeting minutes as well as updated contact information.

### **7) Agenda items for January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting and future meetings**

Agenda items will include a presentation on crude oil imports to Grays Harbor in January. The group also discussed Atha giving a presentation on her research and background for the Partnership in February.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no further business, Chair Bonnie Canaday adjourned the meeting at 12:00pm.