

**CHEHALIS BASIN PARTNERSHIP  
WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE  
Chehalis Tribe Community Center  
Gathering Room  
Secena Road**

**June 9, 2011  
9:30 AM**

**Meeting Summary**

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**MEMBERS, ALTERNATES, AND GUESTS PRESENT**

Janel Spaulding, CBP/Grays Harbor College  
Patrick Wiltzius, City of Chehalis  
Chris Hempleman, Department of Ecology (DOE)  
Harry Pickernell, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis  
Reservation  
Tom Gow, Puget Sound Meeting Services

**Welcome & Introductions**

Patrick Wiltzius called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

**Discuss Watershed Signage Possibilities for Chehalis Basin Roadways – Follow up Discussion**

Janel Spaulding reported Friends of Grays Harbor County (FOGH) paid for many of the watershed signs currently posted. Representatives of FOGH have indicated they are willing to partner and split the cost of signs. The organization spent approximately \$80 a sign. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) installed the signs. There may be a cost associated with the installation. Ms. Spaulding said the committee developed a list of signs for the upper basin. They include:

- Newaukum River
- Jackson Highway Bridge
- Scatter Creek
- Chehalis River at Highway 6 Bridge
- China Creek
- Skookumchuck
- Chehalis River at Mellon Street Bridge
- Coffee Creek
- Lincoln Creek
- Garret Creek

*Chris Hempleman arrived at the meeting.*

Members discussed possible funding sources. Ms. Spaulding indicated there might be some funds available from the Phase 4 grant, which ends on June 30. She will check with Ms. Napier. Ms. Hempleman added that it's unlikely the Department of Ecology (DOE) has any funding availability. Mr. Wiltzius suggested contacting the Lewis Conservation District for possible funding assistance. Ms. Spaulding offered to contact Bob Amrine with the Lewis Conservation District.

Members discussed possible funding sources with the City of Centralia mentioned for China Creek, the Chehalis Tribe for Garret Creek, and City of Chehalis for the signs in the Chehalis area. Ms. Spaulding offered to follow up with FOGH for more contact information on the person who produced the signs. Ms.

Hempleman offered to follow up with the Department of Corrections for sign cost. Ms. Spaulding said she would also follow up with WSDOT to determine if the posts are provided by the department.

**Water Quality Committee Work Plan – Discuss Funding Opportunities and Project Ideas**

Ms. Spaulding reported that during the Steering Technical Committee (STC) meeting, members discussed different funding mechanisms for the Partnership, such as internal funding raising from members and grant application submittals. She suggested that each committee focus on writing grants or seeking funding for projects of interest. That proposal will be presented to the Partnership for feedback. Previously, the STC focused on water quantity issues and the WQC focuses on water quality. The Habitat Work Group focuses on habitat restoration. She asked for ideas on re-engaging individuals, involving others in partnerships, and potential contacts to assist with grant applications.

Mr. Wiltzius referred to the bill stuffer and suggested it could be beneficial to seek funds to professionally design bill stuffers and print a quantity that can be provided to each city.

Ms. Spaulding asked whether that type of project could qualify for the Husseman grant. Ms. Hempleman replied that outreach funding is difficult through the Husseman grant, but not necessarily out of the question. It depends on how money is available and the number of applications received.

Ms. Spaulding shared that she spoke to the art instructor at Grays Harbor College who offered to assist in designing professional bill stuffers.

Members discussed specific themes for bill stuffers.

Ms. Spaulding said she plans to contact Dave Rountry at DOE and encourage him to attend a meeting to provide an update on water quality. Ms. Hempleman advised that after July, she doesn't know if her work focus will change and it might be a good opportunity for her to encourage Mr. Rountry to attend future meetings.

Mr. Wiltzius referred to another work program involving the sampling of various sites along the Chehalis. The committee could continue efforts to secure funding to assist the Tribe in funding that effort.

Mr. Wiltzius reviewed past accomplishments of the committee. Members discussed potential future projects and areas of focus. Ms. Spaulding offered that rather than as acting as the initiator of projects, the committee could serve as forum for project sponsors to attend to develop projects and identify partners. Mr. Wiltzius offered that other work projects could entail funding better signage or brochures to distribute to Cabela's and the boating public.

Ms. Spaulding shared that previously April Boe, with the Nature Conservancy, spearheaded a Chehalis Basin Knotweed Working Group. That might be an area of interest to the committee. The Quinault Indian Nation is focusing on eradication of knotweed as well.

Mr. Wiltzius asked about future funding for the committee to continue. Ms. Spaulding said her position is funded through the end of the year. Ms. Spaulding said she could contact some individuals about possibly attending future meetings and/or receiving updates on any current activities and projects that may be of interest to the committee.

Ms. Hempleman offered that the committee could meet less frequently, such as bi-monthly, which might assist in increasing attendance.

Ms. Spaulding said she would like to invite individuals involved in stormwater management, such as Kim Ashmore from the City of Centralia or Mark Sandberg from the City of Aberdeen to future meetings.

Ms. Spaulding updated members on the status on the production of "Fin" for the Partnership. Mr. Ashmore is spearheading the effort and has raised \$13,000 to date. Approximately \$20,000 is needed to produce the replica of a salmon.

**Next Meeting**

Mr. Wiltzius said he is not available to attend a July meeting. Ms. Spaulding offered to send an email seeking feedback on changing to bi-monthly meetings. It will also afford time for her to contact several individuals. Mr. Wiltzius recommended including information on the current work programs the committee has initiated involving bill stuffers and signage as well as ongoing water quality monitoring. The email could also ask for any input on possible grant opportunities.

Discussion followed on the sites the Tribe is monitoring. Mr. Pickernell said he could provide an update on monitoring results. Mr. Wiltzius commented on the possibility of obtaining current datasets from the Tribe and contacting the college about the possibility of having a student compare new datasets to older datasets to complete an update. Don Loft's name was mentioned as a possible contact to initiate a conversation.

**Adjournment**

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.