

South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: January 8, 2019 Meeting, 2:30 pm – 5 pm

Ag Central 204 Hawley Street Lynden, WA 98264

Ed Blok Jeff De Jong Landon Van Dyk
 Rod Vande Hoef Rolf Haugen

Henry Bierlink Frank Corey Fred Likkel
 Joel Ingram Steve Jilk Stacey Beier
 David Haggith Tom Perkow Danny Didricksen
 Chuck Lindsay Kim Givan Sherm Polinder
 Katrina Simmons Karina Siliverstova

x = present

o = absent with notice

t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of November 13 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills – *see financial report*

Jeff moved approval of the Consent agenda, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Administration

- a. Board reorganization – officer election – AWB representatives Rod suggested we leave Landon as Chair and Jeff as vice-chair and Jeff as the AWB rep. Consensus agreement.
- b. Potential candidates for future board positions – names noted included Harold Van Berkum, Ed De Wilde, Blake Te Velde.
- c. Annual Review – AWB and Whatcom Family Farmers - tabled
- d. Strategic Planning – review annual priorities on website, Management Plan – tabled, an edited list will be suggested as a starting point for the February meeting.

The Action items on the webpage were adjusted to:

2019 Action Items

1. Work with WCD on DNA sequencing to better inform water quality decision making
 2. Continued water quality testing
 3. Work with AWB to resolve the water supply challenge
 4. Build on the 5-year drainage to accomplish improved drainage
- Jeff commented on the need to find “new water” in the SLWID. The PUD and the City of Bellingham have the potential to provide that but regulatory constraints still stand in the way.
 - Ed noted that SL still wants to be invested in the DNA work. He suggested the WCD present more on how this is progressing at future meetings.

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. [Presentation by Chuck Lindsay](#), AESI, on the PUD storage study – 7 sites examined, two within the SLWID (Pole Road mines, Kamm floodplain). A pilot project is being considered and potential team members identified.
- b. AWB/Tribal meeting with Lummi – on hold until Drainage Based Management is initiated
- c. Watershed Management Board and Planning Unit update
 - PU continuing to work on development of the updated management plan. Henry and Fred recommend limited future involvement. Our emphasis should be on implementing projects rather than further plan development. However, we will continue to participate with a goal of ensuring the Plan development is consistent with the Management Board’s 5 – year workplan.
 - Management Board returning to implementing 5-year workplan
- d. Ecology grant application – notice in mid-January

IV. Drainage/Habitat

- a. [Presentation by WDFW](#) fish screening crew – Danny presented the status of fish screening requirements for surface water diversions in fish bearing streams. Danny provided further information of an image detailing the [fish screen material size requirements](#) (though it should be noted the material size is only one of several important parts of screen compliance), the [NOAA federal screening criteria](#) that mirrors WDFW requirements (chapter 11), then a few links below for the compliance documents and fish screen manufacturers. There are other screen manufacturers; these are just a couple.

Clemons self-cleaning screens:

<https://www.clemonssales.net/products/screens/clearwater-self-cleaning-suction-screen/> These screens are great for self-cleaning fish screens. There are several different sizes available and would be most appropriate for some of the larger diversions that were mentioned yesterday.

Pump Rite screens:

<http://www.pump-rite.com/> These are great in areas where the water gets fairly deep close to the bank and there is a decent current (sweeping flow) to help keep them clean. There isn't any self-cleaning mechanism so if they can be placed where water users can see them/brush them, that would be best.

Zinvent screens ([Forestry Fish Screen flyer](#)):

These screens that were mentioned do not yet have official compliance standing with the feds or state, although in some situations we can consider using them.

WDFW has a cost share program to help irrigators install the correct screen. They have \$30k currently available and are seeking to develop a list of requests that would justify further investments from the Legislature. Contact WDFW if interested. They need to move the funds by June 30th.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – David reported that while there were some troubling numbers in the Nooksack watershed the SL numbers were among the lowest. Ed noted that the top priority for improved numbers was more manure storage for dairies.
- b. Landowner letter – recommended by AWB – Jeff moved we send the draft letter to key landowners as written, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- c. Kamm Ditch concern – board members looked the site over and recognized the complexity of addressing the problem. David has talked to inspectors about it as well.
- d. DNA source tracking project report – CD looking for sampling sites, wildlife

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.southlyndenwid.com
- b. [Manure Management Training](#) session organized by WCD on January 17th.

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

February 12

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____