

South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: September 12, 2017 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

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

Henry Bierlink John Courtney _____ Fred Likkel
 David Haggith _____ Dan Noteboom _____ Jake De Hoog
_____ Aneka Sweeney Heather McKay _____ Sherm Polinder
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of June 13 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Available</u>
Grant #1				
2017 Assessments Received		\$43,283.04		
Fund Balance 6/1/2017		\$70,104.51		
Fund Balance 7/1/2017		\$59,472.15		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$59,472.15
Outstanding bills:				\$14,294.34
Ag Water Board <i>July, Aug AWB Admin</i>			\$8,869.34	
Enduris <i>insurance premium</i>			\$2,769.00	
FHB Consulting <i>Plan development</i>			\$2,040.00	
N3 <i>Water quality monitoring</i>			\$616.00	
End of Month Balance				\$45,177.81
	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>		<u>Balance</u>
AWB	53,216	35,477.36		17,738.64
Projects	21,109	8,215.48	(\$9,500 for DNA)	12,893.52
Insurance/Adm	4,191	2,994.67		1,196.33
	78,516	46,687.51		31,828.49

Rod moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Rolf seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Administrative

- A. Review Priority Issue and Activity lists

Priorities	2017 Action Priorities	Notes/Actions
1a. Water Quality	Work with resources on DNA sequencing	Initiated Scott Ditch pilot program
	Continue water quality testing	
1b. Water Rights	Work on water rights...obtain, distribute water rights...lobby to get it done	Address use it or lose it
3. Drainage	Complete 5 -year Programmatic Plan	completed
4. Flood Management	Gravel removal, interaction with County Flood Mgt	<i>Develop an ongoing application for gravel removal.</i>

- B. Comprehensive Plan preparation – Heather led the Board in a review of Tables 1 and 2 in the draft plan. She will incorporate the edits into the next edition which we will target to be accepted as the draft plan in October. Once the draft is approved it will be placed on the SLWID website subject to ongoing edits by the Board. An idea that the Sumas WID has adopted is a 5-10 minute review of a specific section of the Plan at each meeting.
- C. 2018 Workplan & Budget
 - 1) Budget planning for 2018 – assessment rates – AWB is likely to present a budget request very similar to 2017. The WID needs to assess its project needs and determine if a change in WID assessment rate is needed. A decision needs to be made at the October Board meeting. The SLWID’s project budget is \$21,109. Anticipated expenses in 2018 are not yet clear.
 - 2) Nominations – Ed and Jeff – Rolf moved to nominate Ed and Jeff for another three-year term, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - 3) Legal Notice - must be published in Lynden Tribune October 18, 25, November 1

DRAFT PUBLIC NOTICE – *all Watershed Improvement Districts*

Residents within the Bertrand, Drayton, Laurel, North Lynden, South Lynden, and Sumas Watershed Improvement Districts have an opportunity to:

1) Nominate candidates for election to the Board of the District – one position in Bertrand, two in Drayton, two in Laurel, one in North Lynden, two in South Lynden, and two in Sumas – candidates must file with the secretary of the district a declaration in writing of their candidacy, or a petition of nomination signed by at least ten qualified electors of the district, not later than five o’clock p.m. on the first Monday in November.

2) Inspect the 2018 Assessment Roll and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in the Bertrand will be heard at 2pm, November 13th, for Sumas at 1pm, November 14th, for South Lynden at 3pm, November 14th, for Laurel at 10am, November 13th, for North Lynden at 10am, November 21st, and for Drayton at 3pm, November 21st, all at the District’s office. The Assessment Roles for all Districts are available for inspection from October 18th to November 11th.

Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts’ offices located at 1796 Front Street, Lynden.

III. Water Supply

- A. Olympia Report – Hirst and funding for water projects – Olympia is stalemated. There is potential for a \$450k grant to the County to facilitate water discussions and help develop more management tools in the yet to be passed Capital Budget.
- B. Water Supply Work Group report – Henry noted that the Water Working Group was overseeing the following projects:
 - i. Drought Contingency planning
 - ii. Infrastructure evaluation
 - iii. Renewed push for negotiations leading to binding agreements

IV. Drainage/Habitat

- A. Flood issues – an improved floodgate on Scott Ditch and a regular gravel bar scalping program were suggested. Sediment removal is not easy but not impossible. The SLWID needs to have a regular application in and be opportunistic when the timing is right to proceed with it.
- B. 5-year programmatic permit – Frank has prepared all the permits for the R Blok project on Ritter Road. Work should begin shortly.

V. Water Quality

- A. South Lynden source tracking project – adjustments on the experimental design have taken place due to the lack of rain this summer. It will be a Sept.- November project. \$125k is in the State budget for this kind of work. How and where it gets distributed is still being worked out. There may be a need to have the Conservation Commission go to bid on this money. We should provide a letter of support to the WCD to apply for it.
- B. Monitoring Results – summer monitoring revealed good results.

VI. Education/Communications

- A. Website - www.southlyndenwid.com
- B. Water Symposiums – Sept 20-21, Nov. 1. – Henry encouraged WID members to attend these educational opportunities. The September 20th program is of particular interest as both Rich Appel and Brad Rader will be presenting for agriculture. The November 1st program will focus exclusively on water supply issues.
- C. WCD Speaker Series – The WCD provided a list of topics. The AWB is helping to sponsor these talks.
- D. WFF Farmer Rally – Henry provided information on a November 2nd Farmer Rally

VII. Ag Water Board

- A. Winter newsletter – we will go to a summer/winter newsletter as WFF is planning a spring/fall newsletter. Rolf noted that the AWB needed to do a better job communicating what it is doing for farmers. Three of more 1 line statements would help communicate much better.
- B. Water Rights letter and future workshop – the potential of increased water right enforcement pointed towards the need to better educate farmers on their legal options. A letter was emailed to all farmers in July. A workshop in late winter remains a possibility but with few enforcement actions this summer it may not be an urgent need. Kasey offered to help on this if needed.
- C. CAO and impervious surface update – Farm Bureau has led this effort. Consensus is that both issues are being resolved in an acceptable manner.
- D. County water program funding update – Henry noted that the County was leaning towards establishing a storm water utility district in the Lake Whatcom area which would take some financial pressure off the Flood Fund.
- E. Portage Bay Partnership update – Ed expressed hope that the difficulties in making progress were only hurdles in the long process of building relationships that provide both parties and opportunity to communicate.

VIII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

October 10

November 14

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____