

# South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: June 13, 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                      \_\_\_\_\_ Dale Buys                       Fred Likkel  
 David Haggith                       Dan Noteboom                       Heather McKay  
x = present                      o = absent with notice                      t = teleconference

### I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of April 11 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		\$41,702.58		
Fund Balance                      4/1/2017		\$42,661.07		
Fund Balance                      6/1/2017		\$70,104.51		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$70,104.51
Outstanding bills:				<b>\$12,212.82</b>
Ag Water Board <i>May, June AWB Admin</i>			<b>\$8,869.34</b>	
Ag Water Board <i>Permit fees</i>			<b>\$1,719.48</b>	
N3 <i>Water quality monitoring</i>			<b>\$1,624.00</b>	
<b>End of Month Balance</b>				<b>\$57,891.69</b>
	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
AWB	53,216	26,608.02	26,607.98	
Projects	21,109	5,559.48	15,549.52	
Insurance/Adm	4,191	225.67	3,965.33	
	<b>78,516</b>	<b>32,393.17</b>	<b>46,122.83</b>	

Jeff moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Rod seconded, motion passed 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	Funding concerns due to use of flood fund for other purposes
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Landon noted that Water quality and Water Rights were regarded as equal in priority at the strategy session.

- B. Comprehensive Plan preparation – Heather discussed the first draft of the prelim plan. The Board was encouraged to focus on tables 1 & 2 and identify questions and/or feedback on the content and format. We plan a final draft in September for review, with some interactions via email through summer. Rolf questioned if we should be addressing issues like drainage since two drainage districts within the district were already addressing that. It was noted that portions of our WID were not in a DID and that the WID would be partnering with the DIDs on any project within their districts.

### III. Water Quality

- A. Monitoring Results – samples were generally good with the exception of Mormon Ditch. Fred questioned the wisdom of keeping to the same level of testing through the summer in light of risk and what value our sampling is providing. The board was inclined to keep the same level of sampling as this provided real data to help tell the story of how farms have been actively trying to address water quality. Jeff moved to that affect, Rolf seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- B. Exact Scientific – source tracking technology - A large scale DNA proposal has been prepared for consideration in the State budget. In the short-term, in order to demonstrate how this technology could be put to use Exact has crafted a proposal to do a pilot project in the South Lynden WID on the Scott Ditch reach between Strandell and Nolte Road. Depending on the level of effort costs would be between \$4,500 and \$18,900. The larger effort is being considered but the WID does not have that amount of project budget. Bertrand and Laurel WIDs have approved up to \$8k to support this kind of work. That would leave \$10,900 for South Lynden. Henry projected there was approximately \$8k in undesignated 2017 Jeff moved to reduce the number of monitoring sites from 9 to 5 in the Scott, to add one site on the shellfish beds themselves, and to limit the SLWID contribution to not to exceed \$9,500, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- C. ZAP Unit placement – not sites are being considered in the South Lynden WID.

### IV. Water Supply

- A. Olympia Report – the fate of ESSB 5239 (Hirst Fix) is still up in the air. The AWB has been working with Bill and other local partners to have some suggested budget language to be inserted to final budget negotiations should the opportunity present itself. Bill is floating this idea with other groups including the Lummis.

- Whatcom Water Action Pilot Program proposal - 2 years - \$150k/yr.

(X) \$300,000 is provided solely to establish the Whatcom Water Action Program (WWAP). With these funds, the department shall retain a qualified consultant to develop a multi-purpose water resource program capable of providing both technical and market analysis of existing water rights, changes of existing water rights, mitigated water rights, and development of new water infrastructure, including but not limited to storage, pipelines, aquifer recharge, and other projects. The program would be designed to meet water resource needs for both instream and out-of-stream needs, and be capable of supporting future water resource agreements. The program will analyze demands, design supply options, and create an exchange service where access to water will be methodical and transparent; including water uses for agriculture, rural residents, municipal supply, and instream flows. The department shall establish a steering committee for the program, which shall include major water resource stakeholders and federally-recognized tribes.

- B. Whatcom Water Supply work group – Henry provided a brief summary of projects this group was working on including:
  - Lummi Infrastructure project
  - Birch Bay Water and Sewer Deep Aquifer project
  - Ground water Modeling
  - Drought Contingency Plan
  - Action Plan

C. Water Exchange/Banking – A Pilot Program proposal to the AWB was reviewed.

**V. Drainage/Habitat**

- A. Ditch maintenance – no discussion
- B. 5-year programmatic permit – Frank preparing Blok Notice of Activity (NOA)

**VI. Education/Communications**

- A. Website - [www.southlyndenwid.com](http://www.southlyndenwid.com)
- B. Water Symposiums – Henry distributed the agenda for Day 1 of the Sept 20-21 “Baker to Bay” symposium. Rich Appel has agreed to present the Ag perspectives on how we view the Ecosystem. A second symposium specific to water supply is being planned for Nov. 1 or 2.

**VII. Ag Water Board**

- A. Spring newsletter is out.
- B. AESI instream flow report was presented to Water Supply Committee and will have more discussion at the AWB meeting.
- C. Portage Bay Partnership update (in Executive Session)

**VIII. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

July 11 and August 8 are likely to be cancelled      September 12

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_