

# South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: October 13, 2020 Meeting, 3 pm

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 854 9369 4921 Passcode: 699027

<u>  x  </u> Ed Blok	<u>  x  </u> Jeff De Jong	<u>  x  </u> Landon Van Dyk
<u>  o  </u> Rod Vande Hoef	<u>  x  </u> Rolf Haugen	
<u>  x  </u> Henry Bierlink	<u>      </u> Dale Buys	<u>  x  </u> Fred Likkel
<u>      </u> Alan Chapman	<u>  t  </u> Steve Jilk	<u>  x  </u> Scott Bedlington
<u>      </u> David Haggith	<u>      </u> Dan Noteboom	<u>      </u> Jake De Hoog
<u>      </u> Aneka Sweeney	<u>      </u> Heather McKay	<u>      </u> Sherm Polinder

*x = present                      o = absent with notice                      t = teleconference*

Landon called the meeting to order at 3pm.

### I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of September 8 Minutes
- b. Financial Report – *see financial report in board packet*

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
SL1020	Ag Water Board	October - December AWB	\$12,568.74
<b>TOTAL VOUCHER</b>			<b>\$12,568.74</b>

Rolf moved to remove the \$3,000 designated for the Kamm culvert from the budget as it was no longer included in the project, Ed seconded, motion carried unanimously.  
Ed moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Jeff seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### II. Administrative

- a. Board nominations – Rolf moved to nominate Jeff and Ed to another term, Ed seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- b. AWB Budget request – the requested increase in legal and media campaign surrounding adjudication was reviewed. The increase would reduce our project budget but reserves are adequate to fill that need should it arise.
- c. 2021 Workplan & Budget
  - Resolution 2020-1 – Setting the 2020 Assessment Rate and Budget
  - Resolution 2020-2 – Adopting the 2020 Assessment RollJeff moved approval of Resolution 1 and 2 setting the assessment rate at \$6/acre, Ed seconded, motion carried unanimously.
  - November 10<sup>th</sup> Board of Equalization

#### **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 – two positions 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 2021 Assessment Roll and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in Laurel will be heard at 10am, November 9<sup>th</sup>; for Bertrand at 2pm, November 9<sup>th</sup>; for Sumas at 1pm, November 10<sup>th</sup>; for South Lynden at 3pm, November 10<sup>th</sup>; for North Lynden at 10am, November 17<sup>th</sup>; and for Drayton at 3pm, November 17<sup>th</sup>, all at the District's office or via Zoom. Contact the WID administrator for access to the meeting @ [info@agwaterboard.com](mailto:info@agwaterboard.com). The Assessment Roles for all Districts are available for inspection from October 12<sup>th</sup> to November 6<sup>th</sup>.*

*Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts' offices located at 204 Hawley Street, Lynden.*

Public Notice must be published in Lynden Tribune October 14, 21, 28

### **III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply**

- a. Adjudication debate
  - Ecology report recommends Nooksack
  - Adjudication supported only by Tribes, Fishers, Realtors, and environmental
  - Building partnerships locally and in Olympia
  - Plan for Legislative education by Family Farmers.
- b. County Executive proposal
  - Built on Lummi proposal (2015) and Drainage Based Management
  - Seeking support from water users
  - Would add a new element to the Watershed Management Board’s work plan – “Settlement Negotiations”. This will be advanced in lieu of adjudication.
- c. Lynden MAR project – the new round of successful applicants for the 2020 Streamflow Enhancement grants was announced. Lynden received \$4.5 million to advance the Managed Aquifer Recharge concept. This will be located in the upper watershed, divert water during high flows and slowly release water throughout low flow periods
- d. Discussion with PUD – Steve joined the meeting via Zoom in a wide ranging discussion of the options the PUD has pursued to move water upstream to farmers and Lynden. All options are blocked by Ecology’s interpretations of legislative policies and court cases which affect their actions. The WID wondered about a pipeline from Trigg Rd. to the Everson area to either sell water to users or place into the River as mitigation for downstream withdrawals. Steve encouraged the Board to send a letter to the PUD Board requesting help with development of this option. The Board determined to do some more research about how other areas have addressed similar concerns before taking this step.

### **IV. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – David sent recent test results. No areas of concern.
- b. DNA project – Avian project initiated late year
- c. Manure ordinance – Fred reported the County ordinance banning liquid manure spreading on open fields in the winter is judged superfluous. Updated state rules cover what this was intended to cover. There will be movement to rescind it.

### **V. Education/Communications**

- a. Website - [www.southlyndenwid.com](http://www.southlyndenwid.com)
- b. Fall Newsletter – unsure if we should invest the time and \$\$ to publish a printed version. Make more effort to alert landowners to the website. Send the adjudication paper and an invitation to receive emails for future electronic newsletters.

### **VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

Meeting adjourned at 5:05. Next meeting is November 10

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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