

South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: September 10, 2019 Meeting, 3 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 Corrina Cheever Frank Corey
 David Haggith Shelly Macy

x = present

o = absent with notice

t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of June 11 Minutes
- b. Financial Report – *see financial report in board packet*
- c. The following vouchers are approved for payment:

Ag Water Board July - September AWB **\$13,237.26**

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

II. Administrative

- a. Potential annexations were discussed. The Lawrence area and the South Fork Valley are potential areas for inclusion in either the Sumas or South Lynden WIDs. The board suggested a meeting with the landowners in these areas, likely this winter with a goal of having the parcels that choose to be annexed on the 2021 Roll. Henry was asked to prepare scenarios and costs on annexations or preparing a new WID.
- b. 2020 workplan, budget discussion – for next month with more members present.

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Drainage Based Management (DBM) – initiated as a subset of the Water Supply Plan facilitated by the PUD – Drayton and Bertrand are primed to begin as there is funding from grants managed by the PUD and Birch Bay Water and Sewer. Meeting with Tribes later September to formalize which pilots are advanced. Work on identifying the technical participants for each pilot will follow.
- b. Streamflow Restoration Grant – \$150k available this fall for advancing projects described in the grant application – surface to ground conversions and augmentation. Some funds to advance DBM as a means to identify these projects.
- c. Drought Response Plan – grant opportunity for more funding of water banks, transfers, etc.
- d. Shared Waters, Challenges, and Solutions – forum on latest developments in local water negotiations – 6pm, September 19th – partially sponsored by AWB

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Fish screen program – WCD (Frank and Corrina) built on the presentation made by WDFW to the SLWID in January. They have some staff time to dedicate to helping to locate potential fish screen upgrades and helping farmers go through the cost share program which might provide up to 100% of these costs. They touted the program as a win for ag in both getting the right screens in place and proof of ag's commitment to improving habitat for fish. They need a proper list of the surface intakes in operation. The list they obtained from Ecology needed substantial truthing and the list the Lummis developed is not being shared. WCD will prepare a one-page proposal to farmers with surface intakes and Board members will check around prior to the October meeting. We will build the program based on the feedback they receive.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – David distributed latest monitoring data. Few areas of concern.
- b. Fall letter to landowners – Henry showed a letter drafted by Fred that the other WIDs were planning to send. The Board agreed but urged Fred to edit it down to one page.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.southlyndenwid.com
- b. Grange – Shelly noted the Grange was hoping to develop a media program illustrating how farmers are adopting Best Management Practices. Family Farmers was suggested as a good resource to partner with.
- c. Rolf's questions – exploring ideas to answer them
 - developing project proposal on amount of water for native vegetation and trees planted for buffer areas with WSU Soil Scientist
 - Ideas for how to better understand fish numbers?

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

October 8

November 12

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____