

# South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: March 8, 2022 Meeting, 2:30 pm

Videoconference – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81911288518?pwd=NmxOV25mZUsrRDJSRkF6Z2dtQXZBdz09>  
Meeting ID: 819 1128 8518 Passcode: 123056

Ed Blok                       Jeff De Jong                       Landon Van Dyk  
 Rod Vande Hoef                       “Pablo” Esquivel

Henry Bierlink                       Dale Buys                       Fred Likkel  
 Alan Chapman                       Katie Faber                       Jay Chennault  
 David Haggith                       Steve Arnold                       Joel Ingram  
*x = present                      o = absent with notice                      t = teleconference*

Ed called the meeting to order at 3:33 after the joint drainage discussion with Sumas WID.

### I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of [February 8 Minutes](#)
- b. Financial Report

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
SL0322	N3	water monitoring	\$741.00
SL0322	AWB	March, April AWB	\$9,614.40
<b>TOTAL VOUCHER</b>			<b>\$10,355.40</b>

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

### II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Water supply update
  - AWB contracted with Somach Law - focus on building alternatives to adjudication – federal, settlement options
  - Legal – Water Supply Team members preparing contract with same legal team
- b. Solutions Table
  - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating a May/June start
  - Linking with proviso supporting federal involvement in water mgt. (flood, supply, habitat)
  - Project List – to be offered at Solutions Table as advised by the facilitators.
    - Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application submitted
- c. Water Right acquisition candidates – 22 sorted by:
  - *Certificates with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by Qa from highest to lowest.*
  - *Claims with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by irrigation acreage from highest to lowest*
  - *Certificates with 4 or more land owners, sorted by Qa from highest to lowest*
  - *Claims with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by irrigation acreage from highest to lowest*
  - Determine who and how to contact – the list was reviewed in part beginning with the most water and least difficulty. The board helped identify who would be the best contact for each of these rights. Lead contacts were made when possible.
  - Menu of options for landowners – Henry, Bill, and Jay are working on a menu of options that could be presented to the water right contacts. Our first priority remains having the landowner defend their own right and keep using it for irrigating their land. But if they are not likely to do so we want to present them multiple options for how the WID can assist.
  - Ed asked the board to look at the rest of the list and make comments on who is the best contact on each right.

### III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Flood response
  - FEMA application for ditch cleaning

- Jeff asked for better communication between landowners and the County Road department on post flood cleanup. We may need to have this conversation with PW management to ensure better communication occurs in the future. The WIDs can help. Fred will connect with the County.
- b. Ditch maintenance
  - Charlie Cramer is the County's vegetation manager – mowing ditches
  - Areas where county road work is needed are: Northwood and Nolte.
- c. Beaver trapping – Ed asked about our beaver trapping policy. Henry reported other WIDs have approved a trapping budget that could be applied to blockages that effect the larger drainage system, not just one field.

#### **IV. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – David distributed the recent results which were quite good.
- b. DNA testing - David received some results but they were inconclusive.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – meeting irregularly.

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

- a. Website – [www.southlyndenwid.com](http://www.southlyndenwid.com)
- b. AWB flyer and draft cover letter – 227 letters mailed, 2/27
- c. Family Farmers Rally – March 29<sup>th</sup> – (cancelled)

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

Ed adjourned the meeting at 4:27. Next meetings are April 12, ~~May 10~~, June 14.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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