

# South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: April 9, 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                       Atul Deshmane                       Fred Likkel  
*x = present                      o = absent with notice                      t = teleconference*

### I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of March 12 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills – *see financial report*

Jeff moved approval of the consent agenda, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously. Jeff suggested we think more creatively about how to make use of our project budget. Water quality monitoring and drainage projects are good but there is the opportunity to solve some larger issues. The start of the DNA project is an example. We have \$20k left in the 2019 Project budget and \$63k in reserve.

### II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Drainage Based Management – tasked to County – pushing for June start – still uncertain how this gets started. Funds from the grant application are still uncertain as well.
- b. Ecology Rule Making – amending the Nooksack Rule
  - AWB requests (attached) – a draft came out earlier this week. Our read of it is that it is very limited in what it addresses with almost exclusive focus on mitigation for the exempt well issue. We will be meeting with Ecology soon to attempt broadening the issues addressed in the amendment.
  - Open Houses – April 22 – 1-3 in Ferndale, 6-8 in Lynden
- c. Advice to landowners via the Spring newsletter – Board was asked if this message was timely or needed. Consensus was that most already know about this and have made their decisions about how to manage risk. Some mention of the resources available to work on this is helpful but the entire letter is not needed.
- d. Use of PUD or COB water – Rolf noted that the Skookumchuck Water Association was at their limit in water rights and allowed hookups. This is negatively affecting several WID members. He asked if PUD or COB water rights might be available to address this concern. Jeff will talk with the Skookumchuck Board about some ideas that were floated. This generated more discussion about irrigation water needs from the Nooksack. It was estimated that 20-30 cfs would address a large percentage of water supply concerns in the South Lynden, Sumas, and Bertrand WIDs (all with River frontage). Could we contract with COB or the PUD to make use of their rights to supply these needs? Might we also agree to convert these rights to groundwater where possible and not affect streamflows?

### III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Drainage projects – County and WDFW will meet with all WIDs about projects. The board was asked which projects should be submitted for the South Lynden WID. Rolf noted the nightshade in the Hannegan Road ditch. Landon wondered about completing the Noon road project which seemed to be stopped before completion. Rod would talk to Leroy Lagerwey and Roger Oostema about the ditch along Northwood Road.
- b. FLIP process – Fred is meeting with Paula soon to prioritize which projects should be advanced this year.

### IV. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results were sent by David. Some high numbers in spots but subsequent samples were back in line.

- b. Portage Bay press release – by both WFF and Whatcom County. Story made it to the Bellingham Herald this week.
- c. DNA source tracking project report – CD looking for sampling sites, wildlife – hoping to help inform the wildlife and waterfowl contributions to fecal numbers.

**V. Education/Communications**

- a. Website - [www.southlyndenwid.com](http://www.southlyndenwid.com)
- b. Newsletter – WID activity report – Landon sent an edited version for the newsletter.

**VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

May 14 – likely cancelled

June 11

Sept 10

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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