

South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: November 9, 2021 Meeting, 3 pm

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 867 8195 9459 Passcode: 938534

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86781959459?pwd=aitrKzZqNnEyd1FkVWdSTEgrYUk0Zz09>

Ed Blok Jeff De Jong Landon Van Dyk
 Rod Vande Hoef Rolf Haugen

Henry Bierlink Dale Buys Fred Likkel
 Alan Chapman Pablo Esquivel Jay Chennault
x = present *o = absent with notice* *t = teleconference*

Landon called the meeting to order at 3:11.

Board of Equalization Hearing

Public has opportunity to contest Assessments. WID board must determine if petitioners provide clear evidence they would not receive value from WID actions equal to the Assessment amount. WID Board could vote to eliminate or reduce the assessment on individual parcels. Once completed the Regular Board Meeting commences.

Landon closed the Board of Equalization Hearing at 3:17.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of October 12 Minutes
- b. Financial Report

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
SL1121	Ag Water Board	November, December	\$10,758.66
SL1121	N3	water monitoring	\$1,035.00
TOTAL VOUCHER			\$11,793.66

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

II. Administrative

- a. Board nominations – Juan “Pablo” Esquivel was the only nomination to the board and is elected to a 3 year term. Congratulations and Thanks!

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Solutions Table
 - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating an early 2022 start
 - Tribes will be there but their level of commitment to reach agreements in this setting is questioned. They insist adjudication is the priority for them.
- b. Project List - Surface to ground conversion candidates were reviewed from a list that AESI had developed. Surface rights were screened by volume, number of landowners who would have to be involved, value to flows and habitat, and likelihood of landowner interest in making the changes. Several priority candidates were identified and boardmember assignments to sense interest were made. Those with interest would have Jay look into the legal complexities and some system design would be developed by the WID. We need to have a grant application developed by mid-December.
- c. Water Right acquisition candidates – a full list of surface and ground water rights with links to the current parcel owners was provided by AESI. The board will look for likely candidates in these lists that:
 - Are not fully using their water rights
 - May be locations where ag irrigation is not likely in the future
 - Are owned by entities not likely to vigorously defend their rights in an adjudicationThe board expects future meetings to address these candidates and a plan to offer the landowners options developed.

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Ditch maintenance – all seems to be in order for now
- b. Beaver trapping – no new news
- c. Flood Committee update – Fred has several FLIP meetings in the next few weeks.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – David sent a recent set of numbers. A few areas of some concern but not dramatic.
- b. DNA testing costs - \$250/sample. With our recent work we can call out the percentage of avian influence. Rod moved to provide N3 a \$1000 budget to use as needed when samples are likely to have a high avian influence, Ed seconded, motion carried unanimously. The Bylsma/Scott Ditch and Northwood/Kamm areas were of specific interest.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – Fred noted that recent reports indicate that Portage bay is 30% improved in counts over the past year.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.southlyndenwid.com

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Landon adjourned the meeting at 4:16. Next meetings are:
December 14
January 11

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____