

South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: October 15, 2019 Meeting, 1 pm

Ag Central 204 Hawley Street Lynden, WA 98264

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

Henry Bierlink Tom Perkow Fred Likkel
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of September 10 Minutes
- b. Financial Report

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

II. Administrative

- a. South Fork options – Henry presented the options for organizing and the cost associated with them. Discussions with the South Fork farmers have to occur before we can progress.
- b. Board nominations – Jeff nominated Landon and Rod for renewed terms, Rolf seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- c. 2020 Workplan & Budget
 - Resolution 2019-1 – Setting the 2020 Assessment Rate – Rolf moved approval for setting the rate at \$6/acre, Jeff seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - Workplan discussion – Rolf expressed concerns over the amount we pay the AWB especially for the Water Supply work. He felt that this work on issues like water banking was taking us far away from our goals of getting farmers water. He encouraged a rethinking of the water supply strategy with more work on studies of fish populations, the water draw from trees planted under the CREP program, siting and constructing a North Fork dam, and legal challenges. Farmer should demand legal water and not have to compromise practices or pay for it.
 - Resolution 2019-2 – Adopting the 2020 Assessment Roll and 2020 Budget – Jeff moved approval, Ed seconded, motion carried 2-1 with Rolf opposed.
 - November 12th 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 – one position in Bertrand, two in Drayton, two in Laurel, two 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 2020 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 11th, for Bertrand at 2pm, November 11th, for Sumas at 1pm, November 12th, for South Lynden at 3pm, November 12th, for North Lynden at 10am, November 19th, and for Drayton at 3pm, November 19th, all at the District's office. The Assessment Roles for all Districts are available for inspection from October 14th to November 8th.

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 16, 23, 30

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Drainage Based Management (DBM) – initiated as a subset of the Water Supply Plan facilitated by the PUD – Initial meeting indicated strong commitment from County, Tribes, PUD, COB, and WDFW. Three pilot areas were selected with process in place to have

water supply plans in place by May, 2020. South Fork, Bertrand, Drayton. Challenge to determine how to represent South Fork ag.

- b. Streamflow Restoration Grant – \$150k available this fall for advancing projects described in the grant application – surface to ground conversions and augmentation. Will fund preparation of a list of potential projects and implementation of a conversion and augmentation project within the next two years.
- c. Shared Waters, Challenges, and Solutions – forum on latest developments in local water negotiations – went well! Greg and Turtle facilitated. 100+ attending.

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Fish Screen program – generally worked and we should recommend to other WIDs.
- b. Update on Floodplains by Design discussions and potential projects – October 29th mtg for the entire County to be followed by Reach meetings beginning in January.
- c. Ditch mowing – meeting with County September 23rd – Keith, Fred, and Henry met with Travis, Gary, and Paula. Discussed both mowing and cleaning. Hopeful.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Meg reported there were red flag areas following the September rains. Discussion over the big picture of water sampling in the low land tributaries. Numbers occasionally in the 200-400 range should not set off alarms as this contribution to the shellfish beds would be minimal. It was noted that the progress on lowering counts in the last 5 years was remarkable progress.
- b. Ecology meeting – Fred attended a meeting with Ecology concerning their enforcement program on non-dairy livestock. It is disappointing that this program is far less rigorous than the dairy program.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.southlyndenwid.com
- b. WFF Farmer Rally – planned for November 21st.

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

November 12

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____