

# South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: January 10, 2017 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

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

Henry Bierlink                       Frank Corey                      \_\_\_\_\_ Fred Likkel  
 David Haggith                       Heather McKay                       Jessica Kirkpatrick  
x = present                      o = absent with notice                      t = teleconference

### I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of November 8 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Available</u>
Grant #1				
2017 Assessments Received		\$0.00		
Fund Balance                      12/1/2016		\$53,984.07		
Fund Balance                      1/1/2017		\$53,984.07		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$53,984.07
Outstanding bills:				\$9,836.27
Ag Water Board <i>Jan AWB Admin</i>			\$4,434.67	
Ag Water Board <i>Dec AWB Admin</i>			\$3,609.60	
N3 <i>Water quality monitoring</i>			\$1,792.00	
<b>End of Month Balance</b>				<b>\$44,147.80</b>

	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>
AWB	53,216	4,434.67	48,781.33
Projects	21,109		21,109.00
Insurance/Adm	4,191		4,191.00
	<b>78,516</b>	<b>4,434.67</b>	<b>74,081.33</b>

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

### II. Old Business

#### A. Ag Water Board report

- Legal
  - Lummi Settlement Update – Jeff summarized the work leading towards the Portage Bay Partnership Agreement and answered questions about what it contained and what it may mean for other farmers. It is a Phased agreement with deadlines included. It builds on a growing relationship between Lummi and the dairy farmers that negotiated the agreement. The funds provided and being sought are targeted for 1) shellfish harvester relief, 2) enhancement of shellfish beds, and 3) public awareness.

### IV. New Business

#### A. Comprehensive Plan Development

- The purpose and need for a Comprehensive Plan was discussed. The Board agreed that pulling all the information together was a needed exercise. It is

important to get the information together to obtain the 5 year Programmable Permits so drainage can systematically occur. How to do that and how much energy and funding should be applied to this was less clear.

- A Proposal from FHB Consulting was reviewed. The proposal outlines two phases:
  - i. Phase 1 – gather data, board retreat, create outline, prepare phase 2 strategy – budget estimate of \$7,375.
  - ii. Phase 2 – fill in gaps, obtain partnership and grant support – budget not yet determined.
- The Board was not ready to commit to a process to develop the Plan. They opted to wait to see how the Sumas WID progressed with their efforts to develop their plan and keep discussing this at future WID meetings.

#### B. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Ditch maintenance – DID #21 – Landon will investigate, the DID meets each Fall to determine their assessment rate and where projects are needed.
- Ditch maintenance – discussions with County and WDFW will continue at the North Lynden WID meeting next Tuesday.
- Programmatic Drainage Permits - WCD Grant application was not approved. A discussion with the Conservation District and Frank Corey is needed to see how a plan for identifying what ditches need attention, who is responsible for them, what permits are needed, and when work should occur.
- Frank asked the Board to consider some level of support for a drainage improvement project on Roger Blok's Ritter Road property. He offered to prepare a more expansive WID-wide permit application for this project that might suffice as our application for a 5 year Permit. The Board was inclined to support Frank's proposal but asked for more details at the next meeting. Rolf asked for Frank to send the State law that allow WDFW to require mitigation for work in natural or modified channels.

#### C. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results – David reported that most numbers are generally good with some troubling exceptions. Upper Scott remains a concern and the County is working with the septic systems there. Mid-Scott can also show issues periodically with no clear indication of cause.
- ZAP unit locations, installation, O & M, reporting – David noted there has been abnormally high counts when the turbidity is high. There hasn't been enough actual lab testing to correlate but the one that was done revealed a lab test of 37 when the ZAP was indicating over 1,000.
- Exact Scientific – source tracking technology – machine is purchased, seeking funding to calibrate with local sources.
- RFP for solar radiation – Jessica noted that ultra violet light is an effective treatment for killing E Coli. It is clearly demonstrated in standing water such as ponds and wetlands. It is less clear that there is any effect in flowing streams.

#### D. Water Quantity

- Water Supply Strategy draft - Henry reviewed a draft statement of goals and objectives that reflected the work that has been done over the years. The penalty to George Sandhu calls attention to the need to have tools developed and working that farmers in his situation can use to become legal in their water use. The draft is to invite comments and edits for consideration by the Ag Water Board.
- Rolf challenged the assumptions of the Water Supply Strategy draft. He felt that we needed to consider changing the laws that trap us into these difficult boxes rather than the "work around" approach that the draft strategy exhibited. He asked for some bullet points of laws that need to be changed and promised he would obtain signatures from numerous farmers petitioning for these changes.

Henry will check with Bill and produce this list for him and will also adjust the Strategy draft to reflect different paths that the AWB could choose to take.

E. Education

- Website [www.southlyndenwid.com](http://www.southlyndenwid.com)
- WSU Water Workshop sponsor request – Rod moved to sponsor the event with \$100, Jeff seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting**

February 14

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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