

# South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: January 12, 2016 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                      \_\_\_\_\_ Dale Buys                       Fred Likkel  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jeff Gollen                      \_\_\_\_\_ Steve Jilk                      \_\_\_\_\_ Scott Bedlington  
\_\_\_\_\_ Andy Bowler                       Dan Noteboom                      \_\_\_\_\_ Jake De Hoog  
\_\_\_\_\_ Aneka Sweeney                      \_\_\_\_\_ Heather McKay                      \_\_\_\_\_ Sherm Polinder

x = present                      o = absent with notice                      t = teleconference

### I. Consent Agenda

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

	<u>Original Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Grant #1	\$0.00			\$0.00
Fund Balance @ 1/1/2016		\$24,722.71		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$24,722.71
Outstanding bills:				\$3,648.00
Whatcom Family Farmers <i>December Admin</i>			\$400.00	
N3 <i>Water Quality testing</i>			\$448.00	
Clarke Law <i>AWB Legal - Dec. -partial</i>			\$2,800.00	
End of Month Balance				<b>\$21,074.71</b>

	<u>2015 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Insurance	2,600	4,622.00	-2,022.00
AWB	22,153	21,920.00	233.00
Projects	19,717	2,387.45	17,329.55
Administration	7,500	3,962.00	3,538.00
	<b>51,970</b>	<b>32,891.45</b>	<b>19,078.55</b>

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

### II. Old Business

#### A. Administrative

- Election of Chair for 2016 – Rolf moved to retain Ed as chair, Rod seconded, motion carried. Rod moved to elect Landon as Vice-Chair, Rolf seconded, motion carried.
- Budget for 2016

<u>WID</u>	<u>AWB</u>	<u>Admin/Insurance</u>	<u>Projects</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bertrand	50,696	7,662	28,000	86,358
North Lynden	20,891	2,833	0	23,724
<b>South Lynden</b>	<b>45,758</b>	<b>7,188</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>77,946</b>
Drayton	26,012	6,298	12,000	44,310

Laurel	29,260	5,582	15,000	49,842
Sumas	65,384	6,931	20,500	92,815
	<b>238,000</b>	<b>36,494</b>	<b>100,500</b>	<b>374,994</b>

The Board was generally OK with the budgets. It was recognized that this would leave only \$25k in our project budget if the AWB spent the full budget amount. There remains a lot of uncertainty if the full Legal budgeted amount will be needed.

B. Ag Water Board report

- Legal
  - Lummi Settlement Update (in Executive Session)
    - Discussion of upcoming meeting with Lummi over water quality issues and the State’s perspective on upcoming settlement negotiations.
- Media Relations – discussion of changing emphasis in AWB from media relations to legal defense needs.
- Financial – adopted AWB Budget

<u>WID</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Insurance Office</u>	<u>Admin</u>	<u>Legal</u>	<u>Water Access</u>	<u>Quality/ Drainage</u>	<u>Public Affairs</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bertrand	14,393	21.3%	\$1,278	\$4,260	\$28,969	\$4,260	\$4,260	\$7,668	50,696
North Lynden	5,931	8.8%	\$527	\$1,756	\$11,937	\$1,756	\$1,756	\$3,160	20,891
South Lynden	12,991	19.2%	\$1,154	\$3,845	\$26,147	\$3,845	\$3,845	\$6,921	45,758
Drayton	7,385	10.9%	\$656	\$2,186	\$14,864	\$2,186	\$2,186	\$3,935	26,012
Laurel	8,307	12.3%	\$738	\$2,459	\$16,720	\$2,459	\$2,459	\$4,426	29,260
Sumas	18,563	27.5%	\$1,648	\$5,494	\$37,362	\$5,494	\$5,494	\$9,890	65,384
	<b>67,570.0</b>		<b>6,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>136,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>238,000</b>
			3%	8%	57%	8%	8%	15%	100%

The Board requested a monthly checklist of activities and accomplishments in the Legal and Public Affairs areas.

III. **New Business**

A. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Ditch maintenance – Jeff Gollen of Whatcom Public Works will be invited to a Feb or March WID meeting to discuss potential projects along county roads.
- Fred noted a drainage meeting involving all relevant parties is being organized by the North Lynden WID.

B. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results have been reasonably good. Not a lot of new data since last month. Fred reported that the WCD’s effort to consolidate and present water quality data was making progress. The link to that data is <http://wacds.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=71fa677503c949c8847066178a531099>
- Fred informed the group of a developing policy generated by Whatcom Family Farmers which would provide a consistent response strategy across the WIDs for reports of questionable practices or consistently high fecal coliform tests. The goal is to have all WIDs adopt the policy and be the first point of contact for landowners when issues arise. The WID noted we needed to document the contacts we make and record them in some fashion, possibly in the minutes of the meetings.
- Dan noted that the County looked as good as it ever has. There are very few, if any, obvious water quality challenged sites.

- Fred noted the new Zap technology for monitoring water quality would cost about \$70k per unit. The WID wondered about the utility of purchasing this technology. A potential part of a new grant application.
- County Health letter Re: septic systems was distributed.

C. Water Quantity

- Planning Unit is continuing with AWB participation
- Out of Stream Users Group – Jan 27th meeting, potential agenda items:
  - Birch Bay Water and Sewer Grant - \$700,000 for exploring two more deep aquifer wells and setting up a water bank.
  - Legislative funding proviso request to do the review of water rights for each WID and to add to the water banking process beyond the Birch Bay project.

D. Education

- Comprehensive Plan Update – Heather MacKay – organizing January 25 work session – A draft MOA with the County was discussed with commits the WID to encouraging attendance of WID landowners at the session. Several names were suggested as participants.
- Website [www.southlyndenwid.com](http://www.southlyndenwid.com)
- The WCD's upcoming training session for Manure Nutrient Management on January 27<sup>th</sup> was recommended.
- A list of water quantity projects being advanced in Whatcom County was distributed. This provides context for what else is going on in water locally and indicates the numerous projects that have some kind of an ag nexus.

E. Other Items from Commissioners

- Rolf's questions were not dealt with point by point but several conversations throughout the meeting touched on several of his concerns. Clarity in strategy and good communication in making sure farmers understood the strategies and the reasons for taking them were reemphasized.

## IV. **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

February 9

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Family Farmers

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