

South Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: September 13, 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
 David Haggith Chuck Lindsay Hale Van Dyk
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of August 9 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Available</u>
Grant #1	\$0.00			\$0.00
2016 Assessments Received		\$43,320.20		
Fund Balance @ 8/1/2016		\$44,684.24		
Fund Balance @ 9/1/2016		\$34,527.04		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$34,527.04
Outstanding bills:				\$6,300.60
Ag Water Board	<i>Adm, Legal, WFF, and Quantity</i>		\$3,609.60	
N3	<i>Water Quality testing</i>			
Enduris	<i>Insurance</i>		\$2,691.00	
End of Month Balance				\$28,226.44

	<u>2016 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>
AWB	45,758	22,230.87	23,527.13
Projects	25,000	2,292.00	22,708.00
Adm/Insurance	7,188	3,891.00	3,297.00
	77,946	28,413.87	49,532.13

Jeff moved to amend the draft minutes to strike Section E under New Business, Landon seconded, motion carried 3-2 with Rod and Rolf opposing. Jeff moved to adopt the Financial Report and amended minutes, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Ag Water Board report

- 2017 Workplan and Budget – the 2017 Projected AWB Budget was reviewed and discussed. The budget projects to go up \$49k to address increased legal expenses surrounding settlement negotiations and the establishment of a miscellaneous fund to fund potential requests for support.
- Legal
 - Lummi Settlement Update – an update of current status was provided.
- AWB Issues Summary – for County Council education – a draft was circulated and Board members were asked for comments.

B. River Monitoring – no report from N3 at this time.

III. New Business

A. Administrative

- Budget planning for 2017 – assessment rates and a Roll will be adopted in October.
- Annexation – Ed reported the South Fork was not ready to join. The Lawrence area is also still not involved in a WID.
- Nominations – Rod and Landon’s terms are up. Jeff moved to nominate Rod and Landon for another term, Rolf seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- Legal Notice must be published in Lynden Tribune October 12, 19, 26

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 2017 Assessment Role and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in the Bertrand will be heard at 2pm, November 1st, for Sumas at 1pm, November 8th, for South Lynden at 3pm, November 8th, for Laurel at 10am, November 14th, for North Lynden at 10am, November 15th, and for Drayton at 3pm, November 15th, all at the District's office. The Assessment Roles for all Districts are available for inspection from October 11th to November 15th.

Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts' offices located at 1796 Front Street, Lynden.

B. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Ditch maintenance – Scott Ditch between Thiel and Noon is gathering sediment and will need cleaning soon. Landon will talk to DID #21.
- Programmatic Drainage Permits - WCD Grant application would create a staff position to recruit and implement priority conservation projects targeting Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding. This project will provide the WID leaders and individual landowners a dedicated and experienced coordinator to provide the technical assistance needed to get more conservation on the ground.

C. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results remain encouraging. David was encouraged to take followup tests when he sensed that it might help us isolate a source.
- An effort to locate 5 more ZAP units is occurring. They need locations that have security, access and electricity. The efforts are primarily focused in the Fishtrap although there may be one at the Guide Bridge on the Nooksack.
- Exact Scientific – source tracking technology using DNA is becoming more realistic. Fred and some farmers have been meeting with Kent Oostra to explore how this might be used and funded. Rolf wondered if we may already have access to this technology. He suggested contacting Bob Martin at USDA/ARS in Corvallis. David/Fred will invite Kent to the next meeting to further discuss his proposal and the potential of using the Scott and/or Kamm drainages as a pilot for the project.

D. Water Quantity – an explanatory diagram outlining the numerous water policy groups was distributed.

- Whatcom Water Supply Coalition goals, objectives, and actions were provided. This group is working on shared legal expenses, Review of Water Rights and Needs for each WID, and development of a Water Bank – part of the BOR and the Birch Bay Water District grant
- Birch Bay Water and Sewer Deep Aquifer project – a brief overview was provided.

- Chuck Lindsay led a discussion over the potential of locating deep aquifer sources in the South Lynden WID. The data he has gathered for the Groundwater modeling project (partially funded by the Bertrand WID) provided a sense of where the aquifers may be located and what the potential quality and quantities of water may be available. The board will reflect on the potential of pursuing this further.
- Seasonal transfer lessons – there is potential for making more use of seasonal transfers but only moving diversion downstream.

E. Education

- WCD Speaker Series proposal – Corina outlined a proposed schedule of Speaker Series and invited the WID to be a co-sponsor. Landon moved approval of \$100 for sponsorship, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- AWB/WID Newsletter – Ed will provide a short summary of the WID’s recent activities. The draft follows . . .

The South Lynden WID has focused most of its efforts on water quality monitoring and drainage improvements. Both the Scott and Kamm drainages are being regularly monitored with generally positive results. There are a few sites of concern that challenge the WID Board’s commitment to determine and address problem areas. There is interest in developing technology that would provide clarity on sources of fecal coliform. The SLWID has explored several ideas of potential focus in 2017 including river management, deep aquifer exploration, and microbial source tracking. The WID is committed to continued education efforts as demonstrated by its sponsorship of a Conservation District Speaker Series. The WID also invites Research proposals that address a better understanding of water quality concerns.

- Website www.southlyndenwid.com

F. Comments on Conservation District 2017 Workplan - The Board was encouraged to provide feedback to the WCD. Ed asked for the board to bring comments by the next meeting.

G. Other Items from Commissioners

- Ed wondered about the role of solar radiation in reducing fecal counts. He is concerned that it is possible that providing more canopy may help with temperature but may reduce fecal coliform die off. A Research Project exploring this thesis may be entertained by the WID.

IV. **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

October 11

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____