

North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: November 15, 2016 Meeting, 10am – Noon

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Attending:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brad Rader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Bajema	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Van Mersbergen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darryl Vander Haak	<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Stap	<input type="checkbox"/> Aneka Sweeney
<input type="checkbox"/> Erika Douglas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Bierlink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Te Velde
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Likkel	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark Sandal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Bedlington

x = present o = absent with notice

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.

Brad called the Hearing to order at 10:06. With no one present to challenge the assessment roll Don moved to adjourn the hearing, Roger seconded, motion carried unanimously.

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of October 18 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		\$20,896.86		
Fund Balance @ 10/1/2016		\$11,503.45		
Fund Balance @ 11/1/2016		\$13,345.66		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$13,345.66
Outstanding bills:				\$2,817.25
All Season Spraying			\$1,162.85	
Ag Water Board	<i>November AWB</i>		\$1,654.40	
End of Month Balance				\$10,528.41
	<u>2016 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
AWB	19,888	13,495.71	6,392.29	
Projects	1,489	1,312.85	176.15	
Adm/Insurance	2,240	2,258.00	-18.00	
	23,617	17,066.56	6,550.44	

Roger moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Don seconded, motion carried unanimously

II. Old Business

- A. Ag Water Board report
 - Legal
 - Lummi Settlement Update (in Executive Session)
- B. Ground water Modeling - model review is taking place
 - The Final Draft Conceptual Model Report has been uploaded to the WRIA 1 project website and is available for review. Comments on the report are due December 1st. <http://wria1project.whatcomcounty.org/Resource-Library/2016-Draft-Phase-2-Data-Collection-And-Conceptual-/118.aspx>. The use of the model to help identify a reasoned mitigation for the effect of ground water withdrawals on surface flows was discussed.

IV. New Business

A. Administrative

- Board nominations – Two nominations were received for the two 3 year terms. Roger noted he had the consent of Kevin Te Velde and Jeff Bedlington prior to the October meeting but was not able to attend and make this report. He moved approval of Kevin and Jeff to replace the retiring board members, Don, and Darryl, Don seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- Larry will draft a letter to the WID members discussing the Assessment increase.

B. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Ditch maintenance - Fred noted that there had been little mowing work done in the County this summer and some farmers were concerned about it. The Bertrand Board would like Public Works to come to a future WID meeting and discuss the potential of working with the WIDs to maintain ditch mowing in a public/private partnership between the County and the WIDs. Fred will contact Jeff Gowan.
- Mitigation plan – Joel will be back in January. At that time we will resume planning of the mitigation for the work on Bender and Assink Road ditches.
- Programmatic Drainage Permits - WCD Grant application in – hopefully know by the first of the year. This would help us develop a 5-year maintenance plan for mowing, spraying, and cleaning.

C. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results – Fred noted that counts are generally good. Septic systems seem to have more problems than expected and the County has been increasing the pressure on these systems. Fred reported some high counts at the Ferndale ZAP machine over the past weeks. There is no clear source of this problem. But lack of adequate storage seems to be at the bottom of much of the ag contribution to the problem. Fred noted we have 30% more rainfall in the winter months over the last 15 years.
- Exact Scientific – source tracking technology paper was distributed. They are seeking \$90k to make the equipment they purchased operational.
- Report on landowner contacts - Three landowners were contacted.

D. Water Quantity

- Whatcom Water Supply Coalition – has not been meeting the last months but has a meeting planned to mid-November. The County's plan to address the *Hirst* case will be a prominent agenda item for a while. Henry noted that the Legislature would have numerous proposals to consider to try to address the implications of this decision. Bill will be seeking opportunities to address irrigation and stockwater concerns in these bills. There is also a need to determine the difference between impact and impairment of groundwater withdrawals in closed basins.

E. Education

- WCD Speaker Series – North Lynden program on December 15th – Darryl will ensure someone is there.
- WFF Farmer Rally being planned for November 15th. A guest speaker from the Klamath Basin will provide some thoughts.
- Booth for the AWB and WIDs at the Small Fruit Conference – Nov 30-Dec 1. Henry will obtain large maps of each WID. Fred will work with Gerald to get banners, etc. for the AWB booth. Fred will work on a poster better explaining the relationship between the AWB and Family Farmers.
- Website www.northlyndenwid.com

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

December 20

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____