

# North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: April 16, 2019 Meeting, 10 am - Noon

Ag Central 204 Hawley Street Lynden, WA 98264

### Board Attending:

Brad Rader                       Harman Brar                       Kevin Te Velde  
 Kevin Engelsma                       Larry Stap

### Others Attending:

Erika Douglas                       Henry Bierlink                       Stacey Beier  
 Fred Likkel                       Jeff Cedarbaum                       Heather MacKay  
*x = present    o = absent with notice    t = teleconference    p = proxy*

## I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of March 19 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills – *see financial report*

Brad moved approval of the consent agenda, Kevin TV seconded, motion carried unanimously.

## II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Drainage Based Management – tasked to County – pushing for June start – still uncertain how this gets started. Funds from the grant application are still uncertain as well.
- b. Ecology Rule Making – amending the Nooksack Rule
  - AWB requests (attached) – a draft came out earlier this week. Our read of it is that it is very limited in what it addresses with almost exclusive focus on mitigation for the exempt well issue. We will be meeting with Ecology soon to attempt broadening the issues addressed in the amendment.
  - Open Houses – April 22 – 1-3 in Ferndale, 6-8 in Lynden
- c. Groundwater recharge mapping internship request – Heather presented a request from a UBC student to the WID board. He is available to work on groundwater recharge mapping in the NLWID. This would be a great educational experience for him. He wonders if the board would:
  1. Be willing to engage with Bosun to discuss the research and to help refine the research objectives, so that the results are most useful for WID planning?
  2. Facilitate access to a few field sites on farms within the WID area? The mapping of groundwater recharge will mostly be conducted using existing maps and GIS data, but it would be good for Bosun to be able to observe the different types of agricultural land cover on the ground and to take soil samples at a few sites. No regular monitoring program is planned. Most of his data collection will be during May to June.

The Board was agreeable to help. They noted they did not plan to meet in May or July but would help throughout and discuss this at the June Board meeting.

## III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Spray permit applied for and received.
- b. Drainage projects – trying to arrange a time for the County and WDFW to meet with all WIDs about projects – areas discussed as potential projects were:
  - West ditch along Depot from Pangborn to Badger needs cleaning
  - Bender Road ditch from Pangborn to Badger needs ban stabilization
  - Fishtrap bridge on Pangborn is not working as it should. There is much more capacity for water to flow through the bridge but the channel both north and south of the bridge holds back flow causing flooding along Assink Road.
  - Relook at the road relocation on Assink and eliminating the Assink bridge.

**IV. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – Erika and Jeff noted that quality overall is moving in a positive direction. A few sites remain puzzling. The Visser/Depot site is getting a fair amount of scrutiny and testing. Another area of concern was the Benson ditch, primarily in the urban area. Refocusing the monitoring was discussed as some sites have now shown consistently good numbers. Shifting sites or reducing the number of samples could provide more helpful information and reduce costs to the program.
- b. Nitrate study wells – Fred reported he was still looking at potential sites. Ecology has not been aggressively working on this.
- c. Portage Bay press release – welcomed, even with the “reservedly positive” approval by Lummi.
- d. Florameter – Jeff and Erika noted the use of this meter to measure influence from septic systems.

**V. Education/Communications**

- a. Website - [www.northlyndenwid.com](http://www.northlyndenwid.com)
- b. Newsletter – WID activity report – Larry will review the draft and have a copy ready for the June newsletter.
- c. PIC newsletter – Erika noted a monthly e-newsletter was being produced by the PIC program.

**VI. Other Items from Commissioners**

- a. Intersection safety – being evaluated by the County. Henry will check and have a report for the June meeting.

**VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

May 21 – Likely cancelled  
June 18  
Sept 17

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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