

North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: March 15, 2022 Meeting, 9 am

Videoconference – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82368362115?pwd=SDZvS2VScDJybXJaOHVVMzRGanZUdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 6836 2115 Passcode: 177508

Board Attending:

 t Brad Rader x Harman Brar x Kevin Te Velde

 x Kevin Engelsma x Larry Stap

Others Attending:

 x Gurjit Singh x Henry Bierlink t Jay Chennault

 x Fred Likkel _____ Steve Banham t Katie Faber

 t Alan Chapman _____ Mark Sandal t Kelly Hamilton

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference p = proxy

Larry called the meeting to order at 9:04.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of January 18, 2022 minutes
- b. Financial Report

<i>Voucher #</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Amount</i>
NL0322	Ag Water Board	January, February	\$4,507.76
NL0322	Ag Water Board	March, April	\$4,507.76
TOTAL VOUCHER			\$9,015.52

Kevin TV moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Harman seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Water supply update
 - AWB contracted with Somach Law - focus on building alternatives to adjudication – federal, settlement options
 - Legal – Water Supply Team members preparing contract with same legal team
- b. Solutions Table
 - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating a May/June start
 - Linking with proviso supporting federal involvement in water mgt. (flood, supply, habitat)
 - Project List – to be offered at Solutions Table as advised by the facilitators.
 - Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application submitted
- c. Water Right acquisition candidates – 19 sorted by:
 - *Certificates with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by Qa from highest to lowest.*
 - *Claims with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by irrigation acreage from highest to lowest*
 - *Certificates with 4 or more land owners, sorted by Qa from highest to lowest*
 - *Claims with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by irrigation acreage from highest to lowest*
 - Determine who and how to contact – the list was reviewed in part beginning with the most water and least difficulty. The board helped identify who would be the best contact for each of these rights. Lead contacts were made when possible.
 - Menu of options for landowners – Henry, Bill, and Jay are working on a menu of options that could be presented to the water right contacts. Our first priority remains having the landowner defend their own right and keep using it for irrigating their land. But if they are not likely to do so we want to present them multiple options for how the WID can assist.

III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Flood response – Fred reported on many ongoing discussions with the County, cities, and others. Discussions with BC are being organized.
- b. Ditch maintenance
 - E. Bender Rd. – Joel and Frank are checking on it.
 - Double Ditch – the difference between the east and west sides was noted. Henry was directed to seek the spray permit for the east ditch this fall.
 - Assink Rd. – Joel and Frank are checking on it.
- c. West Lynden stormwater – initial emphasis is on the west Lynden industrial area in Bertrand.
- d. WCD Update – Alan alerted the board to an election for the CD board on March 22nd.
- e. Beaver trapping – Fishtrap Creek south of Assink needs some trapping.

IV. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Fred noted results were generally low recently.
- b. DNA testing – David had one test analyzed but the results were ambiguous.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – no tests were conducted while flooding was occurring. Portage Bay is planning an update of their 2014 Plan.

V. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.northlyndenwid.com
- b. AWB flyer and draft cover letter – 112 letters mailed, 2/27 – few responses and most of those were positive.
- c. Family Farmers Rally – March 29th – cancelled – the need for an educational event is still pressing. Fred suggested that there may be a late May to mid-June window where we would have more to report and that the Somach Law attorneys would be up to speed and ready to give some quality direction to farmers.

VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Larry adjourned the meeting at 10:27. Next meetings are April 12, May 10, June 14

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____