

North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: February 16, 2021 Meeting, 9 am

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 827 2219 6749 Passcode: 667951

Board Attending:

t Brad Rader Harman Brar Kevin Te Velde
 Kevin Engelsma Larry Stap

Others Attending:

Randy Honcoop Henry Bierlink George Boggs
 Fred Likkel Steve Banham Meg Harris
 Heather MacKay Mark Sandal t Erika Douglas
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference p = proxy

Larry opened the meeting at 9:04.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of November 17, 2020 Minutes
- b. Financial Report
- c. The following voucher/warrants/electronic payments are approved for payment:

<i>Voucher #</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Amount</i>
NL0221	Ag Water Board	January, February AWB	\$5,041.00
NL0221	Reichhardt & Ebe	Assink Rd. culvert	1353.83
NL0221	Reichhardt & Ebe	Bender culverts	778.25
TOTAL VOUCHER			\$7,173.08

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

II. Administrative

- a. Oath of Office – Harman was sworn into a new three-year term.
- b. Officer election – President and VP/Secretary – Kevin moved to keep Larry as President, Kevin TV as AWB representative, and Brad as VP/Sect., Brad seconded, motion carried unanimously.

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Adjudication debate
 - Legislative education is continuing – a budget proviso that would approve funding for both pre-adjudication work and the County collaborative process is developing. It currently prohibits Ecology from filing for adjudication until 2023. Suggested improvements to that language would be to combine the Ecology and County processes and make no mention of adjudication.
 - Response to tribal meeting – A general feeling of progress in the December meeting with tribes but no response as of yet to our followup letter.
- b. County Executive proposal
 - Built on Lummi proposal (2015) and Drainage Based Management
 - Cascadia Policy Solutions - Maia, Jay – engaged by County to guide this

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Ditch maintenance
 - Double Ditch culvert near cell tower – it was noted that the failed culvert had been removed by the County in cooperation with WDFW. The WID was not notified and this work may cause work to have EQIP fund a replacement to be ineligible.
 - Assink Road and Bender Road culverts – Rader’s paid over \$2k for engineering services. The board approved payment of these invoices
- b. Contracting with Reichhardt and Ebe – Brad moved to set up a contract with Reichhardt and Ebe that would allow up to \$2k in engineering services assistance to members of the

WID requiring help in culvert replacement or other drainage improvement engineering services. Each project requires the consent of a majority of WID board members and the annual total for these projects is \$10k. Kevin TV seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- c. Stream classification discussion with WDFW – Dale and Henry meet with several WDFW representatives responding to our letter requesting more flexibility in culvert design where fish are not present. WDFW was sympathetic to the argument but maintained they had no flexibility in law to provide the WID or its members the option of installing smaller culverts. They noted that WDFW was talking to Lynden about the Bender Road ditch blockage. They also encourage the WID to keep working on advocating for updated state policies that would provide for a more logical policy in the future.
- d. Beaver trapping – Sumas WID initiative with Travis Stremmer was mentioned.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Erika reported fairly good numbers in recent months. The exception was Pepin Creek out of BC. A very high count – 60,000 was detected recently. Erika mentioned that communication with BC, the Governor’s office, and the Lummi Nation was occurring.
- b. DNA project – Avian project initiated and progressing. Exact has been challenged to get all the needed supplies for the project due to COVID.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – the numbers have not been encouraging in large part to the timing of the tests (immediately after large rain events). There may be an additional month of fall closure in Portage and closure of an additional area in Drayton.
- d. First Contact – Larry mentioned fielding calls from neighbors who had received a warning letter from the County. He asked that the County begin these education efforts with the WID board by allowing us to make the first contacts.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.northlyndenwid.com

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Larry adjourned the meeting at 9:56. Next meeting is March 16

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____