

North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: October 18, 2022 Meeting, 9am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85167920429?pwd=MW55bzRYWFdUTGZjekszMlVhNWlyZz09>

Meeting ID: 851 6792 0429 Passcode: 081604

Board Attending:

Brad Rader Harman Brar Kevin Te Velde
 Kevin Engelsma Larry Stap

Others Attending:

Alan Chapman Henry Bierlink Bill Clarke
 Fred Likkel Steve Banham Cynthia May

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

Brad convened the meeting at 9:03.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of June 21, 2022 minutes
- b. Financial Report

Voucher #	Payee	Purpose	Amount
NL0922	AWB	July - Sept. AWB	\$6,761.64
NL0922	Enduris	insurance	\$1,668.00
NL1022	All Season Spraying	ditch maintenance	\$3,032.11
TOTAL VOUCHER			\$11,461.75

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

II. Administrative

- a. Board nominations – Kevin and Kevin need to be nominated. Harman nominated both Kevin and Kevin for another term, Kevin TV seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- b. [AWB Budget request](#) – Board reviewed the request which included added legal costs and encouragement for WIDs to budget for water right acquisition. This will mean a \$39,894 budget for the NLWID.
- c. 2023 Workplan & Budget
 - Resolution 2022-1 – Setting the 2023 Assessment Rate and Budget
 - Harman moved to adopt Resolution 2022-1, keep the acre assessment at \$10, and the total budget at \$58,840, Kevin E seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - Resolution 2022-2 – Adopting the 2023 Assessment Roll
 - Harman moved to adopt Resolution 2022-2, Kevin E seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - November 15th Board of Equalization will be held to begin the meeting.

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 2023 Assessment Roll and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in Laurel will be heard at 10am, November 14th; for Bertrand at 2pm, November 14th; for Sumas at 1pm, November 8th; for South Lynden at 3pm, November 8th; for North Lynden at 9am, November 15th; and for Drayton at 3pm, November 15th, all at the District's office or via Zoom. Contact the WID administrator for access to the meeting @ info@agwaterboard.com. The Assessment Roles for all Districts are available for inspection from October 18th to November 8th.

Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts' offices located at 204 Hawley Street, Lynden.

Public Notice must be published in Lynden Tribune October 19, 26, and November 2

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Water supply update
 - Somach Law – alternate to adjudication – federal settlement idea being vetted
 - Ecology floating “Solutions Showcase” – learning from the [Yakima example](#). We should submit questions and connect with the Yakima farmers involved prior to the October 27th WMB meeting.
 - Ecology budget request – Bill noted they asked the Legislature for \$2.75 million for the next biennium. This would not cover the expenses of the Attorney General or the Whatcom Superior Court. We are drafting a response that would point the Legislature towards more effective and efficient means of addressing the numerous water issues.
 - [Project List](#) ready for distribution to the appropriate discussion table
 - Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application denied. Will be debriefing with Ecology soon to understand why.
- b. Water Right acquisition candidates
 - AWB to establish – [Whatcom Ag Water Exchange](#) – in process
 - Draft [Mailing to all WID members](#) – will be sent once the Exchange is set up.
 - Follow-up with key acquisition candidates

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Flood update – Fred noted some progress on implementing flood solutions. He also alerted the board to the likelihood of an increase in the Flood Tax in light of all the needs following the 2021 flood.
- b. Ditch maintenance – The board was pleased with the County’s ditch mowing this year but had questions about the spot cleaning we had hoped to occur on the following ditches.
 - Bender ditch
 - Assink ditch
 - Double Ditch
- c. Renew HPA – We are counting on Frank to have a renewed 5-year HPA ready by next spring.
- d. Culvert replacement – it was noted the Van Dalen culvert had been replaced. We had applied \$2,700 help the engineering in 2021. Questions about how we might be able to help others with failing culverts arose. A metal lining on existing culverts was suggested as a means of keeping culverts from deteriorating.
- e. CLASS – September 15th landowner meeting – issues were vetted and a hydrologic study is being prepared. These issues will be addressed in north Lynden in the near future.
- f. WCD Update – [parcel fee proposed](#) - County Council public hearing on Oct 25th. – Alan reviewed the purpose of the proposal which is to provide a funding base for the WCD which is currently nearly solely reliant on grant funding. A letter of support from the WIDs and AWB would be appreciated. The board noted they appreciated the funding package which is based on parcels rather than acres. The net result is ag would be providing approximately \$30k of the \$590k revenue. The services provided by the WCD were also appreciated but the loss of an ag engineer to help with EQIP contracts was sorely missed.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Cynthia distributed a short survey for the CD on how farmers want to receive water quality data. The recent results were reviewed which were generally quite good.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.northlyndenwid.com
- b. Legislative Tour - November– Henry explained that once we have a clear ask of the Legislature as they consider the funding of the adjudication Bill will help to bring some key legislators to Whatcom and we will show them sites to illustrate our request.

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Brad adjourned the meeting at 10:12. Next meeting is November 15.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____