

North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: October 15, 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 Randy Honcoop
 Fred Likkel _____ Mark Sandal Meg Harris
 Heather MacKay _____ Stacey Beier _____ Jeff Cedarbaum
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference p = proxy

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of September 9 Minutes
- b. Financial Report

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

II. Administrative

- a. 2020 Workplan & Budget
 - Resolution 2019-1 – Setting the 2020 Assessment Rate and Budget
 - Resolution 2019-2 – Adopting the 2020 Assessment Roll
 - Brad moved approval of the Resolution 2019-1 and 2019-2, Harman seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - November 19th Board of Equalization

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 2020 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 11th, for Bertrand at 2pm, November 11th, for Sumas at 1pm, November 12th, for South Lynden at 3pm, November 12th, for North Lynden at 10am, November 19th, and for Drayton at 3pm, November 19th, all at the District's office. The Assessment Roles for all Districts are available for inspection from October 14th 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 16, 23, 30

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Aquifer mapping project – Heather presented the final report from Boson. It provided useful information leading to a better understanding of groundwater recharge potential. Heather suggested there may be interest at UBC to continue the relationship and help with future field research interests. Understanding the factors that affect soil compaction was discussed. She will summarize the findings for a future NLWID newsletter.
- b. NRCS Watershed Assessments – Meg noted that the WCD had submitted the Fishtrap and Wisner Lake drainages as candidates for the national NRCS Watershed assessment program. This was done in the Ten Mile over the past years.
- c. Drainage Based Management (DBM) – initiated as a subset of the Water Supply Plan facilitated by the PUD – Initial meeting indicated strong commitment from County, Tribes, PUD, COB, and WDFW. Three pilot areas were selected with process in place to have

water supply plans in place by May, 2020. South Fork, Bertrand, Drayton. Challenge to determine how to represent South Fork ag.

- d. Streamflow Restoration Grant – \$150k available this fall for advancing projects described in the grant application – surface to ground conversions and augmentation. Will fund preparation of a list of potential projects and implementation of a conversion and augmentation project within the next two years.
- e. Shared Waters, Challenges, and Solutions – forum on latest developments in local water negotiations – went well! Greg and Turtle facilitated. 100+ attending.

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Pepin Creek project – no new update
- b. Ditch mowing – meeting with County September 23rd – Keith, Fred, and Henry met with Travis, Gary, and Paula. Discussed both mowing and cleaning. Fred noted this was a promising partnership. The ditch cleaning that the NLWID had requested did not get done before the fall rains. A pilot program in the Sumas may lead to more active WID involvement in these stream maintenance projects.
- c. Update on Floodplains by Design discussions and potential projects- October 29 mtg. Fred was more optimistic about the potential for progress in these discussions in light of the initiation of the Water Supply and Drainage Based management discussions.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Erika began her report with a “Big Picture” outlook. Fall is a challenging water quality time throughout the County as the first flush after summer inevitably produces high counts in many areas. Fishtrap had a few areas of concern as well. City of Lynden has been addressing concerns. County sampling in Fishtrap has dropped from weekly to bi-weekly. They had been sampling every week since 2015.
- b. Flow and Concentration discussion – questions about the validity of collecting samples from low flows led to a helpful discussion.
- c. Portage Bay fall closures – Fred reported there is consistent pressure on the Dept of Health to look at more targeted closures rather than relying on seasonal closures of the shellfish beds.
- d. BC partnerships – a sampling blitz north of the border is planned for November.
- e. Conductivity – ZAPs units are out but conductivity meters are being installed at the border at Double Ditch.
- f. Nitrate study – Ecology is reactivating their search for monitoring wells along the border.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.northlyndenwid.com
- b. WFF Farmer Rally – planned for November 21st.

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

November 19

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____