

North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: April 17, 2018 Meeting, 10 am - Noon

Ag Central 204 Hawley Street Lynden, WA 98264

Board Attending:

<input type="checkbox"/> o	Brad Rader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Harman Brar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Kevin Te Velde
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Bedlington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Larry Stap		

Others Attending:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Erika Douglas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Henry Bierlink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Randy Honcoop
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Fred Likkel	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Sandal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Blake Te Velde

x = present *o = absent with notice* *t = teleconference*

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of February 20 and March 20 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills

Kevin moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Harmon seconded, motion carried unanimously

II. Administration

- a. Board membership – the difficulty in obtaining quorums was addressed. Jeff is seldom available but has sent Blake to participate in the discussion. Unfortunately, we have not been able to designate Blake as a voting replacement for Jeff. Options to consider is obtaining a Proxy voting authority for one of the existing board members or having Jeff resign his position and fill it with Kevin Engelsma who seems ready to accept an appointment. Henry will check on the rules surrounding Proxy voting.

III. Ag Water Board

- a. AWB “Next Steps” proposal
 - i. Vet with Lummi - Present as logical progression of the process they outlined in 2015. Greg Ebe is leading the connection with Lummi.
 - ii. Emphasis on implementing projects – demonstrate our commitments – including the surface to ground water conversion project opportunities in ESB 6091.
 - iii. Goal of having Lummi and AWB advance Drainage Based Management at the Watershed Management Board in Fall.
- b. Foster Task Force pilot program – opportunity for all WID members with a surface water right that you would consider moving to groundwater.
 - i. Need a list of applicants by June 1
 - ii. Would apply for funds to cover water right transfer processing and cost share
 - iii. R & E and AESI assisting in locating likely candidates. Henry referred to the maps provided by AESI. Our goal is to identify several (2-4) potential surface water rights that might be converted to a groundwater source.

Purposes of the project are:

1. Demonstrate our commitment to improve stream flows
2. Assist farmers with getting water rights solidified and infrastructure updated.
3. Make sure we don’t lose water rights because of nonuse or underuse.

Priority projects will be:

1. Upstream
2. Significant volume
3. An interested party with few complications.

WID board was encouraged to study the maps and help identify potential projects meeting these criteria. We would like to keep soliciting interest in this type of a project as we expect there will be more opportunities in future years. There are not many surface rights in the Fishtrap. The ones that seem most likely to meet the

criteria are Denny Lensen's rights and Twyla Vander Haak's. The idea of stream augmentation from the Delta exploratory wells now owned by Larry was also mentioned as a stream improvement project.

- c. Spring Workshop on water right tools – likely June 5th.
- d. Watershed Management Board and Planning Unit update – Ecology is trying to provide a clear definition of “net ecological benefit”, a requirement in the ESB 6091 legislation. There will be a need for mitigating projects and ag in the best place to provide them.

IV. Drainage/Habitat

- a. Ditch maintenance –
 - Benson culvert – Brad is talking to Frank DV
 - Zylstra/V Voort beaver – a mess but Zylstra is not asking for help
 - Bajema culvert replacement – Fred will talk with Steve Korthuis
- b. Heeringa Mitigation – completed by LCS and NSEA earlier this month. Brad sent pictures.
- c. Flood Study - FLIP – a meeting to discuss the results of the sediment study was held Thursday. Fred thought it was productive.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Erica reviewed the recent data. Few areas of concern. Connections with BC government are improving as is water quality from the north at most sampling periods. She noted the continued work on a small farm incentive program in cooperation with the WCD.
- b. Groundwater – Nitrate study – samples are being taken by DOE.
- c. South Lynden source tracking project report - @ a future SLWID meeting
- d. Joint Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District Advisory meeting – 25th. Intensive sampling is underway again by DOH.
- e. Report on landowner contacts – Larry is connecting with a neighbor. Fred working with north Depot area.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.northlyndenwid.com
- b. E-Newsletter – use pictures Brad took of Heeringa planting
- c. WFF – REAL campaign
- d. First Salmon Ceremony will be on May 17, 2018 from 10:00 to 2:00

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

June 19

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____