

North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: November 17, 2020 Meeting, 9:30 am

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 893 0635 1072 Passcode: 225816

Board Attending

Brad Rader Harman Brar Kevin Te Velde
 Kevin Engelsma Larry Stap

Others Attending:

Randy Honcoop Henry Bierlink Scarlett Graham
 Fred Likkel Dale Buys Meg Harris
 Atul Deshmane Mark Sandal Erika Douglas
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference p = proxy

Larry convened the meeting at 9:37.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of October 20 Minutes, November 3 special board meeting
- b. Financial Report

Kevin moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Harman seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Ditch maintenance
 - Assink Rd. – a video of salmon spawning was provided by WDFW. Recent work made this possible.
- b. Stream Classification – a letter to WDFW authored by Dale and edited by Henry with advice from Joel was approved to be sent. It raises concerns about the costs of restoration projects and culvert replacements upstream of fish blockages.
- c. Contracting with Reichhardt and Ebe – Dale noted that it would be best for the NLWID to go through a state required selection process before entering into a contract. Henry will check. Assumption is we would establish a contract that would not exceed \$10k annually to provide engineering assistance on a task order basis.

III. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – recent data indicates the numbers are quite good – a few questionable spots. Mark noted the City was working on the area along Main Street. Erika reviewed recent data alerting the board to some trends.
- b. DNA project – Avian project initiated by WCD as they are collecting bird droppings
- c. Portage Bay Shellfish – Fred noted we are in the October – December closure period. The Dept of Health was asked to refine their closures to reflect high risk rainfall events rather than just blanket closures. A general unwillingness to do this yet.

Board of Equalization Hearing @ 10 am

Public has opportunity to contest Assessments. WID board must determine if petitioners provide clear evidence they would not receive value from WID actions equal to the Assessment amount. WID Board could vote to eliminate or reduce the assessment on individual parcels. Once completed the Regular Board Meeting commences.

Larry opened the hearing at 10:03, upon hearing from no petitioners Harmon moved to close the hearing, Kevin seconded, motion carried unanimously.

IV. Administrative

- a. Board nominations – Harman is elected to a 3 year term. Congratulations and Thanks!

V. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Adjudication debate
 - Plan for Legislative education is being coordinated by Bill Clarke with the lobbyists and leaders in Olympia. Family Farmers sent an Update to all farmers and held a meeting with the East Indian community to update them on this issue as well.
- b. County Executive proposal
 - Built on Lummi proposal (2015) and Drainage Based Management
 - Expect to have the Watershed Management Board approve the workplan December 17th, Initial feedback has been positive.
 - AWB position remains the need to sideline adjudication in lieu of work on the settlement negotiations. Others think they can proceed together.
 - Lummi convening a Tribal/AWB meeting – date is set for December 10th. Logistics are being arranged.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.northlyndenwid.com
- b. PUD – Atul commended the WIDs and AWB for the education efforts surrounding the adjudication concern but stressed more needs to be done to help the community understand the implications of adjudication. The PUD can potentially help with this as they are managing a water education grant from Ecology.

VII. Other Items from Commissioners

- a. Shoreline Management Plan – The County Planning Commission is reviewing an update to the SMP. There are many unknown implications for ag. David Haggith is helping to provide input based on experiences with the CAO. Jon Maberry is the only farmer on the Commission. Atul is also on the PC and offered his assistance.

VIII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Brad adjourned the meeting at 10:32.
December 15 - likely cancelled
January 19

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____