

# North Lynden Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes – Regular Meeting – March 18, 2025

### Attendees

“(t)” indicates presence via tele-conference, “(p)” indicates proxy vote.

<b>Board – Present</b>	<b>Board – Absent with Notice</b>
Kevin Te Velde Mitch Moorlag Brad Rader Harmon Brar	Kevin Engelsman

<b>Staff and Consultants</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization / Affiliation</b>
Gavin Willis	Ag Water Board
Tania Grim	Ag Water Board
Jay Chennault (t)	AESI
Cynthia May (t)	Whatcom Conservation District
Katie Faber (t)	AESI

<b>Other Guests</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization / Affiliation</b>
Alan Chapman (t)	Whatcom Conservation District
Gurjit Singh (t)	

### Proceedings

Meeting was called to order at 9:03 am.

#### 1. Consent Agenda

- a. Agenda was reviewed.
- b. Minutes from the February 14 meeting were reviewed.
- c. Financial reports were reviewed.
- d. Voucher NL-Gen-0325 in the amount of \$3,987.50 was reviewed.
- e. Brad moved to approve the consent agenda. Mitch seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 2. Ag Water Board / Water Supply

- a. Gavin gave an adjudication update
  - i. SB5212, which will allow pre-code water users without statement of claim to file in the adjudication, went through the senate unanimously. Had a hearing in the House Ag and Natural Resources Committee last week.
  - ii. Summons started going out on Monday. The goal is everyone in the adjudication will receive their summons by May 1. One delivery attempt will be made. If not successful, property owner will have to pick up summons from post office. If this is unsuccessful, pick up will be at Ecology. Followed by public notice once the above have all been exhausted.

- iii. Bill is setting up a meeting with the Director of Ecology to discuss potential settlement options.
- iv. Appears likely to issue a stay in any motions until after all claim's forms are in to make sure everyone will receive notice and have opportunity to participate.
- v. The filing fee for each file in the adjudication is \$25, with an additional \$1 fee for online submissions
- b. Discussion occurred about timing of outreach to the tribes on water rights settlements.
- c. Water rights office hours are available for sign-up on Ag Water Board website April 17 and May 7.

### **3. Drainage / Habitat / Flood**

- a. Discussion about Bender Rd culvert replacements. Gavin will continue to pursue options for jurisdictional release. WID grant or loan programs (or other loan programs) were also discussed.
- b. Beaver Trapping is ongoing.

### **4. Water Quality**

- a. Cynthia provided an update on water quality.
  - i. Fishtrap creek and Pepin Creek were sampled 2 times since the last meeting
  - ii. Bacteria levels are low.
  - iii. Upstream input sites have been super low and continue to trend low.
- b. Cynthia provided an update on shellfish bed water quality. One site has had high counts recently.

### **5. Education / Communications**

- a. Water rights info evening planned for later this month was cancelled.
- b. Gavin shared information from the Whatcom Conservation District about replacing AgWeatherNET stations.
  - i. Board members don't use the stations much but say it would be more helpful if there was an app.

### **6. Next Meeting**

- a. Next scheduled meeting will be April 15

Meeting was adjourned at 10:12 am.

Submitted by Gavin Willis, Ag Water Board

Approved by

  
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