

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: November 20, 2018 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 204 Hawley Street Lynden, WA 98264

Rod Tjoelker Scott James Marty Maberry
 Jeb Miller Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink Rick Metzger Tom Perkow
 Alan Chapman Randy Honcoop Mike Murphy
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

Board of Equalization Hearing

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.

Rod opened the Board of Equalization Hearing. With no comments Marty moved to close the hearing, Scott seconded, motion carried unanimously.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of October 16 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills

Jeb moved to approved the Consent Agenda, Scott seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Administrative

- a. Board reelection – Scott has another 3-year term

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Birch Bay Water and Sewer Deep Aquifer project – Dan was not able to attend but he had provided an update to Henry. They are still negotiating the second Ecology grant which will be used to solidify the legal right to the deep aquifer water and explore where the water might be moved to solve basin issues. The Drayton and Bertrand WIDs are likely potential customers both for direct supply and/or mitigation. The water need study envisioned by BBWS has not occurred yet. It would be part of the Drainage Based Management project in the grant submitted by the AWB which would begin in early 2019.
- b. AWB/Tribal meetings – Nooksack meeting was held in September. Lummi meeting is still pending.
- c. Watershed Management Board and Planning Unit update
 - Debate over fees (\$500), max amount (3000 gpd), meters – PU provisionally approved no change in the fees or amount and elected to have voluntary metering leading to needed data collection on rural water use. Several members of the Management Board are opposed to this and this will have to be resolved in order for the Plan to be approved by the February 1st deadline.
 - Deadline for PU approval of the final plan is December 12
- d. Ecology grant application – grant submitted 10/31, notice in late December
 - Funding for surface to ground transfers and augmentation projects
 - Credit for AG when implementing stream projects
 - Water Bank/Exchange
 - Drainage Based Mgt – begin in January – likely Drayton and Bertrand
 - Impact on AWB budget, workplan – We will be busy implementing projects rather than just talking about them if the grant is approved.
- e. Flood Management grant application – ranked 1st in State, submitted by WC Flood
 - Funding for a yet to be determined ag/flooding/fish project
 - AWB staff time spent on the FLIP process in 2019-2021
 - Impact on AWB budget, workplan – funds would not be available until July.

- f. Alan Chapman – introduced as the newly elected supervisor at the Whatcom Conservation District. Interested in collaborative projects. Also on the Fishers Caucus in the Planning Unit and has been active in the Puget Sound Partnership. Noted another election for a WCD Supervisor seat will be held in early 2019.

IV. Drainage/Habitat

- a. 5 – year permit – Do we need it? Cost is \$3-4k – Rick reported on the work that DID #7 is involved in and observed that a programmatic permit would be useful to them. There is some overlap in boundaries but DID #7 covers some areas not in the DWID. Henry will check with Frank about developing a permit that would cover the land in both districts. The board encouraged continuing to develop this permit.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – David was not present so no report was reviewed.
- b. DNA source tracking project report – CD looking for sampling sites, wildlife – Just getting started.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – Henry reported a high count was reported in Portage Bay which will hinder the ability to fully open the shellfish beds for some time. There was no clear suspect for the high count.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.draytonwid.com
- b. AWB Newsletter – ready for printing and distribution.
- c. WFF – REAL campaign – Farmer Rally November 8 – a success, many ag business and ag

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

January 15

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____