

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: April 19, 2016 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Rod Tjoelker Scott James Marty Maberry
 Jeff Bedlington Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink Dale Buys Chuck Lindsay
 Gary Stoyka Steve Jilk Kasey Cykler
 Mary Dumas Dan Eisses Fred Likkel
 Jim Bucknell Aneka Sweeney David Haggith

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of March 15 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Available</u>
Grant #1	\$0.00			\$0.00
Fund Balance @ 3/1/2016		\$11,278.74		
Prior Month Expenses		\$3,440.00		
Assessments Received		\$713.22		
Fund Balance @ 4/1/2016		\$8,551.96		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$8,551.96
Outstanding bills:				\$400.00
Whatcom Family Farmers	<i>March Adm.</i>		\$400.00	
Whatcom Family Farmers	<i>March AWB Admin.</i>			
N3	<i>March Water Quality testing</i>			
End of Month Balance				\$8,151.96
	<u>2016 Budget</u>	<u>Expended to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
AWB	26,012	3,000.00	23,012.00	
Projects	12,000	0.00	12,000.00	
Adm/Insurance	6,298	840.00	5,458.00	
	38,012	3,840.00	40,470.00	

Greg moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Scott seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Ag Water Board report

- Legal
 - Lummi Settlement Update – Greg update the board on the most recent developments.
- Media Relations & Water Quality contract with Family Farmers – The Board was asked to review and get comments to Marty before the AWB approves this contract.
- Draft AWB Articles and Bylaws are being finalized.

III. New Business

A. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Ditch maintenance – road ditches along Birch Bay Lynden and Loomis Trail road need better maintenance. Spraying should be an option. David will connect this need with the County Public Works. A culvert on Enterprise just north of the Fire Hall is undersized and affecting drainage to the east. Greg is willing to help pay for a fix. Perhaps getting the Birch Bay Lynden Road drainage to come back through this reach.
- List of Ag Priority Actions generated at mapping work session was tabled to future meetings in light of the need to spend time on the deep aquifer issue.
- Programmatic Drainage Permits – David will research the need and the potential to obtain a 5 year drainage permit for the WID.

B. Habitat – potential priority projects will be discussed as mitigation options:

- Drainage - Lots of beaver issues. Need drainage/beaver permit for District
- Drainage - Water over road on Valley View due to beaver dam. The landowner has been unwilling to work with County M&O on trapping and dam modification. Could be an opportunity for WID neighbor/neighbor influence. Charley McKenna at Whatcom M&O is best contact. David will look into it.
- Riparian planting – South Fork Dakota Creek just downstream from Sunrise Rd is probably the highest priority area.

C. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results indicate continued improvement.
- Implementing WID protocol for addressing issues was tabled. Marty noted that the WIDs may need to look into hiring someone to do this or contracting with the Conservation District.

D. Water Quantity

- Whatcom Water Supply Coalition
 - Working on a clear plan with goals, objectives, and actions
- Bureau of Reclamation Grant Application
 - Review of Water Rights and Needs for each WID – beginning in the South Lynden WID
 - Water Bank – part of the BOR and the Birch Bay Water District grant
- Deep Aquifer – A discussion with Dan Eisses and Chuck Lindsay about potential wells locations and an interlocal agreement with Birch Bay Water & Sewer District (BBWS) to accomplish this. BBWS has Ecology funding for 2 – 4 exploration wells. They want to work with the DWID to locate sites where we could 1) have a promise of water, 2) drill economically, 3) be near surface streams if augmentation shows promise, 4) located where the well and the well head protection area would have minimal impact of surrounding land uses, and 5) logistics including access, near utilities, etc.

The desire is to locate up to 10 potential locations beginning on the western end of the WID and working east. The plan would be to drill one well, spend 2-3 weeks analyzing the results, and then identify the next well. We hope to find the eastern extent of the Blaine- Birch Bay aquifer before it transitions into the Lynden area aquifer where more saline conditions have been discovered. Hope is to complete drilling on at least 3 wells this year.

Dan presented a draft Interlocal Agreement between BBWS, the City of Blaine, and the DWID. Henry will have Bill Clarke review. Marty moved to have Bill create an agreement with prospective landowners with a Phase 1 – Agreement to be considered and a Phase 2 – Agreement to allow drilling. The WID would offer \$750 to the landowner signing the Phase 1 Agreement and another \$1,250 to those chosen to allow drilling on their land, Scott seconded, motion carried unanimously.

E. Related Concerns

- County Comprehensive Plan update
 - Due in June – Farm Bureau funding a legal review – AWB advising
- Critical Areas Ordinance update
 - AWB submitted comments authored primarily by David Haggith

F. Education

- April 13th WFF farmer rally
- AWB/WID Newsletter
- Website www.draytonwid.com

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

May 17

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____