

# Drayton Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: April 18, 2017 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Rod Tjoelker       Scott James       Marty Maberry  
 Jeff Bedlington       Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink       David Haggith       Dan Eisses  
x = present      o = absent with notice      t = teleconference

### I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of February 21 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Available</u>
Grant #1				
2017 Assessments Received		\$806.68		
Fund Balance      3/1/2017		\$28,157.47		
Fund Balance      4/1/2017		\$25,544.81		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$25,544.81
Outstanding bills:				\$6,476.38
Ag Water Board <i>March, April AWB, website</i>			\$5,132.38	
N3 <i>water quality monitoring</i>			\$1,344.00	
<b>End of Month Balance</b>				<b>\$19,068.43</b>
	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
AWB	30,032	9,937.72	20,094.28	
Projects	10,587	2,360.00	8,227.00	
Insurance/Adm	3,691		3,691.00	
	<b>44,310</b>	<b>12,297.72</b>	<b>32,012.28</b>	

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

### II. Administrative

- A. Review and approve Priority Issue and Activity lists

Accomplishments	Priorities	2017 Action Priorities	Notes/Actions
Work with Birch Bay Sewer and Water and other partner organizations and specialists	1. Water Rights	Continue to work on deep water aquifer...move beyond just the exploration...to supply or mitigation of new water rights	
Deep water aquifer project and water resource data		Working with farmers on legal avenues to move water around...spreading, piping, water bank, transfers	
Looking at water resource potential, water rights, supply issues			
AWB work (coordination) with the tribes			
Entering a most critical phase of negotiation with the tribes			

Water quality monitoring	2. Water Quality	Continue to monitor water quality and find hot spots	
Drayton Harbor shellfish beds opened up...credit due...goal			
Conservation workshop			
WIDS do more than just the projects we are talking about			
Work on legal and political issues...Whatcom Family Farmers...important that we formed WIDs when we did	3. Comprehensive Plan	Public relations...family farmers to dispute misinformation	
Disappointed in another organization with a recent assertion that we have not done anything			
Water conservation, water quality projects completed			
Work with Whatcom Family Farmers regarding most serious issues, influence			
	4. Drainage	East side of WID has little fall. Drainage is more of an individual matter. West side has DID #7, Need to better connect with them. (Ed P.)	

The issues and priorities developed at the All WID Planning meeting were reviewed and amended.

- B. Comprehensive Plan – Development of a complete Comp Plan following the Sumas model was discussed. Henry noted that Heather had compiled all the information for the Sumas plan and developed the outline for \$2,000. The plan is to keep the document as a working draft on the website with edits and additions based on board decisions and updated information. This would be maintained by AWB personnel. The board was inclined to approve the development of the Plan and will relook at it an upcoming meeting.

### III. Water Supply

- A. Birch Bay Water and Sewer Deep Aquifer project – Dan reported that the site for well #3 has been determined and easements and well drilling contracts are being pursued. BBWS applied for a second round of wells and included some funds for water right application processing. They expect to hear about the grant decision by December.
- B. In Stream Flow – Dan distributed a table indicating the flow setting on the South Fork and how little these settings are met despite no withdrawals upstream of the Saxon gage.
- C. Olympia Report – fate of ESSB 5239 – tied up in budget negotiations. The Tribes remain opposed and the Governor has promised he would not sign what they oppose. Several water attorneys are working together to develop a compromise that could gain support. AWB and Family Farmers are sending support letters for 5239.
- D. Whatcom Water Supply work group – A list indicating the membership and goals of this organization was distributed. Issues being addressed and/or managed by this group include:
- i. Lummi Infrastructure project
  - ii. Birch Bay Water and Sewer Deep Aquifer project
  - iii. Ground water Modeling
  - iv. Drought Contingency Plan
  - v. WWSWG Action Plan

- E. Water Bank application – This application is nearly ready to submit to the last review round. It would support work to review water rights and prepare several transfers making use of a water bank.

#### IV. Water Quality

- A. Monitoring Results – lots of good samples recently despite the challenging conditions.
- B. Including WID samples on countywide map – The WCD has a new data collection and analysis position. They are seeking to develop a water quality map that places all the sampling being done on one map. The question is if the DWID would approve of having their sampling included. The Board wanted to think about the pros and cons before making a decision.
- C. ZAP units – one has been approved on the Fishtrap at the LCHS salmon site. Another at the Lynden City intake on the River. The site at the PUD has not yet been calibrated to have confidence in the data.
- D. Exact Scientific – source tracking technology – Rep. Buys is trying to find some State money to support the \$150k need for developing samples to be used to calibrate the testing equipment.
- E. CAFO Permit – a few are likely to apply for it but likely await the outcome of the appeals that are due to be decided by December.
- F. Portage Bay Partnership report – debate over Experts continues. Some progress on the horizon.

#### V. Education/Communications

- A. Website - [www.draytonwid.com](http://www.draytonwid.com)

#### VI. Ag Water Board

- A. Legal – Bill Clarke continues to provide legal services and education support in Olympia on a monthly retainer.
- B. AESI instream flow report – Chuck Lindsay’s team has been hired to provide a clearer understanding of how to look at the In-Stream Flow settings on the River and tributaries. They presented preliminary results to the Water Supply committee today and will have a final report by mid-May.
- C. Strategy review – the list of strategies and actions for the AWB that was generated at the Planning Workshop was distributed. Input should be provided to Marty, the AWB representative from the WID.

Strategy	Lead
<b>Communication/Outreach</b>	
Preserving the “one voice” outreach...continue work with key partners...work together to defend agriculture and get the word out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whatcom Family Farmers – Fred, specific partners – e.g. public affairs people in organizations</li> <li>• Story specific for information</li> <li>• Brad &amp; Rich</li> </ul>
Communication and community outreach...message in positive way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See above</li> </ul>
Habitat for species...telling people what farmers are doing to benefit habitat	
<b>Legal</b>	
Continue to identify legal access to water supply...acquiring, getting water where it needs to go	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill, Marty, Henry, Chuck, Greg</li> </ul>
Work together on tribal negotiations on water quality and supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiation Team, Fred, Greg</li> <li>• Needs expanded and probably a different team as supply is addressed</li> </ul>
Legal challenges, and holding them off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill, Marty, Scott, Jeff, Greg, Henry</li> </ul>
<b>Quality</b>	

Work together on funding for and implementation of DNA testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David – N3, Landon, Kent,</li> </ul>
Water quality projects and how it effects our industry...improving and communicating xx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fred,</li> <li>• See above</li> </ul>
<b><i>Drainage</i></b>	
Get permits faster and eliminate some of the paper work – 5 year Programmatic Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karin, Frank, Joel, Henry, Fred</li> </ul>
<b><i>Supply/Access</i></b>	
Water quantity projects and ability to have water long term for future generations...mitigation banking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill, Marty, Scott, Jeff, Greg, Henry</li> </ul>
<b><i>Organizational/Administrative</i></b>	
Tracking legislation, rule making, agendas, and impacts at County, State, Federal levels...agriculture representation on committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Henry, Bill, Fred, partner individuals</li> </ul>
Utilize the influence system of collective WIDs including messengers and skills development (training)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whatcom Family Farmers</li> </ul>
Organize the listing of committees and groups to get agriculture representation on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Henry, Fred and members</li> </ul>

## **VII. Adjournment/Next Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 4:55. Next meeting is May 16 provided a quorum can be generated. Farmers will likely be pressed for fieldwork at that time.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Family Farmers

**Approved by** \_\_\_\_\_