

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: February 21, 2023 Meeting, 3 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83212392091>

<u> x </u> Rod Tjoelker	<u> x </u> Scott James	<u> x </u> Marty Maberry
<u> o </u> Jeb Miller	<u> o </u> Greg Ebe	
<u> x </u> Henry Bierlink	<u> x </u> Gavin Willis	<u> t </u> Jay Chennault
<u> </u> Dan Eisses	<u> </u> Katie Faber	<u> t </u> Trevor Gearhart
<u> t </u> Alan Chapman	<u> </u> Fred Likkel	<u> t </u> David Haggith

x = present *o = absent with notice* *t = teleconference*

Rod opened the meeting at 3:01.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of January 17 Minutes
- b. Financial Report
Scott moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- c. Loan to AWB/WID project fund
The cash flow concern of the Sumas WID's FEMA projects was reported.
 - i. The proposed system of transfer was changed into an interlocal agreement with AWB, DWID, and the SWID
 - ii. DWID lends \$40,000 to AWB, which in turn lends \$40,000 to SWID
 - iii. There was an addition of a 60-day callback on the funds in the agreement
 - iv. Terms of the agreement is Feb 1 through Dec 31, 2023
 - v. Scott moved to move forward with the loan of \$40,000 following the stipulations laid out in the interlocal agreement, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Ecology adjudication budget request and proposed legislation – the legal teams for all the major water interests in Whatcom have agreed on an amended schedule for the adjudication and a budget proviso that would help fund the County and WRIA #1 Management Board in assisting filings, needed technical studies, and a broader settlement process that would address issues outside the adjudication. Both are moving through the Legislature.
- b. [Project List](#) ready for distribution to the appropriate discussion table – an out-of-stream water users group where proposals can be vetted scheduled for March 29th.
- c. Dakota Creek Augmentation project – Jay reported he had contacted WDFW for comment on the proposed mitigation requested for the project. No response yet.
- d. Birch Bay Water and Sewer deep aquifer project – Jay noted the deep wells EW 2 and 3 were in the process of gaining a water right which would include potential irrigation rights.
- e. North County Interlocal Agreement – no recent action. Henry observed that this process is one of several where we are hoping to generate some project actions to propose to the Watershed Management Board. Other meetings are the out-of-stream water users, the FLIP process, and the new water storage task force.

III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Ditch maintenance – discussions with the County on road ditches will occur soon. If there are areas of concern they should be reported to Fred soon.
- b. Buffers – Gavin reported on the growing consensus in the Legislature to adopt a voluntary only approach to buffers. The planned worksession with the WCD was postponed to the March meeting.
- c. Beaver trapping - Gavin is exploring some options for a more structured beaver trapping program for other WIDs. He will provide more information soon.

IV. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Trevor reported some highish numbers on several tributaries along Haynie Road. David agreed but felt most issues were outside of the ag areas.
- b. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – Trevor noted that station #8 in Drayton Harbor had elevated counts. It seemed this was storm related. Ecology ahs a new circulation model in Drayton Harbor.
- c. Rod asked about farmer participating in the Drayton Shellfish protection district. Fred has been involved in recent meetings but no farmers currently sit on that board.

V. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.draytonwid.com

VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Rod adjourned the meeting at 3:43. Next meeting is March 21.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____