

# Drayton Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: Sept. 20, 2022 Meeting, 3pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86075534866?pwd=bGRYSnJ5YXVhRFVhMi9FWVVuKytXdz09> >

Meeting ID: 860 7553 4866 Passcode: 371972

<u>  </u> x <u>  </u> Rod Tjoelker	<u>  </u> o <u>  </u> Scott James	<u>  </u> x <u>  </u> Marty Maberry
<u>  </u> o <u>  </u> Jeb Miller	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Greg Ebe	
<u>  </u> x <u>  </u> Henry Bierlink	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Vince Buys	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Jay Chennault
<u>  </u> o <u>  </u> Dan Eisses	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Katie Faber	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Bill Clarke
<u>  </u> Alan Chapman	<u>  </u> x <u>  </u> Fred Likkel	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> David Haggith

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

Rod opened the meeting at 3:00.

### I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of June 21, 2022 minutes
- b. Financial Report

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
D0922	AWB	July - Sept. AWB	\$8,453.76
D0922	Enduris	insurance	\$3,248.00
<b>TOTAL VOUCHER</b>			<b>\$11,701.76</b>

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

### II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Water supply update
  - Somach Law – alternate to adjudication – federal settlement concept being circulated among the local partners. Some encouraging interest.
  - Ecology floating “Solutions Showcase” – learning from the [Yakima example](#) – they expect to have Yakima representatives at the October 27 Watershed Management Board meeting. We should be in touch with the ag representatives to be sure they understand the context of how an adjudication would affect Whatcom farmers.
  - [Project List](#) ready for distribution to the appropriate discussion table
    1. Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application submitted with an expectation we will hear if it is approved in early October.
    2. Review of the groundwater model is underway with AESI doing much of the work. They expect data from surface to groundwater transfers to contribute to this data.
- b. Water Right acquisition candidates
  - Establish a Water Bank – [Whatcom Ag Water Exchange](#) – AWB will be discussing submitting an application to create the Exchange next week.
  - Exchange would:
    1. Identify rights with potential of transfer or sale.
    2. Provide initiate screen of the right for volume and transfer area. It is estimated transfers normally cost \$15-20k overall. The Exchange would cover the initial review but the bulk of the costs would be covered by the parties making the transaction.
    3. Publicize opportunity to purchase or transfer rights
  - Mailing to all WID members – it is anticipated that each WID would send information to its members regarding how to make deposits and withdrawals from the Exchange/Bank. This would be followed up by strategic contacts with the list of water right holders that we identified as likely to not be filing in the adjudication.
- c. Dakota Creek Augmentation project – Jay completed the QAPP Ecology required to address questions on the water right permit application. We are making use of the Foster

Pilot exemption to get this project approved. Even with this Ecology is requiring mitigation for the project which is itself a mitigation.

- d. BBHS Deep Aquifer project – Dan sent a note reporting the water right changes for the deep aquifer project were being addressed.

### **III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood**

- a. WCD Update – no report

### **IV. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – David noted some small blips in quality but most concerns are in the rural areas west of the DWID.
- b. DNA testing – David reported the Sumas WID had some tests that clearly pointed toward avian influence.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – Fred reported on the work the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Company is doing to lessen their risks.

### **V. Education/Communications**

- a. Website – [www.draytonwid.com](http://www.draytonwid.com)
- b. Legislative Tour – Bill is helping to arrange a few key legislators to come here to observe areas that would reinforce our arguments that any funding for adjudication should have numerous sideboards included that would provide some protection for ag.
- c. Vince Buys – Comcast proposal - Vincent Buys asked the board if they would have interest in being a project proponent for the expansion of Comcast broadband in much of the WID area. Comcast is looking for a project sponsor for a grant to expand broadband service.

### **VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

Rod adjourned the meeting at 4:01. Next meetings are October 18, November 15.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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