

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: March 15, 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
 Scott Bedlington Chris Elder Heather McKay
 Jim Bucknell Aneka Sweeney David Haggith
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of January 19 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 | | |
| Accounts Payable | | | | |
| Invoices Submitted for reimbursement | | | | |
| TOTAL Available | | | | \$11,278.74 |
| Outstanding bills: | | | | \$3,440.00 |
| Whatcom Family Farmers | <i>Jan - Feb Administration</i> | | \$440.00 | |
| Clarke Law | <i>AWB Feb., Legal</i> | | \$3,000.00 | |
| End of Month Balance | | | | \$7,838.74 |

| | <u>2016 Budget</u> | <u>Expended</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Admin/Insurance | 6,298 | 440.00 | 5,858.00 |
| AWB | 26,012 | 3,000.00 | 23,012.00 |
| Projects | 12,000 | 0.00 | 12,000.00 |
| | 44,310 | 3,440.00 | 40,870.00 |

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

II. Old Business

- A. Administration - Proposal from AWB – discussed in Executive Session
 - Hire administrative team for AWB
 - 1) Administer WIDs and AWB
 - 2) Write, implement, and administer project grants
 - 3) Water supply
 - Contract with Family Farmers for:
 - 1) Water quality and drainage
 - 2) Media and community relations
 - Marty will convey the will of the Board to the AWB meeting on Wednesday.
- B. Water Quality Monitoring Contract with N3 LLC
Rod moved approval of a water monitoring contract with N3, Jeff seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- C. Ag Water Board report
 - Legal
 - o Lummi Settlement Update (in Executive Session)
 - Media Relations – a report from Gerald was distributed. A recent WFF newsletter was also available as a report on recent public affairs activity.

III. New Business

A. Ditch & Dike Maintenance – Henry reported that Fred is working on arranging a meeting between Public Works and the WIDs to consider road ditch maintenance priorities. Henry also informed the Board of a \$1 million award to the WCD for habitat and culvert replacement work in the Nooksack basin.

B. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results – David reported that Drayton shellfish beds are being opened up shortly. This should generate some positive public relations.
- WID protocol for addressing issues – other WIDs are still reviewing the draft. Two have formally adopted it. The issue was tabled for another month.

C. Water Quantity - Henry noted the continued discussion at:

- Whatcom Water Supply Coalition
 - Birch Bay Water and Sewer Grant - \$700,000
 - Preparation for water settlement negotiations
 - Groundwater Model phase 4 funding – Chuck indicated that he expected phase 3 of the project to be completed by September. He also indicated that BBWS has a well near Grandview, east of the freeway, that produced 500 gpm but had some quality concerns for potable water. This might be another source of ag water.
- Bureau of Reclamation Grant Application – in cooperation with PUD and BBWS
 - Review of Water Rights and Needs for each WID
 - Water Bank

Greg talked with Birch Bay Water and Sewer who indicated they desired cooperation of the Drayton WID in identifying deep well sites and helping to secure access to these sites. Dan E. will draft an Interlocal Agreement for us to review. Greg moved that the DWID indicate our desire to cooperate with the Birch Bay Water and Sewer District on this project, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously. There was also concern expressed about the role of ag in the emerging ILA establishing a water policy board. Henry will look into options.

D. Education

- Comprehensive Plan Update – Heather MacKay – review of the February 3 work session – Heather distributed a series of maps and tables and asked for edits and feedback by March 25th. The team is available to construct the maps and data in a manner that meets the WID's needs. The board was challenged to determine what audiences they hope to address (general public, grant reviewers, WID members, and technical audiences) and the team would construct a storymap and add to the WID website the information that would help meet these needs.
- AWB/WID Newsletter – Scott – plan to mail by Mid-March – template, review of priorities and messaging – There are 1,300 landowners in the 6 WIDs.
- Website www.draytonwid.com

E. Other Items from Commissioners

- David noted the County's Critical Area Review has made some concerning changes. A new system of wetland definitions – adopted the Ecology protocols rather than the NRCS ones – could have a serious effect on farm operations. WID members were encouraged to contact the County and the Planning Commission with our concerns. David is drafting a letter that will be forwarded to the Board. A future meeting with Matt McAfree was also suggested.

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

April 19

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Family Farmers

Approved by _____