

# Drayton Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: April 17, 2018 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 204 Hawley Street Lynden, WA 98264

Rod Tjoelker       Scott James       Marty Maberry  
 Jeb Miller       Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink      \_\_\_\_\_ Dale Buys      \_\_\_\_\_ Chuck Lindsay  
 Dan Eisses      \_\_\_\_\_ Steve Jilk      \_\_\_\_\_ Kasey Cykler  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jim Bucknell      \_\_\_\_\_ Aneka Sweeney      \_\_\_\_\_ David Haggith  
*x = present      o = absent with notice      t = teleconference*

### I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of March 20 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills

*Scott moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously*

### II. Water Supply

- a. Birch Bay Water and Sewer Deep Aquifer project
  - Develop list of needs in the Phase 1 area - portion of the WID west of Sunrise Road – Henry will talk with Dale about getting this started.
  - Draft interlocal agreement with BBWS and Blaine – Dan is waiting on resolution of Phase II scope before moving on drafting an interlocal agreement.
  - Phase 2 grant application has been offered \$125k. That is not enough to drill another well. Dan is hoping to use this for advancing water right applications on the current exploratory wells. They would add irrigation as a permitted use.

### III. Ag Water Board

- a. AWB “Next Steps” proposal
  - i. Vet with Lummi - Present as logical progression of the process they outlined in 2015. Greg Ebe is leading the connection with Lummi. He suggested a meeting of the AWB Water Supply team soon.
  - ii. Emphasis on implementing projects – demonstrate our commitments – including the surface to ground water conversion project opportunities in ESB 6091.
  - iii. Goal of having Lummi and AWB advance Drainage Based Management at the Watershed Management Board in Fall.
- b. Foster Task Force pilot program – opportunity for all WID members with a surface water right that you would consider moving to groundwater.
  - i. Need a list of applicants by June 1
  - ii. Would apply for funds to cover water right transfer processing and cost share
  - iii. R & E and AESI assisting in locating likely candidates. Henry referred to the maps provided by AESI. Our goal is to identify several (2-4) potential surface water rights that might be converted to a groundwater source.

Purposes of the project are:

    1. Demonstrate our commitment to improve stream flows
    2. Assist farmers with getting water rights solidified and infrastructure updated.
    3. Make sure we don’t lose water rights because of nonuse or underuse.

Priority projects will be:

    1. Upstream
    2. Significant volume
    3. An interested party with few complications.

WID board was encouraged to study the maps and help identify potential projects meeting these criteria. We would like to keep soliciting interest in this type of a project as we expect there will be more opportunities in future years.

- c. County permitting of linear wells – The County is adding obstacles and costs to the permitting process for linear wells. This inhibits the surface to ground water conversions we are planning. Greg is working with Lesa Starkenburg to see what might be done. Henry will offer assistance from the DWID.
- d. Spring Workshop on water right tools – likely June 5th.
- e. Watershed Management Board and Planning Unit update – Ecology is trying to provide a clear definition of “net ecological benefit”, a requirement in the ESB 6091 legislation. There will be a need for mitigating projects and ag in the best place to provide them.

#### **IV. Drainage/Habitat**

- a. Ditch maintenance – 5 year permit development – ask Frank if the permit could include the permits needed for installing linear wells.
- b. Flood Study - FLIP – a meeting to discuss the results of the sediment study was held Thursday. Fred thought it was productive.

#### **V. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – results are good.
- b. Groundwater – Nitrate study – samples are being taken by DOE.
- c. South Lynden source tracking project report - @ a future SLWID meeting
- d. Joint Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District Advisory meeting – 25th

#### **VI. Education/Communications**

- a. Website - [www.draytonwid.com](http://www.draytonwid.com)
- b. E-Newsletter
- c. WFF – REAL campaign
- d. First Salmon Ceremony will be on May 17, 2018 from 10:00 to 2:00 – board asked Henry to send a reminder a few days prior

#### **VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

June 19

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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