

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: January 16, 2018 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Rod Tjoelker Scott James Marty Maberry
 Jeb Miller Greg Ebe

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

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of November 21 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>11/1/2017</u>	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>12/1/2017</u>	<u>ANNUAL TOTAL</u>
2017 Assessments Received		\$11,291.24		\$43,611.03
Fund Balance	\$31,228.52		\$42,519.76	
Beginning Year Balance			\$30,759.47	
Outstanding bills:				\$6,876.71
Ag Water Board	<i>Jan AWB</i>		\$2,507.16	
N3 Consulting	<i>wq monitoring</i>		\$896.00	
State Auditor	<i>2017 Audit</i>		\$977.55	
Exact Scientific	<i>DNA study</i>		\$2,496.00	
End of Month Balance				\$35,643.05
	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Planned</u>	<u>Balance</u>
AWB	30,032	29,959.08		72.92
Projects	10,587	10,200.00	\$0.00	387.00
Insurance/Adm	3,691	3,946.55		-255.55
	44,310	44,105.63	\$0.00	204.37

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

II. Administrative

- a. Election of Chair for 2018 - Greg moved Rod as chair, Scott seconded, motion carried unanimously. Jeb moved to appoint Scott as vice-chair, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously. Marty will continue as the AWB rep with Greg as the first alternate.
- b. Audit Review - a brief discussion of what the Audit covered and the Audit results was held.
- c. Review Priority Issue and Activity lists – Develop 2018 Action priorities – will review the final draft of our Plan in February. Each month a portion will be featured for review and editing.

III. Water Supply

- a. Birch Bay Deep Aquifer project – Dan reported on the recent progress. The feasibility study draft is ready for review. It appears there may be 4,500 gpm that could be transferred from the well fields after meeting Blaine and Birch Bay’s projected needs. Possible customers including Cherry point, Lynden, Delta, and the Drayton, Bertrand, and N Lynden WIDs could potentially make use of that volume and more. A legal mechanism to move water would need to be developed.
- b. Hirst/Foster fix bills – Bertrand is proposed as a pilot project in the “Foster Fix” bill.
- c. Review and discuss “Next Steps” draft from AWB Board – The board was presented with some background on how the Watershed Management Board has developed and what opportunity there is to help them focus on some tangible tasks in the near future. The AWB’s proposal to engage in developing agreements through drainage based management

plans is one of the major ideas being considered. Other tasks include water quantity and quality monitoring, further development of the surface and groundwater models and budgets, and a basin-wide Water Supply Plan.

AWB has tentatively approved the “Next Steps” proposal but needs to vet it with each WID before taking it to a broader audience. The WIDs are asked to agree with continuing work on developing the proposal and for ideas to make it better. DWID discussion suggested that the emphasis should be on developing more early action items to develop increased confidence in the WIDs ability to manage water to meet multiple needs.

The Board agreed to keep the dialogue going with the AWB which intends to hold several Strategy Development Sessions between their quarterly board meetings. All WID commissioners are encouraged to participate. The next session is scheduled for 1pm on January 30th.

- d. Support from State via \$450k budget request – The AWB, PUD, and Whatcom County request for State assistance in implementing the WRIA #1 Management Plan is likely to be funded from an allocation to Ecology coming out of the Hirst/Foster fix bills being debated. This would provide for much of the expense of implementing the drainage based management concept.

IV. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – David noted predominately good results with just a couple areas of concern. A review of our monitoring goals and actions will be placed on the February agenda.
- b. South Lynden source tracking project – will be reported in February.

V. Drainage/Habitat

- a. Fish/Flood meeting - Fred organized a discussion between farmers and Ned Currance (Nooksack) and Alan Chapman (Lummi). All agreed it was a valuable exchange of information. Fish runs are down 25% from the time when they were listed. Concerns are placed more upstream and in the ocean than in the lower watershed. But we can do something and the farmers agree we need to do our part.
- b. 5-year programmatic permit – Frank will work on this in 2018.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.draytonwid.com

VII. Ag Water Board

- a. Winter newsletter – A newsletter is planned in February – Henry will work with Rod to draft a DWID report.

VIII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

February 20

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____

Drayton WID Draft

The Drayton WID has been agriculture's nexus with the Birch Bay Water and Sewer District's deep aquifer project. This project has developed the potential of several thousand gallons per minute of water that would be pumped from the deep aquifers in the BBWSD service area to other water needs. The Drayton WID is particularly interested because of our proximity to this area and the lack of abundant groundwater within the Drayton WID's boundaries. Water Quality monitoring continues to show good results and we celebrated with the rest of the community of the first year's anniversary of the full opening of the Drayton Harbor shellfish beds! We are looking forward to preparing a 5-year Hydraulic Permit which would address drainage issues in the WID along with fisheries concerns. The DWID prepared a Comprehensive Plan which can be found on our website at www.draytonwid.com.