

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: April 19, 2022 Meeting, 3 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85983299926?pwd=MGFObm8xbi92MmpYWHJHYnJ5SXMwUT09>

Meeting ID: 859 8329 9926 Passcode: 176618

 x Rod Tjoelker
 x Jeb Miller

 x Scott James
 x Greg Ebe

 x Marty Maberry

 x Henry Bierlink
 t Dan Eisses
 t Alan Chapman

 t Abby Weaver
 t Katie Faber
 Fred Likkel

 t Jay Chennault
 t Olivia Tjoelker
 t David Haggith

x = present

o = absent with notice

t = teleconference

Rod opened the meeting at 3:02.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of March 15, 2022 minutes
- b. Financial Report

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

II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Water supply update
 - AWB contracted with Somach Law - focus on building alternatives to adjudication – federal, settlement options
 - Legal – Water Supply Team members preparing contract with same legal team
- b. Solutions Table
 - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating a May/June start – draft is being considered.
 - Linking with proviso supporting federal involvement in water mgt. (flood, supply, habitat)
 - Project List – to be offered at Solutions Table
 - i. Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application submitted
- c. Water Right acquisition candidates
 - Determine who and how to contact
 - Menu of options for landowners – use Bertrand transfer project as a template for others
 - Will be working on a clear set of options to present to the water right holders we identified as uncertain if they would be defending their rights in an adjudication.
- d. Dakota Creek augmentation project – Jay reported that we had met with Ecology and they were requiring a mitigation plan for the potential effects of pumping the aquifer for the stream augmentation. We still expect to have this in place fall, 2023.
- e. BBWS Deep Aquifer project update – Dan has met with Ecology to determine a plan for obtaining water rights on the exploratory wells. They expect to meet with the Tribes soon to get their perspective.
- f. [North County Interlocal Agreement](#) – draft was provided by Dan E. – Greg moved that the DWID approve the Agreement, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Flood recovery – Henry noted that the Flood Board was having a 2 day planning session and tour later this month. Several farmers are willing to represent ag’s interests in this process.
- b. WCD Update – Alan called attention to the update of the Long Range Plan and a survey the CD is circulating that would help guide that plan. A key issue is creating stable (non-grant) funding for the CD. They are seeking advice on asking the County for a per parcel

fee. The board reminded Alan that an Ag Engineer was a key need for farmers. The board was encouraged to fill out the survey and make that need clear.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RVNTT6Z>

IV. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – David noted the numbers were generally quite good with a few exceptions in February. Issues are not related to WID farms.
- b. DNA testing – David has submitted a few DNA samples. A recent sample from Sumas indicated predominately avian influence.

V. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.draytonwid.com
- b. WFF Educational Event – May 25th – the board was asked for ideas on what should be covered. It is anticipated we'd have an afternoon educational session(s) followed by the Farmer Rally in the early evening. The Board suggested involvement from attorneys, local land use attorneys, and Jay Chennault.

VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Rod adjourned the meeting at 3:55. Next meetings are May 17, June 21, although the May meeting is likely to be cancelled as field work should be the priority.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____