

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: June 16, 2020 Meeting, 3 pm

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 832 8579 7230 Password: 539381

<u> </u> t <u> </u> Rod Tjoelker	<u> </u> x <u> </u> Scott James	<u> </u> t <u> </u> Marty Maberry
<u> </u> x <u> </u> Jeb Miller	<u> </u> t <u> </u> Greg Ebe	
<u> </u> x <u> </u> Henry Bierlink	<u> </u> Dale Buys	<u> </u> Chuck Lindsay
<u> </u> t <u> </u> Dan Eisses	<u> </u> Steve Jilk	<u> </u> Kasey Cykler
<u> </u> t <u> </u> Alan Chapman	<u> </u> Aneka Sweeney	<u> </u> x <u> </u> David Haggith

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of April 21 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills – *see financial report*

Ag Water Board	March, April AWB	\$4,953.48
Ag Water Board	May - August AWB	\$9,506.96
N3 Consulting	wq monitoring - Feb	\$115.00
	TOTAL - Month	\$14,575.44

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

II. Administrative

- a. Adopt Purchasing Policy – Henry explained that the Bertrand WID was coordinating the payment of invoices for the Duffner tidegate project which had several funding partners including state grant funding. A clear purchasing policy for the WID is needed to make this work properly and stay in line with state purchasing requirements. Each WID is presented with the opportunity to adopt a similar policy so it can be ready to take on similar projects. Greg moved approval of the DWID Purchasing Policy, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- b. Appoint Auditing officer – A requirement of the Purchasing Policy is the appointment of a designated Auditing Officer for the WID. The Auditing Officer needs to have a \$50k bond. Greg moved appointment of Henry Bierlink as the DWID Auditing Officer, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Deep Aquifer project – Dan reported no new developments other than his discussions with Chuck Lindsay about the potential of water banking.
- b. Adjudication debate – Henry reported:
 - AWB position shared by Bellingham, PUD, private wells.
 - The County is currently choosing to remain neutral in the debate hoping to be in the position to facilitate future negotiations either under an adjudication or remaining in negotiations under the Water Management Board. AWB is pressing the County and the Planning Unit to take a position in opposition to adjudication.
 - Adjudication supported only by Tribes and environmental caucus of the Planning Unit.
 - Marty was visited by Executive Sidhu regarding our views on water management issues. Marty felt Satpal made an important commitment concerning the importance of resolving water issues and that litigation was the worst way to do so. Marty reminded him that Adjudication is litigation.
 - Ecology position likely by July. Report to the Legislature is due in September.
 - COVID impacts on the State budget make funding for a new adjudication in 2021 very unlikely. However, Ecology could file the legal work for an adjudication on its

own. Legislative approval is only for funding. We do not want the Nooksack to be recommended.

Regional Water Supply task force selected Aspect Consulting as contractor. This is the beginning of the Drainage Based Management negotiations that we are advancing instead of an adjudication. The consultant team selected to guide this process is new to AWB but has worked for both Tribes in the past.

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Ditch maintenance – no new projects identified
- b. DID #7 projects – no report

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – limited monitoring has been occurring. WQ website has not been updated. David reported that the DNA samples he had submitted to Exact had not yet been analyzed.
- b. DNA project – Avian project initiated – all WIDs contributed to make the \$20k available. Fred expects Kent to have something to report this fall. Fred has noted that Karen Steensma was part of a grant project studying bird behavior that may be able to augment this DNA project with some help and funding.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – shellfish harvesting in Portage is open with the exception of October – November.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.draytonwid.com
- b. Ag Engineer support position – no report

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

September 15

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____