

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: December 16, 2014 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Rod Tjoelker Scott James Marty Maberry 815-7081
 Jeff Bedlington Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink _____ Dale Buys _____ Chuck Lindsay
_____ Gary Stoyka _____ Steve Jilk _____ Tom Buroker
_____ Mary Dumas _____ Joanne Greenberg Rick Vander Veen
_____ Jim Bucknell _____ Heather McKay _____

x = present o = absent with notice t = via teleconference

Board of Equalization Hearing

Greg moved to close the Board of Equalization Hearing at 3:02, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously.

I. Review and Approval of November 13 Minutes

Rod moved to approve the November 13th minutes, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

- A. Finalize Assessment Roll – Rod moved to approve the Assessment Roll without adjustment, Scott seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- B. Adoption of By Laws – Henry reported that Bill Clarke had determined that By-laws are not needed as the governing procedures for the WID are all spelled out in RCW 87.03. Henry presented the contract for administration with ADC which Jeff signed.
- C. Insurance – Resolution 2014-3 authorizing membership in Enduris for the purpose of providing liability insurance for the WID and Resolution 2014-4 designating Farm Friends as the agent to receive claims was moved by Greg, seconded by Scott and approved unanimously by the Board.

III. New Business

- A. Ag Water District development
 - Boundary Review Board process – Henry reported that existing governments could raise questions or contest the establishment of the WID by the end of the year.
 - Board of Joint Control petition – on hold until the WIDs have more time to discuss how the Joint Board will be structured. Bill has also noted that there are more concerns with the statute for forming the Joint Boards as they reference the water rights of the member districts and our WIDs do not currently hold water rights.
 - December 17th WID Board training and strategic plan development. Henry and Bill are arranging an agenda that will include strategizing about action items that all WIDs may choose to take together. The Priority setting discussion will be fed to Bill for preparation for the training on Dec. 17th. Aneka at the Whatcom Conservation District has agreed to help facilitate a portion of the meeting.
- B. Water Banking Forum – January 8 – a ½ day afternoon session to be held at the Rotary Building. Farm Friends is helping to sponsor and develop the program. The PUD will be videotaping the forum.
- C. Priority Setting

- Review of current activities
 - i. Water Budget – surface water throughout the County
 - ii. Groundwater modeling – focusing on the relationship between ground and surface water in the north, northeastern county.
 - iii. Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Program – driven by shellfish bed problems in Drayton Harbor and Portage Bay.
 - iv. Watershed Planning Unit – recreation of the group that produced the 2005 Watershed Management Plan.
 - v. Coordinated Water Resources Plan update – potable water
 - vi. Flood Management Advisory Board – advisory to County Council
 - vii. Drainage Districts – DID #7 (California) and DID #17

- Items to be addressed (in priority)

1. Water quality

- Clean the ditches and shoot the geese.
- Need a good public relations program to counteract aggressive water quality complaints
- Stream monitoring is needed. We need to know the source of the problems before we try to fix them.
- Many more contributors than dairies. Wood products, non-commercial livestock, septics.
- Tight substructure limits large groundwater volumes in much of Drayton.
- Understand fowl contribution to fecal contamination.

2. Water rights

- Birch Bay/Blaine pipeline idea deserves support. Support a feasibility study.
- Use WIDs to keep pressure on implementing solutions rather than just more talk and studies.
- Support mitigation alternatives - well fields, deep aquifer, pipelines.

3. Drainage

- Establish and spray and mowing program on ditches
- Tiling is important - protect drains and outlets
- Close relationship between drainage and water quality.
- Drainage does not have a dramatic effect on water quantity as some believe

4. Flood management

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IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

January 20