

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: January 17, 2017 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Rod Tjoelker Scott James Marty Maberry
 Jeff Bedlington Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink _____ Dale Buys _____ Chuck Lindsay
 _____ Gary Stoyka Steve Jilk _____ Kasey Cykler
 Dan Eisses _____ Joanne Greenberg Fred Likkel
 _____ Jim Bucknell _____ Aneka Sweeney _____ David Haggith

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of November 15 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Available</u>
2017 Assessments Received		\$0.00		
Fund Balance 12/1/2016		\$34,107.49		
Fund Balance 1/1/2017		\$34,107.49		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$34,107.49
Outstanding bills:				\$5,951.87
Ag Water Board <i>Jan AWB Admin</i>			\$2,502.67	
Ag Water Board <i>Dec AWB Admin</i>			\$2,049.20	
N3 <i>water quality monitoring</i>			\$1,400.00	
End of Month Balance				\$28,155.62
	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
AWB	30,032	2,502.67	27,529.33	
Projects	10,587		10,587.00	
Insurance/Adm	3,691		3,691.00	
	44,310	2,502.67	41,807.33	

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

II. Old Business

A. Ag Water Board report

- Legal
 - Lummi Settlement Update - Greg summarized the work leading towards the Portage Bay Partnership Agreement and answered questions about what it contained and what it may mean for other farmers. It is a Phased agreement with deadlines included. It builds on a growing relationship between Lummi and the dairy farmers that negotiated the agreement. The funds provided and being sought are targeted for 1) shellfish harvester relief, 2) enhancement of shellfish beds, and 3) public awareness. Greg noted the positive role that WFF played in obtaining the services of Jay Manning to arbitrate the agreement.

IV. New Business

A. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Programmatic Drainage Permits - WCD Grant application was not approved. A discussion with the Conservation District and Frank Corey is needed to see how a

plan for identifying what ditches need attention, who is responsible for them, what permits are needed, and when work should occur.

- The purpose and need for a Comprehensive Plan was discussed. The Board agreed that pulling all the information together was a needed exercise. It is important to get the information together to obtain the 5 year Programmable Permits so drainage can systematically occur. How to do that and how much energy and funding should be applied to this was less clear. Henry noted that Heather had prepared a proposal to move forward in a phased approach. Fred offered to talk to the Conservation Commission about getting some of Ray Ledgerwood's time to help facilitate this. Dan noted that a plan for the Dakota area would be of interest to BBWS. Jack Louws might also be interested in supporting such a plan as this area is one of the primary areas where the Hirst case has an effect. This topic will be placed on the February agenda.

B. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results were not available.
- Harksell Road horse facility – Fred reported a landowner had notified him about a facility with obvious runoff. After researching where this facility and its ownership the board determined that since the parcel is not in the WID either Ecology or the County CAO inspector would be the appropriate first contact.

C. Water Quantity

- Birch Bay Water and Sewer Deep Aquifer project – Dan reported that well #2 was being pump tested this week. It appeared that it would produce approx. 625 gpm from the 425' well. A third well, more to the west and outside the Drayton WID is being prepared for drilling. CHS Engineers have been contracted to further this study and they will likely need good data from the WID to inform their study. Data like: How much water do the WIDs need? What benefits would the water provide?
- North County Water Project – Dan has applied for a similar grant allowing them to drill 3-4 more exploratory wells and to begin the water right application process for these wells.
- Water Supply Strategy draft - Henry reviewed a draft statement of goals and objectives that reflected the work that has been done over the years. The penalty to George Sandhu calls attention to the need to have tools developed and working that farmers in his situation can use to become legal in their water use. The draft is to invite comments and edits for consideration by the Ag Water Board.
- Whatcom Water Supply Working Group – the potential for bringing several projects together under the guidance of the WWSWG was discussed. Projects include the Drought Contingency Plan, the ag water use study, and the Lummi Infrastructure project which is supposed to be completed by July, 2017. RH2 is the lead contractor on each of these projects.
- Greg will represent the AWB at the Drought Contingency Task Force meeting January 31st.

D. Education

- Website www.draytonwid.com
- WSU Water Workshop sponsor request – Jeff moved to sponsor the event with \$100, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- WCD Speaker Series – Drayton program on February 16th – Scott will represent the DWID. It will feature Shabtai Bittman of Ag Canada who is a recognized expert on local forages.

IV. **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

February 21

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Family Farmers

Approved by _____