

Drayton Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: March 19, 2019 Meeting, 3pm – 5pm

Ag Central 204 Hawley Street Lynden, WA 98264

Rod Tjoelker Scott James Marty Maberry
 Jeb Miller t Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink Dale Buys Chuck Lindsay
 Dan Eisses Jay Chennault Katherine Beeler
 Alan Chapman Aneka Sweeney David Haggith
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of February 19 Minutes
 - b. Financial Report and payment of bills – *see financial report*
- Jeb moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Scott seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Deep aquifer project
 - Phase II contract – Dan reported BBWS was still negotiating the final contract with Ecology for the Phase II grant. But we felt confident in proceeding with the elements of the Water Supply Strategy that include the DWID’s partnership. These include:
 - Interlocal Agreement with BBWS, Blaine, PUD, and DWID
 - Water Rights Analysis of ag rights and needs
 - Extent and Validity evaluation of existing rights
 - PDR opportunity analysis
 - Public Information and Education
 - Water need study – Chuck will be working to answer the question of “how much water do we need” for Drayton area farmers and Dale working on “how do we best get water” to these needs.
 - Discussion over providing water for distribution to the needs or for mitigation that would allow existing withdrawals to be legalize. Mitigation seems the wisest approach.
 - AESI estimates there are about 100 permits and certificates for irrigation in the project area. Henry has estimated that contacting 7 farmers would address 60% of the irrigated acres. That is where the study will start. If more time and funds become available contacting another 15 farmers would get the percentage over 80%.
- b. Drainage Based Management – Henry reported
 - Expect Ecology funding – should know mid-March
 - Puget Sound Partnership Near Term Action funding possible
 - One of the elements in the WRIA #1 5-year Action Plan
 - Meetings to set up where, when, and how DBM occurs
 - Likely beginning in Drayton, Bertrand
 - Establish a Core Group that works together in each drainage – 2 WID, 2 County, 2 Tribe, PUD, WDFW, DOE.
- c. Watershed Management Board and Planning Unit update
 - PU continuing to work on update to 2005 Plan
 - Management Board returning to implementing 5-year workplan

III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. 5 –year Permit – the permit has been filed with the understanding that the stream classification map will always be a “work in progress”. Joel has agreed to take a closer look at the classifications on the streams along Willeys Lake Road.

- b. DID #7 and California Creek augmentation project – a meeting at the PUD was held last month and another is set for Friday. These meetings are an attempt to coordinate as well as possible all the activities surrounding water management occurring in the California Creek area. These actions include; DID #7 ditch maintenance, WSDOT culvert replacement and mitigation, PUD stream augmentation project, and Drainage Based Management.

IV. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – results are looking quite good. N3 is not doing any monitoring right now as there are no open questions surrounding fecal sources.

V. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.draytonwid.com
- b. Open Public Meetings Act training was provided for Board members

VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings

April 16

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____