

Sumas Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: October 13, 2020 Meeting, 1 pm

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 869 5358 4132 Passcode: 128339

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Lenssen	<input type="checkbox"/> Andy Enfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Keith Boon
<input type="checkbox"/> Alan Sytsma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brad Rader	
<input type="checkbox"/> David Haggith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Bierlink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Likkel
<input type="checkbox"/> Alan Chapman	<input type="checkbox"/> Joel Ingram	<input type="checkbox"/> Katie Penke
<i>x = present</i>	<i>o = absent with notice</i>	<i>t = teleconference</i>

Brad called the meeting to order at 1 pm.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of September 8 Minutes
- b. Financial Report – *see financial report in board packet*

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
S1020	Ag Water Board	October - December AWB	\$19,220.91
TOTAL VOUCHER			\$19,220.91

Terry moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Keith seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Administrative

- a. Annexations – areas where farmland not in the WID were reviewed. It is too late to add to the 2021 Roll. This will be discussed at future WID meetings.
- b. Board nominations – Keith moved to nominate Brad and Andy to another term, Terry seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- c. AWB Budget request – the requested increase in legal and media campaign surrounding adjudication was reviewed. The increase would eliminate our project budget but reserves are adequate to fill a portion of that need should it arise.
- d. 2021 Workplan & Budget
 - Resolution 2020-1 – Setting the 2020 Assessment Rate and Budget
 - Resolution 2020-2 – Adopting the 2020 Assessment Roll

Terry moved approval of Resolution 1 and 2 setting the assessment rate at \$5.50/acre, Keith seconded, motion carried unanimously.

- November 10th Board of Equalization

DRAFT PUBLIC NOTICE – *all Watershed Improvement Districts*

Residents within the Bertrand, Drayton, Laurel, North Lynden, South Lynden, and Sumas Watershed Improvement Districts have an opportunity to:

1) Nominate candidates for election to the Board of the District – two positions in Bertrand, two in Drayton, two in Laurel, one in North Lynden, two in South Lynden, and two in Sumas – candidates must file with the secretary of the district a declaration in writing of their candidacy, or a petition of nomination signed by at least ten qualified electors of the district, not later than five o'clock p.m. on the first Monday in November.

2) Inspect the 2021 Assessment Roll and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in Laurel will be heard at 10am, November 9th; for Bertrand at 2pm, November 9th; for Sumas at 1pm, November 10th; for South Lynden at 3pm, November 10th; for North Lynden at 10am, November 17th; and for Drayton at 3pm, November 17th, all at the District's office or via Zoom. Contact the WID administrator for access to the meeting @ info@agwaterboard.com. The Assessment Roles for all Districts are available for inspection from October 12th to November 6th.

Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts' offices located at 204 Hawley Street, Lynden.

Public Notice must be published in Lynden Tribune October 14, 21, 28

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Adjudication debate
 - Ecology report recommends Nooksack
 - Adjudication supported only by Tribes, Fishers, Realtors, and environmental
 - Building partnerships locally and in Olympia
 - Plan for Legislative education by Family Farmers.
- b. County Executive proposal
 - Built on Lummi proposal (2015) and Drainage Based Management
 - Seeking support from water users
 - Would add a new element to the Watershed Management Board’s work plan – “Settlement Negotiations”. This will be advanced in lieu of adjudication.
 - Board would like to see Sumas, Everson, and Nooksack added to the list of entities working on this proposal. Henry will contact Rollin Harper.

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Pangborn Creek – Raders were able to clean the ditch upstream of the project site. A culvert may need to be replaced to make this system work properly.
- b. Trapline Road-Páatstel Creek Beaver Dam Management – beaver trapping is occurring, NSEA is prepared to help with dam removal.
- c. Kneuman ditch update – Keith noted that Sumas has helped to make this system work from the well field into the City.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – David sent some numbers. One area of concern was discussed.
- b. DNA project – Avian project initiated late year
- c. Manure ordinance – Fred reported the County ordinance banning liquid manure spreading on open fields in the winter is judged superfluous. Updated state rules cover what this was intended to cover. There will be movement to rescind it.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.sumaswid.com – should add support for alternatives to adjudication to the 2021 project list.
- b. Fall Newsletter – unsure if we should invest the time and \$\$ to publish a printed version. Make more effort to alert landowners to the website. Send the adjudication paper and an invitation to receive emails for future electronic newsletters.

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Meeting adjourned at 2:38. Next meeting is November 10

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____