

# Sumas Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: January 11, 2022 Meeting, 1pm

Videoconference – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84085180436?pwd=RmZ0WGNYNXFMNjVGd25ncWNnM2o2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 840 8518 0436 Passcode: 291997

<u>  x  </u> Terry Lenssen	<u>  t  </u> Andy Enfield	<u>  t  </u> Keith Boon
<u>  x  </u> Alan Sytsma	<u>  t  </u> Brad Rader	
<u>  t  </u> David Haggith	<u>  x  </u> Henry Bierlink	<u>  x  </u> Fred Likkel
<u>  t  </u> Alan Chapman	<u>  t  </u> Joel Ingram	<u>  t  </u> Frank Corey
<u>  t  </u> Katie Faber	<u>  t  </u> Dakota Stranik	<u>  t  </u> Jay Chennault

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

Brad called the meeting to order at 1:01.

### I. Consent Agenda

- Review and Approval of December 14 Minutes
- Financial Report

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
S1221	N3	Water monitoring	\$486.00
<b>TOTAL VOUCHER</b>			<b>\$486.00</b>

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

### II. Administrative

- Oath of Office – Keith will sign the oath and return to the office.
- Audit Report – Henry reviewed the recent State Audit report which provide us a clean report.
- Public Records, Open Public Meetings review – Henry reviewed a memo from Bill outlining the laws applying to WID and AWB meetings and actions. Open Public Meetings and Public Records rules are areas where board members need to stay well aware of.

### III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- Solutions Table
  - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating an early 2022 start
  - Potential proviso supporting federal involvement in water mgt. – AWB team is working with Legislators and partners to advance this idea in both the Legislature and at the Solutions Table.
- Project List
  - Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application is being prepared.
- Water Right acquisition candidates
  - Reviewed the surface water right list (74). Intend to address groundwater rights in upcoming meetings. Placing all rights in one of three categories:
    - Clearly will be defended
    - Likely defended but nudge needed
    - Unsure, susceptible to being lost
  - Determine who and how to contact once this list is completed.

### IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- Flood response
  - Sumas WID decision to develop a media story with flood images and stories was further discussed. Discussion over who best to help connect with. Brad noted a Save on Foods ad in BC was making the public aware of the problem. A few BC farmers were suggested to be contacted – Gary Baars, Bill Vander Kooi. Other WIDs are supportive but haven't designated financial support. Other than Bertrand which approved \$5k as potentially available to help. Fred is going to a meeting of the County and Mayors. Unclear what can and will happen next.

- b. Ditch maintenance
  - Darryl VW lost his machine shop in a fire. Brad is working with a neighbor farmer to address his drainage concerns.
  - End of Rock Rd. drainage – Joel asked for our help in connecting with landowners over a drainage dispute. Board members engaged and the issue seems to be moving towards resolution.
- c. WCD Update - Frank
  - More available to help now.
  - Provided feedback on the Rock Road site.

## **V. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – David sent a report. A few areas of continued concern.
- b. DNA testing – Fred noted that David may send some samples in for DNA testing if it is clear that information would contribute to problem solving.

## **VI. Education/Communications**

- a. Website – [www.sumaswid.com](http://www.sumaswid.com)
- b. AWB flyer and draft cover letter – reviewed and a second version will be sent to the board in a few weeks. We hope to have a final version prepared before the February board meeting and a letter sent to landowners mid-February. Including more about what we are doing about adjudication and highlighting the upcoming Farmer Rally.
- c. Family Farmers Rally – Fred noted the date is likely in late February or March and expects to be a place where farmers can become informed about opportunities for help with an adjudication, drainage, and flood management.

## **VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

Keith adjourned the meeting at 2:10. Next meeting is February 8.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_