

Sumas Watershed Improvement District

Minutes – January 9, 2024

Attendees

“(t)” indicates presence via tele-conference, “(p)” indicates proxy vote.

Board – Present	Board – Absent with Notice
Terry Lenssen (<i>vice-chair</i>) Andy Enfield (t) Keith Boon (t)	Brad Rader Al Sytsma

Staff and Consultants	
Name	Organization / Affiliation
Gavin Willis	Ag Water Board
Fred Likkel	Whatcom Family Farmers
Bill Clarke (t)	Clarke Law
Jordan Widener (t)	Widener & Associates
David Haggith (t)	N3 Consulting
Frank Corey	Whatcom Conservation District
Anna Beebe (t)	Whatcom Conservation District
Jay Chennault (t)	AESI
Kaite Faber (t)	AESI

Other Guests	
Name	Organization / Affiliation
none	

Proceedings

Terry called the meeting to order at 1:11 pm.

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Agenda was reviewed.
- b. November 14 minutes were reviewed.
- c. Financial reports and voucher were reviewed.
- d. Andy moved to approve the consent agenda. Keith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Administration

- a. Andy will sign the oath of office at the next meeting.
- b. Andy moved to approve Resolution 2024-01 – Auditing Officer Designation. Keith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. FEMA Projects

- a. Gavin provided an update on the FEMA projects. Gavin and Jordan will be meeting with EMD staff on Jan 12 in Sumas.

4. Ag Water Board / Water Supply

- a. Bill provided an update on ECY's draft filing form and instructions. Bill is currently reviewing the forms to see if they comply with the RCWs. There are concerns about the simplified filing form

for permit exempt wells for domestic use allowing significant irrigation without requiring evidence of use.

- i. ECY also underestimates dairy use in the instructions, and narrowly defines "stockwater".
- b. Gavin provided an update on the proposed joint application to ECY's 2024 Streamflow Restoration Grant. At the recent WMB meeting, Nooksack staff read a letter from council indicating that the tribe would not participate in anything related to water rights until the adjudication is filed. As a result, the joint grant application is not proceeding.

5. Other Items

- a. None.

6. Next Meeting

- a. Next meeting is scheduled for February 13th at 1:00 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:38 pm.

Submitted by Gavin Willis, Ag Water Board

Approved by  2/13/24