

Sumas Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: March 13, 2018 Meeting, 1 - 3 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Terry Lenssen Andy Enfield Keith Boon
 Rod Perry Brad Rader

David Haggith Henry Bierlink Fred Likkel
 Javier Sampedro Joel Ingram Frank Corey
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of February 13 Minutes
 - b. Financial Report and payment of bills
- Andy moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Rod seconded, motion passed unanimously.

II. Ag Water Board

- a. March Board meeting – planned for March 21
- b. AWB “Next Steps” proposal
 - Vet with Lummi - Present as logical progression of the process they outlined in 2015. Greg’s connection with Chairman Julius is the most logical means of advancing this conversation.
 - Emphasis on implementing projects – demonstrate our commitments as stated in our newsletter.
 - Goal of having Lummi and AWB advance Drainage Based Management at the Watershed Management Board this Fall
- c. Foster Task Force pilot program – opportunity for all WID members with a surface water right that you would consider moving to groundwater.
 - Need a list of applicants by June 1
 - Would apply for funds to cover water right transfer processing and cost share
- d. Spring Workshop – a workshop for farmers prior to the irrigation season is being developed. Topics should include the opportunity to participate in surface to ground transfers, seasonal transfers, and how we might distribute water from deep aquifers or storage facilities via a water bank or exchange.
- e. Office relocation – 204 Hawley Street
 - Rent increase - \$1,200/mo. – shared with Family Farmers

III. Drainage/Habitat

- a. Ditch maintenance – March 20 field tour with County and WDFW – Fred is coordinating. Frank Corey is likely to attend as well. North Lynden initiated this for their projects. There is time for other WIDs to have this team look at projects as well 5-year programmatic permit – identify projects
- b. 5 Year Permit is in place – need to get it on the website.
- c. Pangborn Ditch project – Brad will arrange a look at this on the 20th.
- d. Other projects:
 - Vernon Dykstra
 - KN Berry Farm
 - Van Buren Road
 - Van Dykens

IV. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – no report, David will email.
- b. Sediment – Ecology meeting – Fred connected with Ecology who made it clear this was not a new priority for enforcement but simply a response to complaints for two isolated incidents.

- c. South Lynden source tracking project report – likely to be presented at the April SLWID meeting.
- d. DNA support – the State has \$125k applied to furthering DNA work. An RFP will be issued soon. Exact Scientific’s project should be a prime candidate.

V. Education/Communications

- a. Website - www.sumaswid.com
- b. E-Newsletter – still being developed

VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings

April 10. Board is inclined to skip the May, July, and August meetings. We will leave them on the calendar but are likely to cancel these meetings if the agenda is light.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____