

Sumas Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: January 10, 2017 Meeting, 1pm – 3pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Lenssen	<input type="checkbox"/> Andy Enfield	<input type="checkbox"/> Keith Boon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rod Perry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brad Rader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Haggith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Bierlink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kasey Cykler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather McKay
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff De Jong		

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of November 8 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Available</u>
Grant #1				
2017 Assessments Received		\$0.00		
Fund Balance	12/1/2016	\$64,665.97		
Fund Balance	1/1/2017	\$65,365.97		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$65,365.97
Outstanding bills:				\$13,356.00
Ag Water Board	<i>Jan AWB Admin</i>		\$6,282.00	
Ag Water Board	<i>Dec AWB Admin</i>		\$5,170.00	
N3	<i>Water quality monitoring</i>		\$1,904.00	
End of Month Balance				\$52,009.97

	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>
AWB	75,384	6,282.00	69,102.00
Projects	13,110		13,110.00
Insurance/Adm	4,191		4,191.00
	92,685	6,282.00	86,403.00

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

II. Old Business

A. Ag Water Board report

- Legal
 - Lummi Settlement Update – Jeff summarized the work leading towards the Portage Bay Partnership Agreement and answered questions about what it contained and what it may mean for other farmers. It is a Phased agreement with deadlines included. It builds on a growing relationship between Lummi and the dairy farmers that negotiated the agreement. The funds provided and being sought are targeted for 1) shellfish harvester relief, 2) enhancement of shellfish beds, and 3) public awareness.

IV. New Business

A. Comprehensive Plan Development

- The purpose and need for a Comprehensive Plan was discussed. The Board agreed that pulling all the information together was a needed exercise. How to do that and how much energy and funding should be applied to this was less clear.

- A Proposal from FHB Consulting was reviewed. The proposal outlines two phases:
 - i. Phase 1 – gather data, board retreat, create outline, prepare phase 2 strategy – budget estimate of \$7,375.
 - ii. Phase 2 – fill in gaps, obtain partnership and grant support – budget not yet determined.

Terry moved to have the SWID work with Heather to accomplish the first step of Phase 1 – Prepare Initial outline of preliminary plan for the WID planning process – with a budget cap of \$2,040, Rod seconded, motion carried unanimously. The Board felt that they could accomplish most of the priority setting needed in the February and March Board meetings. If more work is needed toward the Plan the board will entertain a revised proposal.

B. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Ditch maintenance – discussions with County and WDFW will continue at the North Lynden WID meeting next Tuesday.
- Terry is on DID #31. They are planning some cleaning at two sites. Mitigation has not been required. Assessments are staying at the same level.
- Programmatic Drainage Permits - WCD Grant application was not approved. A discussion with the Conservation District and Frank Corey is needed to see how a plan for identifying what ditches need attention, who is responsible for them, what permits are needed, and when work should occur.
- Conservation District partnership – It would be helpful to have some of Frank’s time applied to the development of our Ditch Maintenance plan. This would depend on the support of the WCD Board. There will be some openings next month in that Board. Rod was encouraged to run for one of these positions.

C. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results – David reported that most numbers are generally good with some troubling exceptions. There are random spikes occurring throughout the year at varying locations. It is very hard to track.
- It was suggested that a meeting with dairy farmers informing them of the monitoring that has been occurring and the increasing enforcement presence would be a wise idea for the WID to sponsor. David will try to organize a lunch meeting in February.
- ZAP unit locations, installation, O & M, reporting – David noted there has been abnormally high counts when the turbidity is high. There hasn’t been enough actual lab testing to correlate but the one that was done revealed a lab test of 37 when the ZAP was indicating over 1,000.
- Exact Scientific – source tracking technology – machine is purchased, seeking funding to calibrate with local sources.

D. Water Quantity

- Water Supply Strategy draft - Henry reviewed a draft statement of goals and objectives that reflected the work that has been done over the years. The penalty to George Sandhu calls attention to the need to have tools developed and working that farmers in his situation can use to become legal in their water use. The draft is to invite comments and edits for consideration by the Ag Water Board.
- Terry wondered if it would be wise to have a focused WID day in Olympia where western WA districts make their water legislation needs known to our Legislators. Henry will make Bill aware that we have farmers ready to come to testify at hearings when they are needed.

E. Education

- WCD Speaker Series – Sumas program on March 16th - Rod will represent the Sumas WID

- WSU Water Workshop sponsor request – Rod moved to sponsor the event with \$100, Terry seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- Website www.sumaswid.com
- WID Board Member Tour – review agenda, set new date, likely in May
 - Lunch meeting @ 11:30 at Bob’s Sumas. A short meeting agenda followed by a Tour
 - Locations
 1. Sediment trap (Keith)
 2. water quality sampling sites (David)
 3. May Road wells (Keith)
 4. problem culverts (Terry)
 5. Clearbrook Creek (Rod – Andy and Brad talk to J & J Farms)

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

February 14

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____