

Laurel Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: January 12, 2015 Meeting, 10 am - noon

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Leroy Plagerman Roger Blok Jon Maberry
 Rich Appel Mike Boxx

Henry Bierlink _____ Dale Buys _____ Chuck Lindsay
_____ Gary Stoyka _____ Steve Jilk _____ Tom Buroker
_____ Mary Dumas _____ Joanne Greenberg _____ Fred Likkel
_____ Jim Bucknell _____ Heather McKay Andy Ross

x = present

o = absent with notice

Mike opened the meeting at 10:05.

I. Review and Approval of December 8 Minutes

Roger moved to approve the draft minutes, Rich seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

- A. Contract with ADC - Henry explained the contract was written so if there was more demand for services beyond basic admin duties the ADC could choose to charge with a capped amount of \$3,000. He noted the ADC intended to provide basic admin series through March without charge. Rich moved to approve the contract, Roger seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- B. Agent to receive Claims designation requirement – Enduris request that an Agent be designated and recorded at the County. Roger moved to approve the designation of Farm Friends as the Agent, Rich seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- C. Ag Water District development
 - Boundary Review Board approval was obtained
 - Henry reported that Bill had discovered that Ecology would have problems with using the Board of Joint Control statute in RCW 87.80. The lack of ownership of specific water rights will present challenges with using this statute to form a cooperative council. Bill's draft Interlocal Agreement builds on RCW 39.34 instead.
 - Interlocal Agreement draft was reviewed with a request to have comments prior to the next board meeting in February. Henry will make the edits discussed.
 - A review of the Mission and Goals developed at the December 17th WID Board training and strategic plan development session was reviewed as well as the Timeline for getting the Joint Board formed by spring.
 - Next steps are to come back to the February meeting with a more refined package that all the WIDs are nearly agreed to. At that point we will designate representatives to the Board.
 - Roger made a distinction between activities that are best addressed by the Joint Board and those best handled at the WID level. Drainage seem to be the most locally focused while water rights and quality may be more generally addressed by the larger body as the tools developed for these would be applicable county wide.
- D. Review of Water Exchange Forum – January 8th

Henry provided a program to review that outlined the agenda and presenters. There was optimism that some form of water exchange would be of benefit here.

III. New Business

A. Ditch Maintenance

- Mowing
- Cleaning
- Spraying
- Beaver trapping
- Dam removal

The board discussed how these activities might be prioritized and funded. A cost shared program with the landowners seemed to be the preference as that helps build the partnership between the WID and the landowners and helps focus the work on areas where there is perceived need.

B. Development of WID Comprehensive Plan – Henry noted that one of the first activities the Bertrand and North Lynden WIDs took was to prepare a Management Plan that documents the current conditions and outlines the issues that need attention and a plan to address them. The general outline for a Plan is something like . . .

- I. Introduction
- II. Baseline Conditions/Issues
 - a. Hydrology
 - b. Water Use/Rights
 - c. Water Quality
 - d. Drainage System
 - e. Flood and Storm water management
 - f. Fish and Wildlife
- III. Action Plan
 - a. Hydrology
 - b. Water Use/Rights
 - i. Water budget – understand surface water model results
 - ii. Link to groundwater modeling project
 - iii.
 - c. Water Quality
 - i. Water quality monitoring
 - ii.
 - d. Drainage System
 - i. DID Management Plans
 - ii. Cost shared maintenance program
 - iii. Use of catch basins – periodic cleaning
 - e. Flood and Storm water management
 - f. Fish and Wildlife

The board questioned how to get started on this. Henry offered to research the potential of getting \$3-4k applied to each WID to gather the available data and begin building the management plan.

C. Water Quality - Andy reported that there was another meeting of the Ten Mile Water Quality team this Wednesday, 6:30 at Bellwood. This is a fine opportunity to link with a group that has been invested in improving water quality in the Ten Mile system. Recent focus has been on storm event sampling in the Deer Creek. Henry reported that the Portage Bay Shellfish Protection District had requested to attend the February WID meeting to discuss the Pollution Identification and Correction Program (PIC) that they are

advancing. We will check with them to see if this should be a WID specific discussion or if this would better occur with a meeting of numerous WIDs in the Nooksack system.

D. Grants

- WaterSmart grant program – an example of the need for a Management Plan to write a competitive grant application.

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Mike adjourned the meeting at 11:50 the next meeting will be February 9th.