

Laurel Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: March 14, 2016 Meeting, 10 am - noon

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Leroy Plagerman Roger Blok Jon Maberry
 Rich Appel Mike Boxx

Henry Bierlink Fred Likkel Hank Kastner
 Shane Vander Veen Steve Hood Heather McKay
 Andy Ross Eric Sundstrom Karin Beringer
 Bob Seaman Bob McWhoter Lee First
 Scott Bedlington Brad Rader Naomi Murphy

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

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

| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>This Month</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Available</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Grant #1 | \$0.00 | | | \$0.00 |
| Fund Balance @ 3/1/2016 | | \$6,801.26 | | |
| Accounts Payable | | | | |
| Invoices Submitted for reimbursement | | | | |
| TOTAL Available | | | | \$6,801.26 |
| Outstanding bills: | | | | \$780.00 |
| Whatcom Family Farmers | <i>February Adm.</i> | | \$240.00 | |
| N3 | <i>Feb. Water Quality testing</i> | | \$540.00 | |
| End of Month Balance | | | | \$6,021.26 |
| | <u>2016 Budget</u> | <u>Expended to Date</u> | <u>Balance</u> | |
| AWB | 14,065 | 3,000.00 | 11,065.00 | |
| Projects | 26,500 | 1,620.00 | 24,880.00 | |
| Adm/Insurance | 9,276 | 600.00 | 8,676.00 | |
| | 49,841 | 5,220.00 | 44,621.00 | |

Jon moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Roger seconded, motion carried unanimously. Henry was asked to show the prior month's receivables and payables in future financial reports.

II. Old Business

- A. Administration - Proposal from AWB
 - Hire administrative team for AWB
 - 1) Administer WIDs and AWB
 - 2) Write, implement, and administer project grants
 - 3) Water supply
 - Jon moved to approve the proposed AWB amended budget, Rich seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - Anticipated AWB Contract with Family Farmers for:
 - 1) Water quality and drainage
 - 2) Media and community relations
 - Leroy moved to approve the 2016 Contract with N3 for water quality monitoring, Rich seconded, motion carried unanimously.

B. Ag Water Board report

- Legal
 - Lummi Settlement Update – a response was submitted to the Lummi Tribe on February 29th, a meeting to discuss the response is scheduled for March 18th.
- Media Relations – a report from Gerald was distributed. A recent WFF newsletter was also available as a report on recent public affairs activity.

III. New Business

A. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Ditch maintenance meeting with the County is being scheduled for late March, early April. The Corps did not see reason to meet.

B. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results were generally good but some hot spots showed up in February. Most of these sites were outside the WID in Deer Creek. The board felt they should inform these farmers (2 beef and 1 berry) that testing was occurring with some concerns about water quality showing up.
- WID protocol for addressing issues – other WIDs are still reviewing the BPS. A few clarifications were made to the draft. Rich moved to adopt it as the Laurel WIDs policy, Roger seconded, motion carried unanimously. There was some discussion about establishing a standard for when we would implement the policy but it was left to N3's discretion.

C. Water Quantity - Henry noted the continued discussion at:

- Whatcom Water Supply Coalition
 - Birch Bay Water and Sewer Grant - \$700,000
 - Preparation for water settlement negotiations
 - Groundwater Model phase 4 funding
- Bureau of Reclamation Grant Application – in cooperation with PUD and BBWS
 - Review of Water Rights and Needs for each WID
 - Water Bank

D. Education

- Comprehensive Plan Update – Heather MacKay – review of the February 4 work session – Heather distributed a series of maps and tables and asked for edits and feedback by March 25th. The team is available to construct the maps and data in a manner that meets the WID's needs. The board was challenged to determine what audiences they hope to address (general public, grant reviewers, WID members, and technical audiences) and the team would construct a storymap and add to the WID website the information that would help meet these needs.
- AWB/WID Newsletter – Scott – plan to mail by Mid-March – template, review of priorities and messaging – There are 1,300 landowners in the 6 WIDs.
- Website www.laurelwid.com

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

April 11

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Family Farmers – Education

Approved by _____