

Laurel Watershed Improvement District

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

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

t Leroy Plagerman x Roger Blok x Jon Maberry
 x Rich Appel x Mike Boxx

 x Henry Bierlink x Fred Likkel x Lee First
 x Si Eldred x Katie Gaut Aneka Sweeney
 x Andy Ross x Eric Sundstrom Kasey Cykler
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of April 13 Minutes
- B. Financial Report

	<u>Original Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Balance Available</u>
Grant #1	\$0.00			\$0.00
Grant #2	\$0.00			\$0.00
Fund Balance @ 5/1/2015		\$16,538.49		
Accounts Receivable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$16,538.49
Outstanding bills:				\$5,286.81
Whatcom Farm Friends	<i>April, Media Training, website</i>		\$1,015.90	
N3	<i>April Water Quality testing</i>			
Whatcom Farm Friends	<i>Ag Water Board admin</i>		\$2,289.91	
N3	<i>Ag Water Board water quality</i>			
Clarke Law	<i>Ag Water Board legal</i>			
Enduris	<i>10 months Insurance</i>		\$1,981.00	
End of Month Balance				\$11,251.68

Rich moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Jon seconded, motion passed unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Administrative

- Board per diems – Rich moved to have all board members pass on taking a per diem for board meetings, Jon seconded, motion carried unanimously. Each board member signed the waiver form.

B. Ag Water Board

- Legal - June 3rd group WID mtg. – not discussed – AWB is planning an evening meeting on the 3rd to discuss the meeting with Lummi and the fall strategy session.
 - Lummi proposed water negotiations – June 3rd. Who should go and what should be said was discussed. Strong consensus was to defer to the AWB to make those decisions.
 - Prepare for a fall strategy session – with Bill Clarke – explain where we stand legally to better inform an overall AWB/WID strategy.
 - May 21st, 3pm has been set for a special AWB meeting.
- Media relations
 - Agincourt ideas – defer to the AWB – see the work with Gerald being more focused on getting good stories about Ag and the WIDs disseminated. Crisis response more likely to come from the sector of ag facing the challenge.

- Relationship to the Dairy Fed contract – defend a specific industry – dairies are primarily responsible for addressing the fecal challenge.
- Budget – AWB bills will be paid by rotating WIDs with year-end reconciliation

III. New Business

A. Ditch and Dike Maintenance

Fred brought the stream and wetland map which illustrated the difficulty in maintaining drainage in the Ten Mile system. A large portion of the area is mapped as wetlands and permits that would affect wetlands are not easy to obtain.

- DID #3 (Roger) DID #6 (Rich) remain partners in improved drainage.
- Green Lake's effect on water quality was discussed.

B. Water Quality

Fred distributed water quality testing results from Portage Bay. There has been general improvement.

- The Ten Mile Group have been concentrating on storm events in Deer Creek. Data is not clear. Roger heard Ecology describing the problem as “whack a mole”. He also heard Waylon wonder about the effect of UV light on bacteria denigration as some areas where there was no shade on the stream seemed to show higher reductions in fecal coliform counts.
- Fred will work with the Ten Mile group by supplying them some low/medium/high monitoring options and costs so that they can better focus their grant requests. The WID supports any well intended and properly conducted water quality monitoring efforts.

C. Water Quantity

- Planning Unit debate on unpermitted uses will be held in late May. Henry distributed a memo from the Environmental caucus and a paper on examining water markets that will be used as potential answer to how to best address unpermitted uses.

D. Update of WID Comprehensive Plan

- Grant application process – in an effort to develop a Laurel WID Management Plan that includes baseline conditions and goals for watershed improvement Henry has asked a team including Aneka Sweeney(water quality/education), Joanne Greenberg (water quantity), Katie Gaut (GIS mapping, website), and Frank Corey (habitat, drainage, fisheries) to outline the elements, workplan, and budget by June. That outline would become the base for applying for grants that may likely help the WID develop this plan.

E. Education

- Website www.laurelwid.com
- Demonstration of AWB storyboard capabilities by Katie Gaut. The WID provided feedback and suggestions. The intent is to seen the draft link to the board members for additional feedback and hopefully have the package ready to be hosted on the AWB website by the first of June.

F. Other Items from Commissioners - none

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

June 8 – intend to cancel the July and August meetings.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____