

Laurel Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: January 11, 2016 Meeting, 10 am - noon

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leroy Plagerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Blok	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Maberry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Appel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Boxx	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Bierlink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Likkel	<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Lindsay
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Clark	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Jilk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Veronica Wisniewski
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andy Ross	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Sundstrom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lee First
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Seaman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hank Kastner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob McWhoter

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of December 14 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Grant #1	\$0.00			\$0.00
Fund Balance @ 1/1/2016		\$14,888.20		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$14,888.20
Outstanding bills:				\$2,210.00
Whatcom Family Farmers	<i>Dec. AWB adm, w quantity</i>		\$1,280.00	
Whatcom Family Farmers	<i>Dec Adm.</i>		\$930.00	
End of Month Balance				\$12,678.20

	<u>2015 Budget</u>	<u>Expended to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Insurance	2,600	4,622.00	-2,022.00
AWB	13,714	13,556.94	157.06
Projects	12,103	535.90	11,567.10
Administration	4,500	3,810.00	690.00
	32,917	22,524.84	10,392.16

Roger moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Jon seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Administrative

- Election of Chair for 2016 – Jon moved to retain Mike as Chair, Roger seconded, motion carried unanimously.

B. Ag Water Board report

- Legal
 - Lummi Settlement Update (in Executive Session)
 - Discussion of upcoming meeting with Lummi over water quality issues and the State's perspective on upcoming settlement negotiations.
- Media Relations – discussion of changing emphasis in AWB from media relations to legal defense needs.
- Financial – adopted AWB Budget

<u>WID</u>	<u>Insurance</u>	<u>Admin</u>	<u>Legal</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Quality/</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>Office</u>			<u>Access</u>	<u>Drainage</u>	<u>Affairs</u>	

Bertrand	\$1,278	\$4,260	\$28,968	\$4,260	\$4,260	\$7,668	50,694
North Lynden	\$528	\$1,760	\$11,968	\$1,760	\$1,760	\$3,168	20,944
South Lynden	\$1,152	\$3,840	\$26,112	\$3,840	\$3,840	\$6,912	45,696
Drayton	\$654	\$2,180	\$14,824	\$2,180	\$2,180	\$3,924	25,942
Laurel	\$738	\$2,460	\$16,728	\$2,460	\$2,460	\$4,428	29,274
Sumas	\$1,650	\$5,500	\$37,400	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$9,900	65,450
	6,000	20,000	136,000	20,000	20,000	36,000	238,000
	3%	8%	57%	8%	8%	15%	100%

The Board was generally OK with the budget. It was recognized that this would leave only \$15k in our project budget if the AWB spent the full budget amount. There remains a lot of uncertainty if the full Legal budgeted amount will be needed.

<u>WID</u>	<u>AWB</u>	<u>Admin/Insurance</u>	<u>Projects</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bertrand	50,696	7,662	28,000	86,358
North Lynden	20,891	2,833	0	23,724
South Lynden	45,758	7,188	25,000	77,946
Drayton	26,012	6,298	12,000	44,310
Laurel	29,260	5,582	15,000	49,842
Sumas	65,384	6,931	20,500	92,815
	238,000	36,494	100,500	374,994

III. New Business

A. Ditch & Dike Maintenance

- Ditch maintenance – Jeff Gollen of Whatcom Public Works will be invited to a Feb or March WID meeting to discuss potential projects along county roads.
- Fred noted a drainage meeting involving all relevant parties is being organized by the North Lynden WID.

B. Water Quality

- Water quality testing results have been reasonably good. Not a lot of new data since last month. Fred reported that the WCD's effort to consolidate and present water quality data was making progress. The link to that data is <http://wacds.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=71fa677503c949c8847066178a531099>
- Ten Mile group members requested support for sending letters, postcards to landowners along streams to keep them informed of water quality monitoring data. Weekly newspaper columns may also be considered. The board is considering the request.
- Fred informed the group of a developing policy generated by Whatcom Family Farmers which would provide a consistent response strategy across the WIDs for reports of questionable practices or consistently high fecal coliform tests. The goal is to have all WIDs adopt the policy and be the first point of contact for landowners when issues arise.
- Re Sources indicated they had a list of 30 questionable sites in the Laurel WID where they would like to see this policy implemented. Most of these sites on on "hobby farms". The WID suggested they narrow this to 3-5 priority sites to be discussed at the next WID meeting.
- Andy noted that bracketed monitoring of trouble areas would be looking at septic systems as well as animals. He valued enterococci testing as part of the puzzle.
- Chris made the group aware of a grant the WCD was managing to provide funds for more enterococci testing of open and V ditches and to test drainage tiles.

C. Water Quantity

- Planning Unit is continuing with AWB participation
- Out of Stream Users Group – Jan 27th meeting, potential agenda items:
 - Birch Bay Water and Sewer Grant - \$700,000 for exploring two more deep aquifer wells and setting up a water bank.
 - Legislative funding proviso request to do the review of water rights for each WID and to add to the water banking process beyond the Birch Bay project.

D. Education

- Comprehensive Plan Update – Heather MacKay – organizing February 4 work session – A draft MOA with the County was discussed with commits the WID to encouraging attendance of WID landowners at the session. Several names were suggested as participants.
- Website www.laurelwid.com
- The WCD's upcoming training session for Manure Nutrient Management on January 27th was recommended.
- A list of water quantity projects being advanced in Whatcom County was distributed. This provides context for what else is going on in water locally and indicates the numerous projects that have some kind of an ag nexus.

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

February 8

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Family Farmers

Approved by _____