

Ag Water Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2017, 1-3 pm

Ag Water Board office, 1796 Front Street, Lynden

<u>AWB Board:</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andy Enfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marty Maberry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Bedlington
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Boxx	<input type="checkbox"/> Rod Vande Hoef	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Bajema
<u>Alternates:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Vern Vande Garde	<input type="checkbox"/> Terry Lenssen	<input type="checkbox"/> Greg Ebe
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Appel	<input type="checkbox"/> Landon Van Dyk	<input type="checkbox"/> Rod Tjoelker
	<input type="checkbox"/> Jon Maberry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brad Rader	<input type="checkbox"/> Keith Boon
	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff De Jong	<input type="checkbox"/> Rolf Haugen	<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Stap
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Blok		
<u>Others:</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Likkel	<input type="checkbox"/> Gerald Baron	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Bierlink
	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Clarke	<input type="checkbox"/> David Haggith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Elder

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

- I. Review & Approve June 21 Minutes – Andy moved approval of the June 21 minutes, Mike seconded, motion carried unanimously.

- II. Financial/Administrative
 - A. Financial Reports – with Rod absent Scott and Henry reviewed the reports. Mike moved approval, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - B. AWB Strategic Plan – build on assignments at 3/20 WID Planning mtg. – It was suggested that this be tabled until the winter meeting when we should have more time to consider.
 - C. Draft 2018 Budget – a draft was presented reflecting the same amounts as in 2017. Andy moved approval of this as the 2018 Budget pending review by the WIDs, Mike seconded, motion carried unanimously.

<u>WID</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Office/ Misc</u>	<u>Admin</u>	<u>Legal</u>	<u>Water Supply</u>	<u>Quality & Drainage</u>	<u>Public Affairs</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Bertrand	14,379	21.3%	\$5,317	\$10,635	\$15,952	\$10,635	\$7,976	\$7,976	58,492
North Lynden	5,902	8.7%	\$2,183	\$4,365	\$6,548	\$4,365	\$3,274	\$3,274	24,009
South Lynden	13,078	19.3%	\$4,836	\$9,673	\$14,509	\$9,673	\$7,254	\$7,254	53,200
Drayton	7,396	10.9%	\$2,735	\$5,470	\$8,205	\$5,470	\$4,103	\$4,103	30,086
Laurel	8,307	12.3%	\$3,072	\$6,144	\$9,216	\$6,144	\$4,608	\$4,608	33,792
Sumas	18,541	27.4%	\$6,857	\$13,713	\$20,570	\$13,713	\$10,285	\$10,285	75,422
			25,000	50,000	75,000	50,000	37,500	37,500	275,000
	67,603.0		9%	18%	27%	18%	14%	14%	100%

<u>WID</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>AWB</u>	<u>Insurance/Misc</u>	<u>Projects</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
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Bertrand	\$6	58,492	4,200	23,582	86,274
North Lynden	\$6	24,009	1,900	9,503	35,412
South Lynden	\$6	53,200	3,000	22,268	78,468
Drayton	\$6	30,086	3,000	11,290	44,376
Laurel	\$6	33,792	3,000	13,050	49,842
Sumas	\$5	75,422	3,500	13,783	92,705
		275,000	18,600	93,477	387,077

D. 2018 Workplan – Roger advocated for some items that should be included in future workplans:

- a. A lobbyist attending all County Council meetings
- b. A letter to the Conservation District insisting that CREP pay more continued management of projects to ensure they don't inhibit drainage.
- c. A study of the actual history of fish management in the county.

III. Old Business

- A. CAO and impervious surface update – Fred noted the County had finished the impervious surface regulation update and were near completion with the CAO update. In both cases farmer concerns were clearly expressed and listen to. Ag areas are exempt under the impervious surface regulations and ag in rural zones are exempt with a Farm Plan.
- B. County water program funding – Henry noted the County was leaning towards establishing a Lake Whatcom storm water district and funding source which would take some pressure off the Flood Fund.
- C. County Program update – Chris Elder is facilitating the work of the County Ag Advisory Committee. He reported that there remains a vacancy for person with “farm program expertise”. He also summarized a grant application he had been working on to add \$2.5 million to the PDR program over 5 years. This would leverage the County’s funds from the Conservation Futures fund to purchase more ag development rights. The AWB has expressed support for this grant application and is targeted as a place where applications can be reviewed for their relevance to protecting ag and where the County can get feedback as to areas to focus.

IV. Communication/Education

- A. AWB fall Newsletter – Fred reported that WFF was targeting a Spring and Fall newsletter. It would make sense for AWB to publish in Summer and Winter. A list of accomplishments and a chart indicating how dollars are allocated was advised.
- B. Media Relations report – Fred distributed a report containing a summary of many media related activities which had earlier been reported on the Farm Leader report.

V. Water Quantity/Supply

- A. Latest Hirst paper on unpermitted water use – It was determined to not provide an official AWB response but instead to rely on continued conversation with Eric lead by Greg and Marty.

- B. AWB Feedback to Water Policy Board – Henry asked the board to make sure they were supportive of the water supply directions outlined in the response to the Water Policy Board. The importance of monitoring was emphasized.
- C. Water Symposiums – Sept. 20-21, November 1 – Henry encouraged the board to attend as much as they can of the upcoming symposiums.

VI. Water Quality/Drainage

- A. Floodplain Management Plan – Fred noted a meeting was being planned for late October.

VII. Legal – Joint Defense Team, Litigation Management Committee

- A. Report on Tribal Negotiations – PBP – Fred described the process surrounding the CAFO permit and how that is affecting the Portage Bay Partnership. The appeals on the CAFO permit are on hold for 5 months. PBP members are committed to continue to invest in building the relationship with Lummi.
- B. Future of Water Negotiations – Bill described the state of the Capital Budget. He wasn't optimistic that the Legislature would address this again until the next session in 2018. A group of legislators, facilitated by Jim Waldo, continue to work on a compromise. Meanwhile work on a draft capital budget also continues. There is some hope of a Nooksack focused proviso to support development of water management tools and facilitate processes leading to binding agreements.

VIII. Adjournment - Next Meeting

December 20