

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: February 14, 2022 Meeting, 2 pm

Videoconference – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89024750360?pwd=RGl6Z2dWazhEQjdVdEVuMTVXTFgvUT09>
 Meeting ID: 890 2475 0360 Passcode: 671418

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|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vern VandeGarde | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Bedlington | <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Schoneveld |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pete Vlas | <input type="checkbox"/> Greg Ebe | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Bierlink | <input type="checkbox"/> Dale Buys | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Likkel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frank Corey | <input type="checkbox"/> Alan Chapman | <input type="checkbox"/> David Haggith |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jay Chennault | <input type="checkbox"/> Katie Faber | <input type="checkbox"/> Angela Gelfer |
- x = present* *o = absent with notice* *t = teleconference*

Vern called the meeting to order at 2:04.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of January 10 Minutes
- b. Financial Report

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
B0222	AWB	January, February AWB	\$11,308.44
		TOTAL VOUCHER	\$11,308.44

- c. Duffner accounting – reimburse Diking and Drainage Districts for the unspent funds in the Duffner tidegate project.

Scott moved approval of the Consent Agenda and the reimbursement for the Diking and Drainage Districts, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Water Supply Team update
 - Legal – Water Supply Team advocating for contract with legal team
 - Would focus on building alternatives to adjudication – federal, settlement options
 - Funds would come from the AWB legal reserve fund but more may be needed from each WID to fund the 2022 contract. The budget for additional \$30k was reviewed with the BWID contributing \$6,589 from its Project Fund. The board recognized this was a possibility at budgeting time and was Ok with making this transfer should the AWB make a formal request.
- b. Solutions Table
 - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating a March 2022 start
 - Linking with potential proviso supporting federal involvement in water mgt. (flood, supply, habitat)
 - Legislature seems amenable to expanding the scope of the Solutions Table and proving more funding.
- c. Project List
 - Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application submitted for \$8.5 million over 7 years. We expect it will be competitive and that we will hear by late summer.
- d. Water Right acquisition candidates
 - The final review of groundwater rights was conducted. Jay and Henry will prepare a list of water rights where we are uncertain if the rights will be adequately defended and suggest some options the WID board may consider for communicating with these parcel owners.
 - Next step will be to determine who and how to contact.
- e. Projects with AESI

- Lynden area water rights – Jay expects this report to be completed before the March BWID meeting. It will identify prospective rights that might be transferred to another farmer or to a water bank.
- Surface/Ground quantification – work on this will build on the contract with the AWB to provide a rights and uses analysis in the Bertrand basin.

III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Flood response
 - Support for a media story with flood images and stories – Bertrand & Drayton agreed to add \$5k to the \$10k approved by the Sumas WID. Fred has been working with the Small Cities who are highly motivated towards action. He is seeking good contacts in BC to expand the discussion.
- b. Ditch maintenance
 - Glendale Road ditch should be brought up in a meeting with the County.
 - Rathbone Rd. site was discussed. There is some testing occurring surrounding the camp. The drainage surrounding the bridge should also be discussed in the meeting with the County road dept.
 - The Sumas WID is inviting Joel to attend a future meeting to brainstorm how we can help each other to address the drainage concerns caused by the flood. It was suggested to invite Joel and Whatcom County road dept. for the final 30 minutes of the Sumas March 8th meeting and the first 30 minutes of the S Lynden WID. Other WIDs are invited to join this conversation.
- c. West Lynden stormwater – Willamette Partnership toured the area on Friday. Some initial assignments were outlined. There seems to be potential for good partnerships on managing stormwater around the City of Lynden.

IV. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Fred presented the recent sampling data which was very positive.
- b. DNA testing - David has obtained a good set of samples that may be able to isolate the avian contribution to fecal numbers.

V. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.bertrandwid.com
- b. AWB flyer and draft cover letter – 455 letters to be mailed. Final edits were made.
- c. Family Farmers Rally will be set in March or April once more clarity on the Water Supply Team legal contract is in place.

VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Vern adjourned the meeting at 3:18. Next meeting is March 14.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____