

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: June 12, 2017 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

Vern VandeGarde Scott Bedlington Mike Schoneveld
 Pete Vlas Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink Dale Buys Heather McKay
 Scarlett Graham Chuck Lindsay Kasey Cykler

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of April 10 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Available</u>
2015 Capital Grant	\$184,889.93		\$127,471.00	\$57,418.93
2017 Assessments Received		\$49,402.34		
Fund Balance 4/1/2017		\$40,053.22		
Fund Balance 6/1/2017		\$66,911.22		
Accounts Payable				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement				
TOTAL Available				\$66,911.22
Outstanding bills:				\$17,675.45
Ag Water Board <i>May, June AWB Admin</i>			\$9,755.16	
Ag Water Board <i>grant project</i>			\$960.00	
Vern Vande Garde <i>per diems (2) water wrk. reg.</i>			\$196.50	
Dept of Ecology <i>W R processing - grant</i>			\$2,502.91	
Reichhardt & Ebe <i>Augmentation Grant</i>			\$4,260.88	
End of Month Balance				\$49,235.77
	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
AWB	58,531	29,265.48	29,265.52	
Projects	23,636	200.00	23,436.00	
Insurance/Adm	4,191	872.36	3,318.64	
	86,358	30,337.84	56,020.16	

Scott moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Mike seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Administrative

- A. Comprehensive Plan preparation – Heather discussed the first draft of the prelim plan. It is an update and a new format for the 2004 Plan. Since a previous plan is in place there will have to be a transition process where we determine what moves from the old plan to the new. The Board was encouraged to focus on tables 1 & 2 and identify questions and/or feedback on the content and format. We plan a final draft in September for review, with some interactions via email through summer.
- B. Review Priority Issue and Activity lists

Priorities	2017 Action Priorities	Notes/Actions
1. Water rights	Water augmentation project finished	Permits and requirements in place

	Surface to groundwater transfers...support legislation and legal effort	Supporting Hirst Fix legislation
2. Water Quality	Continue water quality testing to bring quality back	
3. Drainage		Consider working with Frank to prepare the 5 – year permit.
4. Flood Management		

III. Water Supply

A. Augmentation Project

- Task #3 - Augmentation
 - Marty Maberry contract with WID in development
 - SEPA, Shoreline Exemption, and HPA permit applications submitted
 - Discharge designs proposed by Dale. He will get some structural engineering help before having two of these built.
 - QAPP has been prepared and accepted.

B. Olympia Report – the fate of ESSB 5239 (Hirst Fix) is still up in the air. The AWB has been working with Bill and other local partners to have some suggested budget language to be inserted to final budget negotiations should the opportunity present itself. Bill is floating this idea with other groups including the Lummis.

- Whatcom Water Action Pilot Program proposal - 2 years - \$150k/yr.

(X) \$300,000 is provided solely to establish the Whatcom Water Action Program (WWAP). With these funds, the department shall retain a qualified consultant to develop a multi-purpose water resource program capable of providing both technical and market analysis of existing water rights, changes of existing water rights, mitigated water rights, and development of new water infrastructure, including but not limited to storage, pipelines, aquifer recharge, and other projects. The program would be designed to meet water resource needs for both instream and out-of-stream needs, and be capable of supporting future water resource agreements. The program will analyze demands, design supply options, and create an exchange service where access to water will be methodical and transparent; including water uses for agriculture, rural residents, municipal supply, and instream flows. The department shall establish a steering committee for the program, which shall include major water resource stakeholders and federally-recognized tribes.

C. Whatcom Water Supply work group – Henry provided a brief summary of projects this group was working on including:

- Lummi Infrastructure project
- Birch Bay Water and Sewer Deep Aquifer project
- Ground water Modeling
- Drought Contingency Plan
- Action Plan

D. Water Exchange/Banking – A Pilot Program proposal to the AWB was reviewed.

IV. Water Quality

- A. Monitoring Results – Fred reported that mid-may samples were generally high due to a large, unexpected, rainfall event.
- B. ZAP unit locations, installation, O & M, reporting – Scarlett reported that three units are installed and are being calibrated. There is funding for three more units. There was interest in locating one on the Bertrand. The Board suggested the CFM bridge before Rathbone as the best spot but wondered if the Bertrand was the best system to use the ZAP on. Fecal coliform has not been a habitual problem in the Bertrand.
- C. Exact Scientific – source tracking technology - A large scale DNA proposal has been prepared for consideration in the State budget. In the short-term, in order to demonstrate how this technology could be put to use Exact has crafted a proposal to do

a pilot project in the South Lynden WID on the Scott Ditch reach between Strandell and Nolte Road. Depending on the level of effort costs would be between \$4,500 and \$18,900. The larger effort is being considered but South Lynden does not have that amount of project budget. BWID approved up to \$5k in October to support this kind of work but since this is outside the WID a revised request needs consideration. Scott moved to approve \$5k to support this project since the information generated in this project would be applicable to our concerns as well, Mike seconded, motion carried unanimously.

V. Drainage/Habitat

- A. Ditch maintenance – Mowing ditches was again suggested as a proper activity for the WID. Contacting with someone like Ted Huizinga was a good option. The County will be coming to the North Lynden WID meeting next Tuesday. Fred will raise this issue with them again. He will also talk to Tony H. at WSDOT about cleaning the Guide ditch north of Badger.
- B. Flood Fund – Fred is working with the Flood Advisory Committee on future budgets. Decisions need to be made about how much funding should be generated by the Flood Fund and what priorities should be funded.
- C. 5-year programmatic permit – We will take to Frank Corey about developing this for our WID before 2018 cleaning season.

VI. Education/Communications

- A. Website - www.bertrandwid.com
- B. Water Symposiums – Henry distributed the agenda for Day 1 of the Sept 20-21 “Baker to Bay” symposium. Rich Appel has agreed to present the Ag perspectives on how we view the Ecosystem. A second symposium specific to water supply is being planned for Nov. 1 or 2.

VII. Ag Water Board

- A. Spring newsletter is out.
- B. AESI instream flow report was presented to Water Supply Committee and will have more discussion at the AWB meeting.
- C. Portage Bay Partnership update (in Executive Session)

VIII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

July 10 and August 14 are likely to be cancelled September 11

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____