

# Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: January 14, 2019 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 204 Hawley Street Lynden, WA 98264

  x   Vern VandeGarde        x   Scott Bedlington        x   Mike Schoneveld  
  x   Pete Vlas                x   Greg Ebe

  x   Henry Bierlink              \_\_\_\_\_ Dale Buys                x   Fred Likkel  
  x   Frank Corey                    x   Chuck Lindsay                x   Stacey Beier  
\_\_\_\_\_ Alan Chapman              \_\_\_\_\_ Steve Jilk                t   Marty Maberry  
*x = present*                      *o = absent with notice*              *t = teleconference*

### I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of November 12 Minutes
- b. Financial Report and payment of bills  
Scott moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Mike seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### II. Administration

- a. Board reorganization – officer election – AWB representatives – Consensus was to keep Vern as Chair and Scott as AWB representative and vice-chair.
- b. Potential candidates for future board positions – Names mentioned included: Matt Maberry, Scott Smit, Randy Kraght, John Clark, Al De Boer. Henry will email the list of parcel owners in the WID. Board will come with additional suggestions in February.
- c. Annual Review – AWB and Whatcom Family Farmers – comments were solicited.
- d. Strategic Planning – review annual priorities on website, Management Plan – Immediate Action items for 2019 were identified. Henry will draft an updated list of actions and goals for review and adoption in February.

#### 2019 Action Items

1. Seek approval for a permanent water right permit for Augmentation projects.
2. Complete remaining surface to ground water transfers
3. Pursue 5-year programmatic drainage permit
4. Maintain water quality monitoring program
5. Complete a fish friendly tidegate on Duffner Ditch
6. Identify and replace priority fish blocking culverts
7. Engage BC landowners and agencies in water quality concerns.

### III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. AWB/Tribal meeting with Lummi – on hold until Drainage Based Management is initiated
- b. Watershed Management Board and Planning Unit update
  - PU continuing to work on updating the watershed management plan. The February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline will be missed. Henry and Fred are questioning the utility of investing significant time in the upcoming months in the plan update. The emphasis should be in plan implementation instead.
  - Management Board returning to implementing 5-year workplan which includes Drainage Based Management and a Water Supply plan.
- c. Ecology grant application – notice in mid-January – discussions are underway with the Management Board as to implement these projects.

### IV. Drainage/Habitat

- a. Duffner project – R & E will provide the engineering for the project. A contract between the BWID and R & E needs to get done and work completed in the next months.
- b. 5 year plan – Frank can prepare this HPA under the NRCS costshare provided in the Duffner project. Greg moved to allow the WCD to use the permit once developed on the Badger bridge project, Pete seconded, motion carried unanimously.

- c. Ditch mowing – Fred contacted the County about Jackman Ditch maintenance. They promised to be more diligent in 2019.

**V. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – the results from County tested were reviewed. The fall numbers were not what we hoped for.
- b. Transboundary – Fred noted that David was attending a Transboundary meeting today. BC seems to be taking water quality issues more seriously.
- c. Landowner letter – recommended by AWB – Fred noted there were too many lapses in judgement this fall. A reminder letter was proposed to all WID members and recommended to each WID by the AWB. The consensus opinion was to send the letter to BWID landowners.
- d. DNA source tracking project report – CD looking for sampling sites, wildlife – Ryan McLaughlin at Exact has information to report on this project. We might consider hosting a presentation in the near future.

**VI. Education/Communications**

- a. Website - [www.bertrandwid.com](http://www.bertrandwid.com)
- b. WCD’s Manure Management workshop on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- c. FLIP – Fred reported on the progress of the Flood Management Board. Reach 2 (Ferndale to Lynden) is being examined

**VII. Other Items from Commissioners**

- a. [Storage Study](#) – it was noted that Chuck Lindsay had completed a brief overview of lowland water storage options for the PUD. Sites in the Bertrand WID that were examined centered around Keefe Lake.
- b. [Fish Screening requirements](#) – WDFW presented to the South Lynden WID on screen requirement for surface water diversions and a new program that will provide cost share for irrigators choosing to upgrade their screens. 3/32” screens are required.

**VIII. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

February 11

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_