

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: November 8, 2021 Meeting, 2pm

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 839 3371 3633 Passcode: 361847

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83933713633?pwd=K2RhcjJLWWlOaWdGSi9qdVlxbE5adz09>

Vern VandeGarde Scott Bedlington Mike Schoneveld
 Pete Vlas Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink Dale Buys Fred Likkel
 Jay Chennault Katie Faber _____ Angela Gelfer
x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

Vern called the meeting to order at 2:01

Board of Equalization Hearing

Public has opportunity to contest Assessments. WID board must determine if petitioners provide clear evidence they would not receive value from WID actions equal to the Assessment amount. WID Board could vote to eliminate or reduce the assessment on individual parcels. Once completed the Regular Board Meeting commences.

Vern closed the Board of Equalization Hearing at 2:03.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of October 11 Minutes
- b. Financial Report

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
B1121	Vern VandeGarde	per diem	\$128.00
B1121	Ag Water Board	November, December	\$12,811.50
B1121	Reichardt & Ebe	Duffner Tidegate	\$2,742.69
TOTAL VOUCHER			\$15,682.19

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

II. Administrative

- a. Board nominations – Scott and Greg are elected to a 3 year term. Congratulations and Thanks! Some thought was given to others that should be groomed for future service. These included Tim Vander Haak or his son, Blake Te Velde, Kate Steensma.

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Solutions Table
 - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating an early 2022 start
 - Tribes will be there but their level of commitment to reach agreements in this setting is questioned. They insist adjudication is the priority for them.
- b. Project List - Surface to ground conversion candidates were reviewed from a list that AESI had developed. Surface rights were screened by volume, number of landowners who would have to be involved, value to flows and habitat, and likelihood of landowner interest in making the changes. Several priority candidates were identified and boardmember assignments to sense interest were made. Smit by Vern, De Haan by Pete, Terry DV by Dale. Those with interest would have Jay look into the legal complexities and some system design would be developed by the WID. We need to have a grant application developed by mid-December.

- c. Water Right acquisition candidates – a full list of surface and ground water rights with links to the current parcel owners was provided by AESI. The board will look for likely candidates in these lists that:
 - Are not fully using their water rights
 - May be locations where ag irrigation is not likely in the future
 - Are owned by entities not likely to vigorously defend their rights in an adjudicationThe board expects future meetings to address these candidates and a plan to offer the landowners options developed.
- d. North County Water Supply Interlocal approval – no new word on the final draft.

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Stormwater Interlocal with Lynden
 - Willamette Partnership scope of work still in development. We expect this to begin in January.
- b. Flood Committee update – Fred has several FLIP meetings in the next few weeks.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Rathbone numbers were 300-500. Fred will alert the Health Department and the quality monitoring group to the camp just upstream of the gage.
- b. DNA testing costs - \$250/sample. With our recent work we can call out the percentage of avian influence. Pete moved to provide N3 a \$1000 budget to use as needed when samples are likely to have a high avian influence, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – Fred noted that recent reports indicate that Portage bay is 30% improved in counts over the past year.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.bertrandwid.com

VII. Other Items from Commissioners

- a. Greg suggested the AWB identify studies, both legal and scientific, that would provide support for the legal defense of ag water rights in an adjudication. The AWB Water Supply Committee will further develop in a meeting later this week.

VIII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Vern adjourned the meeting at 3:32. Next meetings are:
December 13
January 10

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____