

# Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: February 8, 2021 Meeting, 2pm

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 838 9224 5134 Passcode: 121893

Vern VandeGarde       Scott Bedlington       Mike Schoneveld  
 Pete Vlas                       Greg Ebe

Henry Bierlink               Dale Buys                       Fred Likkel  
 Lonni Cummings               Paula Harris                       Steve Banham  
*x = present                      o = absent with notice                      t = teleconference*

Vern opened the meeting at 2:05.

### I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of November 9, 2020 Minutes
- b. Financial Report
- c. The following voucher/warrants/electronic payments are approved for payment:

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
B0121	Reichhardt & Ebe	Duffner tidegate	\$3,403.11
B0121	Ag Water Board	January, February AWB	\$12,811.50
B0121	Vern VandeGarde	per diem	\$128.00
B0121	Pete Smit	beaver trapping	\$1,000.00
<b>TOTAL VOUCHER</b>			<b>\$17,342.61</b>

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

### II. Administrative

- a. Oath of Office – Vern and Peter were sworn into new three-year terms.
- b. Officer election – President and VP/Secretary - Scott moved to keep Vern as President, Scott as AWB representative, and Pete as VP/Sect., Mike seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Adjudication debate
  - Legislative education is continuing – a budget proviso that would approve funding for both pre-adjudication work and the County collaborative process is developing. It currently prohibits Ecology from filing for adjudication until 2023.
  - Response to tribal meeting – A general feeling of progress in the December meeting with tribes but no response as of yet to our followup letter.
- b. County Executive proposal
  - Built on Lummi proposal (2015) and Drainage Based Management
  - Watershed Management Board discussing approval of the workplan Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Cascadia Policy Solutions - Maia, Jay – engaged by County to guide this
- c. Regional Water Supply project – a technical draft summarizing what is known in each of the pilot areas is being reviewed. AESI is helping AWB with the technical review. The purpose is to identify best sites for implementing tools to increase flows.

### IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Duffner Tidegate project
  - Estimated cost \$70k over budget - \$50k more likely coming from Flood District. Another \$20-30k may be needed depending on the Contractor bids. Scott will approach the Diking District for an additional \$10k, Mike the Drainage District

for \$10k. The WID may also fill in some budget holes. Gaining some support from Lynden for the project was also discussed as managing their water was part of the project.

- Culvert and flood gate authorization:
  - Mike moved to approve the contract presented by Dale with an amount not to exceed \$91k for the box culvert and to allow Henry to sign the contract for the BWID, Pete seconded, motion carried unanimously.
  - Mike moved to approve the contract presented by Dale with an amount not to exceed \$87k for the tidegate and to allow Henry to sign the contract for the BWID, Scott seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- Contractor Bid package – ready for award at March meeting
- b. Lynden stormwater – Dale noted there may be some evaluation of how the system is working in light of new standards. He encouraged the board to invite him to see when the pond is not functioning properly. Scott noted that the drainage improvements downstream had helped immensely and he had not seen system failure this winter.
- c. Flood Committee update – Fred noted the tidegate work on Duffner and Cougar Creeks were high priorities for the committee.
- d. Beaver trapping – approved trappers, Sumas WID efforts were discussed which is a more proactive approach to tracking beaver damage and trapping.

## V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – indicated some high counts but much of them are attributed to significant rainfall events.
- b. DNA project – Avian project initiated and progressing. Exact has been challenged to get all the needed supplies for the project due to COVID.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – the numbers have not been encouraging in large part to the timing of the tests (immediately after large rain events). There may be an additional month of fall closure.

## VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website – [www.bertrandwid.com](http://www.bertrandwid.com)
- b. Conservation District board election – the request for a ballot is due today.

## VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Vern adjourned the meeting at 3:16. Next meeting is March 8.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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