

# Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: November 13, 2017 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vern VandeGarde	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Bedlington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Schoneveld
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pete Vlas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Ebe	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Bierlink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Buys	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dillon Honcoop
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Likkel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Lindsay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Davis
<i>x = present</i>	<i>o = absent with notice</i>	<i>t = teleconference</i>

### 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 opened the meeting as the Board of Equalization. With no objections to the Assessment Roll Scott moved to close, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously. Vern then opened the regular meeting.

### I. Consent Agenda

- A. Review and Approval of October 9 Minutes
- B. Financial Report and payment of bills

	<u>10/1/2017</u>	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>11/1/2017</u>	<u>ANNUAL TOTAL</u>
2017 Assessments Received		\$18,622.58		\$75,246.61
Fund Balance	\$41,406.08		\$43,841.56	
Beginning Year Balance			\$16,528.49	
Outstanding bills:				<b>\$12,754.95</b>
Ag Water Board		<i>Nov, Dec AWB Admin</i>	<b>\$9,755.16</b>	
Ag Water Board		<i>R &amp; E bill</i>	<b>\$1,014.40</b>	
Exact Scientific Services		<i>Augmentation Grant</i>	<b>\$780.00</b>	
Reichhardt & Ebe		<i>Augmentation Grant</i>	<b>\$425.39</b>	
Dept of Ecology		<i>W R processing - grant</i>	<b>\$780.00</b>	
<b>End of Month Balance</b>				<b>\$31,086.61</b>
	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Planned</u>	<u>Balance</u>
AWB	58,531	58,530.96		0.04
Projects	23,636	2,240.00	\$5,000.00	16,396.00
Insurance/Adm	4,191	4,990.99		-799.99
	<b>86,358</b>	<b>65,761.95</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>15,596.05</b>
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>This Month</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Available</u>
2015 Capital Grant	\$184,889.93		<b>\$146,312.38</b>	\$38,577.55

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

## II. Administrative

### A. Public Records Request lawsuit

- a. November 2 settlement meeting report – Vern and Henry described the nature of the negotiations and the draft settlement.
- b. Settlement offer – Attorney Richard Davis – presented an updated settlement offer where the BWID would pay \$7,000 in fees and \$7,000 in penalties and provide numerous more documents to the litigants. After weighing the options Scott moved to accept the settlement offer, Mike seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### B. Review Priority Issue and Activity lists – Develop 2018 Action priorities

Priorities	2017 Action Priorities	Notes/Actions
1. Water rights	Water augmentation project finished	
	Surface to groundwater transfers...support legislation and legal effort	
2. Water Quality	Continue water quality testing to bring quality back	
3. Drainage		Work with Frank to prepare the 5 – year permit.
4. Flood Management		

No new adjustments to the 2018 Priorities at this meeting.

## III. Water Supply

### A. Augmentation Project

- AESI Report – Chuck provided a final report for the Augmentation project. He noted there were some loose ends that did not get accomplished but that overall, the project was a success.
- Publicizing results – Symposiums, websites – The Capital Press plans a feature story on the project. It will be featured at the Water Supply Symposium on December 13<sup>th</sup> as well.

### B. Water Supply Work Group report

- Renewed push for drainage by drainage negotiations leading to binding agreements
- Support from State via \$450k budget request
- Supported by the Planning Unit
- Support via Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> Water Supply symposium

The Board reviewed the background and direction of the AWB’s next step proposal. This is being discussed at all the WIDs this month in preparation for the December 20<sup>th</sup> AWB meeting. There was support for the AWB leading with a proposal to the other water users but details still need to be addressed. The risk of pushing this drainage based implementation plan was weighed against no action and hoping that enforcement would never occur. The Board suggested a wider discussion of farmers lead by the AWB water supply committee in December.

## IV. Water Quality

- ### A. Monitoring Results – Fred reported good news on the latest testing. There was one higher count in Portage Bay during the high rains. The data indicates that the bay could be opened but the subjective concern over “do the conditions that caused the closure still exist” standard is yet to be reached.

- B. ZAP unit locations, installation, O & M, reporting –the unit on Bertrand has not been installed yet.
- C. South Lynden source tracking project - this DNA project is progressing slowly. The recent EPA/Lummi DNA study in Portage Bay initial data indicates that 83% of the fecal was non-traceable. No bovine showed up. The inconsistency of not reporting this data has been discussed.

**V. Drainage/Habitat**

- A. Flood Meeting – Fred attended a Flood meeting where Ned Currence presented a lot of fish data. It looks grim for the future of the wild fish stocks. Fred suggested a dialogue with the fish managers and the WIDs to better understand each other’s concerns.
- B. Ditch maintenance – Fred noted that some landowners were pressing for a spray program on the West Double Ditch.
- C. Stormwater in Duffner – Dale noted he had mentioned the Duffner concerns to Steve Banham. The BWID needs to send a letter to the City on behalf of the DID to request payment for a portion of the management costs of maintaining Duffner Ditch.

**VI. Education/Communications**

- A. Website - [www.bertrandwid.com](http://www.bertrandwid.com)
- B. Water Supply Symposium – December 13<sup>th</sup>
- C. E-Newsletter – working on an email list.

**VII. Ag Water Board**

- A. Winter newsletter will come out in January
- B. Portage Bay Partnership update – no new developments.
- C. An AWB Board meeting is scheduled for December 20<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. Other Items from Commissioners**

- A. Greg mentioned that the Lummis were planning a ceremony had he had offered some locally grown food. He was coordinating the donations.

**IX. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

December 11

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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