

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: October 11, 2021 Meeting, 2 pm

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 815 7190 5662 Passcode: 116500

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

 x Henry Bierlink t Dale Buys x Fred Likkel
 Frank Corey t Bill Clarke t Dale Rutgers
 t Jay Chennault Katie Faber t Alan Chapman
 x = present *o = absent with notice* *t = teleconference*

Vern called the meeting to order at 2:02.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of September 13 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>
B1021	Vern VandeGarde	per diem	\$128.00
B1021	Reichhardt & Ebe	Duffner tidegate	\$7,175.79
TOTAL VOUCHER			\$7,303.79

Scott moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Mike seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Administrative

- a. Board nominations – Scott and Greg need to be nominated. Mike moved to nominate both Scott and Greg to another term, Pete seconded, motion approved unanimously.
- b. AWB Budget request – lower than 2021, encouragement for WIDs to budget for water right acquisition, project development, and legal reserve to address adjudication.
- c. 2022 Workplan & Budget
 - Resolution 2021-1 – Setting the 2022 Assessment Rate and Budget
 - Resolution 2020-2 – Adopting the 2022 Assessment Roll
 - November 8th Board of Equalization

DRAFT PUBLIC NOTICE – *all Watershed Improvement Districts*

Residents within the Bertrand, Drayton, Laurel, North Lynden, South Lynden, and Sumas Watershed Improvement Districts have an opportunity to:

1) Nominate candidates for election to the Board of the District – two positions in Bertrand, one in Drayton, two in Laurel, two in North Lynden, one in South Lynden, and one in Sumas – candidates must file with the secretary of the district a declaration in writing of their candidacy, or a petition of nomination signed by at least ten qualified electors of the district, not later than five o'clock p.m. on the first Monday in November.

2) Inspect the 2022 Assessment Roll and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in Laurel will be heard at 10am, November 8th; for Bertrand at 2pm, November 8th; for Sumas at 1pm, November 9th; for South Lynden at 3pm, November 9th; for North Lynden at 9am, November 16th; and for Drayton at 3pm, November 16th, all at the District's office or via Zoom. Contact the WID administrator for access to the meeting@ info@agwaterboard.com. The Assessment Roles for all Districts are available for inspection from October 12th to November 5th.

Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts' offices located at 204 Hawley Street, Lynden.

Public Notice must be published in Lynden Tribune October 13, 20, 27

The Board stressed the need to show value to farmers for the assessments collected. Any increase should be justified by additional services provided. The large increase planned for our project budget has been targeted for items such as legal research on flow claims, acquiring water rights for the WID, and providing technical information for support of water rights claims. A letter to all WID parcel owners should make the purpose of the increase clear.

Scott moved to set the rate at \$10/acre, Pete seconded, motion was approved unanimously.

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Adjudication debate
 - October 21st Watershed Mgt Board mtg
 - o Solutions Table discussion with Jay and Maia
 - o Project proposals from Tribes, PUD, Land Trust, and AWB
- b. Project List – add, edit, prioritize – focus on surface to ground conversions – Jay will provide a list of surface water rights tied to current ownership. The board was challenged to review this list with consideration of the size of the right (likely over .5 cfs to significant enough) and complexity of making the transfer (fewer unrelated owners).
- c. Water Rights list – develop strategy to obtain rights – Jay will provide a list of rights tied to current ownership within the month. The board is challenged to locate rights that may be underused or in danger of relinquishment.
- d. North County Water Supply formation – an interlocal agreement is being drafted and expected to be approved in November.

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Duffner wrapup – Dale reported minor issues remaining. Tyler is doing an “as built” report.
- b. Stormwater Interlocal with Lynden, NLWID, BWID - approved
 - Willamette Partnership is preparing a scope of work to assist this group.
- c. Beaver trapping - the Bay-Lyn Dive area had concerns with beaver.
- d. Flood Committee update – FLIP meetings back on. Cougar Creek floodgate planned for next year.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Fred noted the PIC program has started a Bertrand Area of Focus.
- b. DNA – question about the access to DNA testing – we believe the new work could enlighten us on the probably source of contamination. Fred will check on the costs of running the tests.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update

VI. Education/Communications

- a.** Website – www.bertrandwid.com
- b. Family Farmers Rally – November 17th

VII. Executive Session – Vern called the meeting into Executive Session at 3:20. Discussion with legal counsel on authority of WIDs and potential litigation – up to 30 minutes. (Board members only). Vern called the meeting back to order at 3:47.

VIII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Meeting was adjourned at 3:49. Next meeting is November 8.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____