

# Laurel Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: November 8, 2021 Meeting, 10 am

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 827 8157 5643 Passcode: 146933

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82781575643?pwd=U0lJd3N5WXlVblVLcm5VWnQvOUVldz0>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leroy Plagerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Blok	<input type="checkbox"/> Jon Maberry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Appel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Boxx	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Bierlink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Likkel	<input type="checkbox"/> Jay Chennault
<input type="checkbox"/> David Haggith	<input type="checkbox"/> Meg Harris	<input type="checkbox"/> Katie Faber

*x = present                      o = absent with notice                      t = teleconference*

Mike called the meeting to order at 10:05.

### 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.

Mike closed the Board of Equalization Hearing at 10:08.

### 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>
L1121	Ag Water Board	November, December AWB	\$7,110.20
		<b>TOTAL VOUCHER</b>	<b>\$7,110.20</b>

Rich moved approval of the Consent Agenda, Roger seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### II. Administrative

- a. Board nominations – Jon is elected to a 3 year term. Congratulations and Thanks!

### 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 discussed but no priority candidates yet identified. A question about using this opportunity to try to convert the provisional rights provided in 2014 converted to groundwater without the provisional limitation was discussed. A map of surface rights near the headwaters of lowland streams was requested. This would help narrow the search. Lanownders 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 adjudication

The board expects future meetings to address these candidates and a plan to offer the landowners options developed.

**IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood**

- a. Ditch maintenance – no current issues
- b. Beaver trapping – no report
- c. Flood Committee update – Fred has several FLIP meetings in the next few weeks. Rich noted the Cougar Creek tidegate project is still developing.

**V. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – Fred noted the recent numbers looked good.
- b. DNA testing costs - \$250/sample. With our recent work we can call out the percentage of avian influence. Rich moved to provide N3 a \$1000 budget to use as needed when samples are likely to have a high avian influence, Leroy 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.laurelwid.com](http://www.laurelwid.com)

**VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

Mike adjourned the meeting at 11:20. Next meetings are:  
December 13  
January 10

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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