

# Laurel Watershed Improvement District

## Minutes for: March 14, 2022 Meeting, 10 am

Videoconference – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86481055472?pwd=UkxSS0lwMm8vWTcxRU5XYXJUQVBFUT09>  
 Meeting ID: 864 8105 5472 Pxscode: 041889

<u>  </u> x <u>  </u> Leroy Plagerman	<u>  </u> o <u>  </u> Roger Blok	<u>  </u> o <u>  </u> Jon Maberry
<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Rich Appel	<u>  </u> x <u>  </u> Mike Boxx	
<u>  </u> x <u>  </u> Henry Bierlink	<u>  </u> x <u>  </u> Fred Likkel	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Jay Chennault
<u>  </u> David Haggith	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Katie Faber	<u>  </u> Aneka Sweeney
<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Alan Chapman	<u>  </u> Eric Sundstrom	<u>  </u> t <u>  </u> Kelly Hamilton
<i>x = present</i>	<i>o = absent with notice</i>	<i>t = teleconference</i>

Mike called the meeting to order at 10:07.

### I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of February 14, 2022 minutes
- b. Financial Report

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
L0322	Ag Water Board	March, April	\$6,356.50
		<b>TOTAL VOUCHER</b>	<b>\$6,356.50</b>

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

### II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Water supply update
  - AWB contracted with Somach Law - focus on building alternatives to adjudication – federal, settlement options
  - Legal – Water Supply Team members preparing contract with same legal team
- b. Solutions Table
  - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating a May/June start
  - Linking with proviso supporting federal involvement in water mgt. (flood, supply, habitat)
  - Project List – to be offered at Solutions Table as advised by the facilitators.
    - Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application submitted
- c. Water Right acquisition candidates – 81 sorted by:
  - *Certificates with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by Qa from highest to lowest.*
  - *Claims with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by irrigation acreage from highest to lowest*
  - *Certificates with 4 or more land owners, sorted by Qa from highest to lowest*
  - *Claims with 4 or fewer land owners, sorted by irrigation acreage from highest to lowest*
  - Determine who and how to contact – the list was reviewed in part beginning with the most water and least difficulty. The board helped identify who would be the best contact for each of these rights. Lead contacts were made when possible.
  - Menu of options for landowners – Henry, Bill, and Jay are working on a menu of options that could be presented to the water right contacts. Our first priority remains having the landowner defend their own right and keep using it for irrigating their land. But if they are not likely to do so we want to present them multiple options for how the WID can assist.

### III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Flood response – Fred reported on many ongoing discussions with the County, cities, and others. Discussions with BC are being organized.
- b. Ditch maintenance – The meeting with the County and WDFW occurred last week. No projects in Laurel were proposed. Fred noted that Paul S was still working on some Four Mile projects.

- c. Cougar Creek tidegate – Rich noted the NRCS funding was approved.
- d. WCD Update – Alan alerted the board to an election for the CD board on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- e. Beaver trapping – we approved up to \$2,500 for beaver trapping last year. No draw on that amount so far. Leroy will connect with Pete Smit about doing some work around Green Lake.

#### **IV. Water Quality**

- a. Monitoring Results – Fred noted results were very low recently.
- b. DNA testing – David had one test analyzed but the results were ambiguous.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – no tests were conducted while flooding was occurring.
- d. Report on landowner contacts – an enforcement notice has been issued on a small farm that we had tried to connect with.

#### **V. Education/Communications**

- a. Website – [www.laurelwid.com](http://www.laurelwid.com)
- b. AWB flyer and draft cover letter – 217 letters mailed, 2/27 – few responses and most of those were positive.
- c. Family Farmers Rally – March 29<sup>th</sup> – cancelled – the need for an educational event is still pressing. Fred suggested that there may be a late May to mid-June window where we would have more to report and that the Somach Law attorneys would be up to speed and ready to give some quality direction to farmers.

#### **VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings**

Mike adjourned the meeting at 11:20. Next meetings are April 11, May 9, June 13

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

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