

Laurel Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: September 14, 2020 Meeting, 10 am

Videoconference – Zoom Meeting ID: 834 3474 5375 Passcode: 102910

<u> </u> x <u> </u> Leroy Plagerman	<u> </u> o <u> </u> Roger Blok	<u> </u> t <u> </u> Jon Maberry
<u> </u> t <u> </u> Rich Appel	<u> </u> t <u> </u> Mike Boxx	
<u> </u> x <u> </u> Henry Bierlink	<u> </u> x <u> </u> Fred Likkel	<u> </u> Hank Kastner
<u> </u> David Haggith	<u> </u> t <u> </u> Meg Harris	<u> </u> Aneka Sweeney
<u> </u> t <u> </u> Alan Chapman	<u> </u> Eric Sundstrom	<u> </u> Kasey Cykler
<u> </u> Bob Seaman	<u> </u> Bob McWhoter	

x = present o = absent with notice t = teleconference

Larry called the meeting to order at 10:05.

I. Consent Agenda

- a. Review and Approval of June 8 Minutes
- b. Financial Report - reviewed
- c. The following voucher/warrants/electronic payments are approved for payment:

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
L0920	Ag Water Board	September AWB	\$2,794.28
L0920	Enduris	annual insurance	\$2,685.00
		TOTAL VOUCHER	\$5,479.28

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

II. Administrative

- a. Annexations – a brief look at the Laurel WID boundaries revealed many areas where there was annexation potential but there was no one asking for annexation and no clear candidates to be annexed.

III. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- a. Adjudication debate
 - Ecology report due September 1 – delayed until September 15th
 - Upper Columbia and Nooksack were recommended and Ecology is looking for a \$1 million in Legislative funding to get these adjudications prepared. Would not file until later 2023.
 - Adjudication supported only by Tribes, Fishers, and environmental
 - Plan for Legislative education is being prepared by the AWB. .
 - Family Farmers has a campaign to inform the community of the concerns surrounding an adjudication and has generated many letters to the Governor and Ecology expressing our concerns.
 - AWB is preparing 2021 budget. Some discussion of asking more from the WIDs to prepare for adjudication.
- b. County Executive proposal
 - Built on Lummi proposal (2015) and Drainage Based Management
 - Seeking support from water users – initial feedback from the Tribes has been positive.
 - We are urging that this not create a “new” process but to energize the current work being done under the Management Board – regional water supply planning and drainage based management.

IV. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- a. Drainage concerns
 - Kratzig – Bob needs to propose some mitigation to see this completed. Jon moved approval for the County to use our HPA permit for this project, Leroy seconded, motion carried unanimously.
 - Paul Sangha – piece of Fourmile needs help – DID will be involved, probably next year.
- b. Beaver trapping – June mtg follow-up – Rich talked to Pete Smit. He prefers a per-beaver billing. As long as a Commissioner approves Pete can bill us for trapping that helps WID drainage. The area east of Green Lake should be addressed.
- c. Flood Committee update – Fred noted the cougar Creek floodgate is cued for next fall. Reach 1 is the next project for FLIP. There was some discussion about the level of farm engagement in these processes if adjudication needs to be our focus.

V. Water Quality

- a. Monitoring Results – Meg reported that most results were good but a few isolated areas have raised concerns. The PIC program has sent letters to 53 landowners throughout the County providing information on addressing quality issues.
- b. DNA project – Avian project initiated but slowly. Fred reported that Kent could not get the extra labor help he had counted on from Karen Steensma’s students because of the border shutdown. The CD has offered to help in November and December.
- c. EQIP – The CD sent a schedule for EQIP requests. It is not clear who can help farmers prepare applications with Chris Clark moving south. He is still helping with ongoing contracts. However, new applications may be more difficult. Frank Corey is willing to help on habitat related projects. Erika at NRCS can still help on designs but Chris’s work in preparing applications isn’t as robust. Dakota will be providing some help.
- d. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – tests have been good. Some concerns on the mainstem and some higher numbers above Everson. State DOH is preparing a sanitary report, which is needed every 12 years. They are also looking at their testing protocols.

VI. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.laurelwid.com

VII. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Mike adjourned the meeting at 11:11.
October 12
November 9

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____