

Laurel Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: April 11, 2022 Meeting, 10 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89056571286?pwd=V1ZzeDZGdWlXWUJoRFA0LzRFV3FsZz09>

Meeting ID: 890 5657 1286 Passcode: 565833

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leroy Plagerman	<input type="checkbox"/> Roger Blok	<input checked="" 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"/> Alan Chapman	<input type="checkbox"/> Eric Sundstrom	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Jones?

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

Mike called the meeting to order at 10:06.

I. Consent Agenda

- Review and Approval of March 14, 2022 minutes
- Financial Report

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

II. Ag Water Board/Water Supply

- 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
- Solutions Table
 - County working with Jay and Maia anticipating a May/June start – draft is being considered. The board wondered about the relationship between the Solutions Table and the Water Management Board.
 - Linking with proviso supporting federal involvement in water mgt. (flood, supply, habitat)
 - Project List – to be offered at Solutions Table
 - Surface to ground conversion candidates – grant application submitted
- Water Right acquisition candidates
 - Determine who and how to contact
 - Menu of options for landowners – use Bertrand transfer project as a template for others
 - Will be working on a clear set of options to present to the water right holders we identified as uncertain if they would be defending their rights in an adjudication.

III. Drainage/Habitat/Flood

- Flood response – Fred noted an April 25-26 facilitated meeting in the FLIP process.
- Ditch maintenance – Fred and Frank have been talking with Loren VY and Paul S about next steps in the FourMile district.
- Cougar Creek tidegate – on the list for the Flood Advisory board.
- WCD Update – Alan called attention to the update of the Long Range Plan and a survey the CD is circulating that would help guide that plan. A key issue is creating stable (non-grant) funding for the CD. They are seeking advice on asking the County for a per parcel fee. The board reminded Alan that an Ag Engineer was a key need for farmers. The board was encouraged to fill out the survey and make that need clear.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RVNTT6Z>
- Beaver trapping – Keith R. is open to having Pete S trap once the water is down somewhat.

IV. Water Quality

- Monitoring Results – Fred noted the numbers were generally quite good.

- b. DNA testing – David has submitted a few DNA samples. A recent sample from Sumas indicated predominately avian influence.
- c. Portage Bay/Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District update – an update of the strategy is ongoing. Most of the proposed changes are to rural residential and hobby farms.

V. Education/Communications

- a. Website – www.laurelwid.com
- b. WFF Educational Event – May 25th – the board was asked for ideas on what should be covered. It is anticipated we'd have an afternoon educational session(s) followed by the Farmer Rally in the early evening. The Board suggested involvement from attorneys, local land use attorneys, and Jay Chennault.

VI. Adjournment/Next Meetings

Mike adjourned the meeting at 10:56. Next meetings are May 9, June 13, although the May meeting is likely to be cancelled as field work should be the priority.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____