

Sumas Watershed Improvement District

Minutes – Regular Meeting – February 11, 2025

Attendees

“(t)” indicates presence via tele-conference, “(p)” indicates proxy vote.

Board – Present	Board – Absent with Notice
Terry Lenssen Al Sytsma Andy Enfield	Keith Boon Brad Rader

Staff and Consultants	
Name	Organization / Affiliation
Tania Grim	Ag water Board
Gavin Willis	Ag water Board
Jay Chennault (t)	AESI
Katie Faber (t)	AESI
Elizabeth Link	Whatcom Conservation District
Fred Likkel	Whatcom Family Farmers
Jordan Widener	Widener & Associates

Other Guests	
Name	Organization / Affiliation
Helen Solem (t)	Sumas River Farm

Proceedings

Terry called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Agenda was reviewed.
- b. Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed.
- c. Financial reports were reviewed.
- d. Voucher S.Gen.0225 in the amount of \$12,879.17 was reviewed.
- e. Voucher S.LS.0225 in the amount of \$13,416.80 was reviewed.
- f. Andy moved to approve the consent agenda. Al seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Administration

- a. Keith will sign Oath of Office at the March meeting

3. FEMA Projects

- a. Gavin provided a FEMA update.
 - i. Waiting for approval of RFQ for Kneuman Ditch project.
 - ii. Will need to amend the contract with R&E for the Lower Sumas project, since the scope of work in the initial RFQ was incorrect.
 - iii. Working on getting a contract lined up with the Department of Commerce for 5% match finding with CDBG-DR funds from HUD.

4. Ag Water Board / Water Supply

- a. Gavin provided an adjudication update.
 - i. SB 5212, which would allow pre-code water users without a statement of claim to file in the adjudication, is on the Senate's consent calendar, and will likely see floor action within the next few weeks.
- b. Fred will be organizing a water rights education session for landowners in March or April.

5. Drainage / Habitat / Flood

- a. FLIP meeting was rescheduled in Sumas due to weather. Rescheduled for March.
- b. Moorlag Ditch field flooded. Does not seem to be related to the creek.
- c. Gavin provided an update on Buffers- he will reach out to SCC director to encourage him to keep the program in its current form

6. Water Quality

- a. No current update due to freezing.

7. Other

- a. Elizabeth noted the EPA is hosting a stakeholder meeting in Mt. Vernon to look at workable solutions for pesticides and endangered species protection.

8. Next Meeting

- a. March 11

Meeting adjourned at 1:46 pm

Submitted by Gavin Willis, Ag Water Board

Approved by _____

