**Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District (WID)**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

**January 10, 2018**

**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Opening:** Siri Erickson-Brown called the meeting to order at approximately 6:18 p.m.

**Commissioners present:** Siri Erickson-Brown, David Andrews, Patrick McGlothlin, Andrew Stout

**Commissioners absent:** Jason Roetcisoender

1. Approval of agenda made, seconded and approved 4:0.
2. Swearing in Commissioner Stout (RCW Ch 87.03.082). Newly elected Commissioner Andrew Stout stood and was sworn in.
3. Approval of December regular and special meeting minutes of December 18 made, seconded and approved 4:0.
4. Consent agenda motion to approve made, seconded and approved 4:0.
5. Public comment: None
6. Irrigation committee update
7. Lease agreement for board approval: A private seller is agreeing to a 5-year lease of 40-acre feet. Cynthia recommends the Board remand to the irrigation committee to determine the details. Cynthia reports the good news is that the SVWID is able to satisfy all the requests geographically with the newly leased water right, which will reserve the Tokul Creek water right for future transactions. The goal is to submit paperwork to Ecology by February 15th and add the instantaneous quantity requirement to application. The Board needs to determine how much of the Tokul water right to tie up for 5-year leases. An amended motion was made, seconded and approved 4:0 to authorize the irrigation subcommittee to enter into a 5-year lease up to a maximum of 40-acre-feet with the new seller and utilize the Tokul water right to meet the demand from the water bank marketing window.
8. Cynthia reports a landowner is interested in moving a surface water right to groundwater. Trout Unlimited has completed many of these transactions and Cynthia is exploring funding for this type of transaction.
9. Drainage committee update
   1. Drainage network analysis update: projects have been identified in basins 56 (Langlois) and 9 (Tuck), options still in development. Erin has engaged landowners in basins 1 (Pearson Eddy) and 4 (Cherry Creek). Erin and Andy are lining up projects for 2018 and 2019. This year’s projects are likely to be ADAP projects under direction from WID. Erin working with Eric Beach, King County’s new regulatory specialist, who is using much of this work as study for the task force work. Siri asked by ditch versus tile; answer is likely scale. Ag permit team willing to consider farm plans by basins for WID drainage work. Patrick asked that we very closely monitor plantings for ADAP projects.
   2. Pearson Eddy update. Erin reported that Erin worked with Jason for an opening proposal for vegetation removal for NRCS’ planning meeting. It was the most aggressive stance in the Jan 10 meeting. Tribe and Watershed Forum staff promoted “ecological thinning.” There are issues with forest practices permits that need to be researched to learn what can be removed. All parties want the water control structure to be replaced in 2018. In addition to hydrology concerns, they are at risk of losing funds. Erin reminded the NRCS meeting attendees of the commitment from the state conservationist that the project would achieve zero rise. Motion made for WID to write a letter to NRCS, that staff will decide recipient, describing concern about drifting commitment to zero rise. Motion seconded and approved 4:0.
   3. Historic bottom requirement: nothing decided. Will be considered in regulatory task force.
   4. Update on beaver trapper: staff receiving positive feedback about Fred Lawrence and Rob Shogren’s service level.
10. Strategic planning
    1. Review and comment on plan; adopt if ready or defer: Cynthia reviewed the strategic plan and brought up the PERS plan item for the Board’s attention. Goal is for the Board to read strategic plan before the next scheduled SVWID board meeting and hold a discussion at that time.
11. Administrative
    1. Equipment budget for board approval: Cynthia reports the December budget put before the Board was lacking an equipment budget, which was an oversight. The major needed items are electrofishing equipment, GPS unit, fish screens. Motion made to approve expenditures as amended, seconded and approved 4:0.
    2. Financial reports for year end and quarterly – staff seeking input. The Board discusses financial reports necessary to evaluate SVWID financial status. The Board has questions about the base stable functioning budget of the WID. There is a request for year to date in addition to monthly profit and loss.
12. Staff Report: No additional updates.
13. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.