

**Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District (WID)**  
**Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
**January 11, 2017**  
**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Opening:** Siri Erickson-Brown called the meeting to order at approximately 6:04 p.m. at Carnation City Hall.

**Commissioners present:** Siri Erickson-Brown, Patrick McGlothlin, David Andrews, Gary Remlinger, Jason Roetcisoender (arrived approximately 6:15)

**Commissioners not present:** none

**Staff present:** Cynthia Krass, Leah Litwak

- 1. Approval of agenda:** Motion made to amend agenda and move the Drainage Committee Update before Irrigation Committee Update, and address the Beaver Dam on Ames Lake (b) and the Van Ess update (c) before the RFP Consultant selection (a). Motion made to approve agenda by Commissioner McGlothlin. Motion seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and approved, 4:0.
- 2. Approval of December 14, 2016 meeting minutes:** Motion made to approve agenda made by Commissioner McGlothlin. Minutes approved as presented, 4:0.
- 3. Consent agenda:**
  - a. Financial activity (none)**
- 4. Public comment (3 minutes each):** 6 members of the public present. No public comment made.
- 5. Drainage committee update**
  - a. Beaver dam on Ames Creek:** Amy Turner, the property owner where the beaver dams are present speaks to this issue.

Commissioner Remlinger proposes having a beaver trapper on retainer to have at the service of WID members. Drainage committee will do research and find out prices for Valley wide beaver trapping, final contenders and decision will be made at February meeting.

WID Commissioners agree that they should start taking testimony of similar situations. Mr. Andrews suggests gathering the names of recreational trappers who may do the service for free.

- b. Van Ess update/staff recommendation:** Commissioner Andrews and Mrs. Krass attended the public meeting last month for the Pearson-Eddy Project. Staff recommends that the WID should partner with other interested agencies to do an analysis.

Commissioners request staff to file a legal complaint and investigate relevance to the King County zero rise standard for flood impacts.

Commissioner Andrews will research into the status of the permit. Commissioner Andrews and Commissioner McGlothlin will discuss the progress on this issue before the next meeting.

- c. RFP and consultant selection:** Commissioner Remlinger updates about the consultant selection process. Patty Dillon, the consultant from Northwest Hydraulic Consultants and Kenny Booth, from the Watershed Company, present a brief introduction and provide information about their proposal. Motion made to select Northwest Hydraulic Consultants and to start preparing the contract, approved 5:0.

**6. Irrigation committee update:** Commissioner McGlothlin gave the update.

- a. Update on 2017 water rights auction:** Bid and offer forms are due on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Information session was held on January 11<sup>th</sup> with about 15 attendees.
- b. Staff recommendation to host irrigation best practices/compliance workshop in March:** Commissioners request staff to move forward on hosting a free information session for best practices/compliance workshop about water rights. Commissioner Erickson suggests inviting someone to come (and host) who sells the items needed for best practices/compliance.

**7. Administrative update**

- a. Treasury role update:** At the request of the Executive Director, Nancy Marshall has researched this matter over the course of the last weeks/months, including email, phone and in person correspondence with KCT staff on our behalf. First, banking independently is not feasible. Most special purpose districts, including the WIDs in Whatcom County and the King County Flood Control District, process their funds through their county treasurer. Irrigation districts are permitted to bank independently by law, but the requirements for taking on this responsibility instead of having the money flow through the County Treasurer are onerous, designed for larger entities (\$2 million or more). Neither Nancy nor Mrs. Krass recommend it. Information for this recommendation includes information from Niles Kostick from the Washington State Auditor's Office.

To quote Mr. Kostick: The role of treasurer, specifically the county treasurer, to paraphrase is to safeguard, collect, and disburse amounts. They are not required to perform accounting and won't be able to make financial decisions.

Staff recommends board take the following action: Migrate to a system in which all the WID's funds flow through the King County Treasurer, with guidance from our accountant; and upon completion, close our Wells Fargo account, and transfer the balance to our account with the KCT.

The board needs the number of required signatures for payments (at least 2 are recommended). They allow up to four people, two of their signatures will be required before any payments can be issued.

Motion made to approve the WID migrating to a system in which all the WID's funds flow through the King County Treasurer, approved 5:0. Motion made to list names to be required for payments as Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Executive Director, approved 5:0.

**8. Staff Report:**

- a. **Approval of WID Letter:** motion made to approve WID letter for sending out to District members, approved 5:0

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

**Next Board of Commissioners Meeting:** Wednesday, February 8th at 6:00pm at Carnation City Hall.

**Minutes submitted by:** Cynthia Krass and Leah Litwak