

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

Hearing for the 2020 Assessment and Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

December 18, 2019

6:00 p.m.

**Opening:** Siri Erickson-Brown called the regular meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. at Carnation City Hall in Council Chambers.

**Commissioners present:** Patrick McGlothlin, Siri Erickson-Brown, Andrew Stout, David Andrews, Jason Roetcisoender (part time).

**Commissioners absent:** none.

**Others present:** Cynthia Krass (staff).

1. Agenda approved 4:0.
2. Minutes approved 4:0.
3. Consent agenda approved 4:0.
4. Public comment: None
5. Acknowledgement of David Andrews' service: David's term is expiring, and having not run for re-election, this was his last meeting of the term. He expressed an interest in serving a future term, and remarked that he had enjoyed serving, and that we had gotten a lot done in the four years since formation. Resolution acknowledging David's service was read in full, and motion was made, seconded and approved 4:0 (David abstained).
6. 2020 Budget Discussion and Approval: Cynthia noted the following. Only awarded grants are included in the budget (no prospective grants). The expenditures and reimbursements are based on a best-case scenario for completion of grant-funded work. Payroll reflects promotional raises for Erin Ericson and Andy Obst. Should the grant-funded projects proceed fully, there could be a potential cash flow problem because the grants are billed quarterly, and take six to eight weeks for the funds to be deposited into the WID's account. Several steps can be taken to mitigate, including a short-term line of credit if necessary. No formal action was taken regarding a line of credit, but there was general agreement that short-term credit would be a logical option to bridge the gap between payments due and reimbursement, especially during the busy construction season. Motion to approve the budget was made, seconded and passed 5:0.
7. Strategic Planning
  - a. Update on Drainage and Conservation Planning, partnerships. Cynthia reported that staff was investigating easements on receiving areas for strategic conservation activities proposed to be completed in tandem with drainage activities. It was generally agreed that easements should be investigated. A discussion on easements in general followed, including questions and

concerns about enforcement, what parties have standing to challenge or enforce, disposition of easements in the event that the easement holder dissolves, and ownership. It was noted that the simplest easements are the easiest to manage, and that perpetuity is a highly defensible concept. Patrick mentioned that SVPA is interested in gaining more knowledge about easements, and made a strong request to hold a joint SVPA-SVWID worksession to get briefed on easement concepts, including benefits and common pitfalls. The 2020 workplan requires the worksession be conducted soon, and February was requested. Staff to develop plans and seek relevant content providers for easement workshop. Cynthia noted that while the SVWID may have occasion to hold easements for multiple purposes, the strategic mitigation concept which is a key tenet of the Drainage and Conservation Planning initiative requires conservation easements, and so the workshop should inform such easements.

- b. Update on Ecology Streamflow Committee: Ecology requested formal response to the local plan approval process to ensure that the requirement for unanimous approval of the streamflow plan is achieved. Siri read the proposed process (attached), and it was approved 5:0 with amendments as documented.
8. Staff Report: Cynthia reminded board that in January a new secretary is needed. Cynthia also said that chair and secretary are to be voted on in January. [CORRECTION from Cynthia: There is nothing in the statute that says the officer position must be voted on in January. RCW 87.03.120 (1) is silent on frequency, terms or schedule for electing chair (“chair” is used interchangeably with “president”).]