Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
January 8, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__o__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	__x__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	_____ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	__x__ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	__x__ John Gillies	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

Vern opened the meeting at 2:10. Sue Blake was welcomed and introduced.

I. Consent Agenda *(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).*

- **a.** Review and Approval of December 11 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
Line of Credit	$10,000.00		$0.00	$10,000.00
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$215,196.00	$84,804.00
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$0.00	$130,401.05	$69,598.95
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$67,176.09	$2,769.42
Fund Balance @ 1/5		$22,118.18	est.	
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County		$1,485.00		
Accounts Receivable - WA State				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$0.00		
TOTAL Available				$23,603.18
Outstanding bills				$5,169.50
Vern Vande Garde		$350.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$950.00		
Reichhardt & Ebe		$3,869.50		
Accounts Payable				
End of Month Balance				$18,433.68
Net Worth				$18,433.68

Larry pointed out a discrepancy between the financial report and the grant report. Henry will check the figures on the County Interlocal and note the correct amount remaining in the agreement. Dale asked if B & C Well Drilling was up to date in payment. Henry thought so but will check as well. Dale noted that the remainder of the Storage grant would be primarily dedicated to the Jackman Ditch reroute and the stream augmentation conveyance.

Steve moved to approve the Consent agenda, Larry seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Updates on PIE Task Orders with County
- Informational Interview Task Order 7A

Mary summarized recent activities. The property owners indentified in the Storage Report should be contacted soon to gage their interest in further exploration of these sites. Vern has 60 landowners identified to be interviewed about their interest in cooperating with the WID to provide water.

B. Cross Border Dialogue

- Draft letter to Abbotsford, Langley
- February 7 tour

The cross border letters have not yet been signed but will be shortly. The tour north of the border will take place in early February. Mary is helping to organize it.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects

John updated the Board on the Fish Friendly Drainage project that the Conservation District was leading. He will talk with George Boggs further about this project and see if it is a good fit for the Bertrand.

D. Monitoring – parameters, frequency, location

The effort to help to graphically display progress in water quality is still stalled. The data from the WCD and the NWIC will be sent to Dale who will help top coordinate an effort to present this data in a more graphic and usable manner. Sue Blake will also provide assistance to this effort.

E. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey
- Stream Augmentation

Dale reported that he had obtained some price quotes on the survey of the Gilliam/De Haan properties for well sites and stream channel conveyance and relocation options. NSEA should be finishing an initial report later this week. A draft monitoring plan on the well augmentation project has been completed. There was some discussion about what level of wetland analysis would be needed and where the best source of wetland categorization was located.

F. PUD pipeline

- PUD directed feasibility study

No one was aware of further progress on the final MSA report or the discussions between the City of Lynden and the tribes. Henry noted that a meeting between the WID and Ecology might be desirable to think about future possibilities if the pipeline project stalls and the in-stream negotiations fail. This will be delayed until we get more clarity on the status of the pipeline project.

G. Budget Proviso

- Approval of grant scope and budget

Doug reported that contract was in the grant manager's hands and would likely be signed shortly. The Legislature will be making the agreed upon adjustments to the scope of work and budget.

H. WSU Groundwater

Henry noted that he had talked with WSU's Michael Barber at the regional water conference in October. The groundwater project was presented there and as part of the project delivery it should be required to have a discussion with the Bertrand WID board as to the model's value and utility. Henry will talk to Terry Holland about setting up a presentation soon.

III. New Business

A. Fishtrap District update

John noted the new Board had met and was hopeful that they would be able to be on the 2008 Assessment Role for the County.

B. Request for Qualifications process

The new Budget proviso and Ecology contract points us in the direction of having to go through a new RFP evaluation process. Doug and Henry are checking on if and how this should be done.

C. Salmon Projects/Salmon Recovery Staff Team

Henry noted that the WID has been invited to submit projects for consideration to the Salmon Recovery Board and that the local staff team was hoping to involve a WID/farmer representative in their efforts. The board wanted to talk further with Steve Seymour about this. Karen Steensma was suggested as a possible candidate.

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45. The next Board meeting will be February 5.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
February 5, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	_____ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
_____ Pete Vlas	__x__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	__x__ Amanda Cronin
__x__ Terry Holland	__x__ Jon Hutchings	_____ Steve Seymour
_____ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	__x__ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	__x__ John Gillies	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

Vern called the meeting to order at 2:08. Introductions were made for the benefit of the new faces in the room.

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of January 8 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$215,196.00	$84,804.00
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$15,217.30	$130,401.05	$69,598.95
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$67,176.09	$2,769.42
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$840.00	$840.00	$9,021.00
Fund Balance @ 2/5		$8,615.35		
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County		$1,485.00		
Accounts Receivable - WA State				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$16,057.30		
TOTAL Available				$26,157.65
Outstanding bills				$15,126.51
Vern Vande Garde		$770.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$2,075.00		
Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce		$105.30		
B & C Well Drilling		$8,472.60		
Reichhardt & Ebe		$3,703.61		
Accounts Payable				
End of Month Balance				$11,031.14

Marty moved to approve the consent agenda, Larry seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Updates on PIE Task Orders with County
- Informational Interview Task Order 7A

Vern noted that he had nearly completed the preparation for the interviews with landowners and had completed one interview. Marty suggested he inquire into the point of diversions as well as the water right coverage as this might leave some farmers vulnerable if not addressed.

Terry responded to a question about the presentation of the WSU groundwater study. He will look into providing technical staff copies of the report and allow them to test it prior to release to the public. He felt a mid-March educational session would be possible.

B. Cross Border Dialogue

- BC Bertrand – Fishtrap Tour – Feb. 7

Mary noted that 37 have signed up for the tour including staff from Abbotsford and Langley in response to our letters of request for improved cross border dialogue. This will be a good opportunity for both sides of the border and the engineering and academic communities to identify their data gaps and to connect with sources to help fill these gaps.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects

No report.

D. Monitoring – parameters, frequency, location

Dale had researched the best manner to display the results of the fecal coliform testing in the Bertrand. He suggested that a simply database would work to accomplish this. This led to a discussion of who should initiate and manage the database. Terry offered to contribute his database experience to this need. The goal will be to have future NWIC contract specify the data needs to be entered in a fashion that is useful to the data users.

E. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey
- Stream Augmentation

Tom and Dale are working with Larry to address legal matters surrounding the location and management of the test well. Tom is meeting with Sid Giliam soon. The Jackman Ditch reroute is moving ahead but more surveying is needed for Dale to calculate the costs of this project.

F. PUD pipeline

- PUD directed feasibility study

Henry noted that the MSA report to the PUD is about to be released. It appears the costs are quite high.

F. Budget Proviso

- Approval of grant scope and budget

Doug has informed us that the contract is about ready to be signed. Henry reviewed the tasks once again and urged the group to focus on the need to deliver in a short time period.

III. New Business

A. Fishtrap District update – John noted the board was in place and were already prioritizing their actions. John is beginning to fill in the template from the Bertrand CIDMP with

Fishtrap information. Tom noted that Joanne and Karen would be interested in providing help on developing the plan.

B. Request for Qualifications process – Henry reported that the deadline for receiving the RFQ's had been bumped back to February 18th. He distributed the Scope of Work, the ad that ran in the Daily Journal of Commerce, and a set of criteria for selecting a Project Manager. A few submissions had already been received. Copies of the packets will be submitted to the board who will rate them and make a final selection at the March 4th meeting.

C. Deep Aquifer – Marty wondered if we should pursue water analysis on the deep aquifer bores since it likely would not be too expensive and we made still need to explore this source for irrigation purposes. Marty moved to ask Reichhardt and Ebe to investigate the water quality at the different levels of the deep wells, check into acceptable irrigation quality standards for our local crops, and determine cost of treatment to achieve these standards, Larry seconded, motion passed unanimously. The contract maximum will be $10,000 and the budget line will be DOE grant #1, Task #2.

D. Legislative Tour – Marty encourage the board to consider a meeting or tour with key legislators, the Governor, and the Dept. of Ecology director to keep them informed of the current developments in the WID and the challenges ahead. Marty moved we organize a short tour in late May, Larry seconded, motion carried unanimously.

E. Exempt Wells – Marty noted that there has been some statewide and local discussion over the future of the "exempt well" portion of the water code. He felt that most landowners did not fully understand the implications of placing a moratorium on exempt wells and that if they did there would be a strong reaction. A major concern would be that if this exemption was suspended there would be a flurry of lawsuits that would likely reopen legal concern over the uncertain status of much of the agricultural water uses as well.

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Vern adjourned the meeting at 3:45. The next meeting is March 4th.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
March 4, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__o__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	_____ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	__x__ John Gillies
__x__ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	__x__ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	__x__ Sue Blake	__x__ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	__x__ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
__x__ Bill Verwolf	__x__ Karen Welch	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

Vern called the meeting to order at 2:07.

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

a. Review and Approval of February 5 Minutes
b. Financial Report
c. Payment of Bills

		Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1		$300,000.00	$10,655.86	$225,851.86	$74,148.14
DOE Storage Grant		$200,000.00	$0.00	$161,480.45	$38,519.55
County Interlocal		$69,945.51	$765.00	$67,941.09	$2,004.42
PUD Interlocal		$9,861.00	$0.00	$840.00	$9,021.00
Fund Balance @ 3/3			$18,137.14		
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County			$1,485.00		
Accounts Receivable - WA State					
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement			$11,420.86		
TOTAL Available					$31,043.00
Outstanding bills					$11,057.60
Vern Vande Garde			$210.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends			$2,375.00		
B & C Well Drilling	*resubmit*		$8,472.60		
Reichhardt & Ebe			$0.00		
Accounts Payable					
End of Month Balance					$19,985.40

Steve moved approval of the consent agenda, Pete seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Updates on PIE Task Orders with County – Mary reported that $11k was still available to support the education efforts. Mary was encouraged to use portions of these funds to support the public meetings surrounding the WSU groundwater model.
- Informational Interview Task Order 7A – Vern reported this effort was ongoing.

B. Cross Border Dialogue

- BC Bertrand – Fishtrap Tour – Feb. 7 – Several items flowing from the discussions and information learned on the tour were discussed:
  - Mary provided a list of suggested follow-up actions proposed by Ryan. The Board agreed each of these concerns were important and added a few more priority concerns. Mary will redraft the memo (attached) to reflect the new priorities. Ryan will be available through June.
  - The BC contingent requested more education about the CREP program for a meeting they were sponsoring March 12th. The WCD has been notified and is trying to help them.
  - Steve S. noted that some meetings between WDFW and the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agricultural Lands have taken place.
  - Doug mentioned it would be nice to keep in touch with the BC politics regarding implementing a groundwater code.
  - The issue of the water diversion on the BC farm north of Larry's place was discussed. We will talk with Larry about how to best inform this farmer that we are not going to accept continued damming of the stream.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects – Steve noted that work was being done on installing woody vegetation in the lower Bertrand in connection with the levee setback project. He also mentioned that Maberry's have been in touch with him about another fish passage project on an impoundment pond.
- Jackman Ditch reroute – Dale and Tom reported on a meeting with Steve on the site which seemed to indicate that a phased approach might be best. The first phase could be accomplished this summer – it would be connecting the Jackman Ditch with a field ditch 160 feet west along the boundary. The overflow from Jackman and a regulated portion of the flow (via a control structure) could be diverted to the Bertrand via this ditch which would also need cleaning. Future phases would improve on this system or create new routes based on the information we gather from this first phase. This would also allow us an opportunity to submit more grant applications to support this project. NSEA is offering to author a Pioneers in Conservation grant application t support this.

D. Monitoring – parameters, frequency, location

- Fecal coli form database, charts – the need for a clear report on the status of the health of the stream was again discussed. People potentially involved in helping to create such a report included Sue, Terry, Dale, Joanne, Mary, Scarlet, Beth, and Erika. Dale offered to be the point to keep this effort moving forward. The suggested monitoring program that Becky had prepared for us was noted. Henry will send it to Dale and Joanne.

E. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – the next steps are a wetland preliminary assessment on each of the proposed sites. That will inform the cost calculations for advancing on each or any of these projects.

- Stream Augmentation –
    - Dale reported that PSE would only charge $400 to install a power pole and bring electricity into the field. We would then have to bury at least 1100 feet of line. A decision will have to be made about the capacity of the line. It would make sense to build for more wells if that is a distinct possibility. Karen noted that a Quality Assurance Plan for the project had been drafted and would soon be submitted to Ecology.
    - De Haan contract approval for use of the property for the test and subsequent use if the test proves positive was discussed. There was a feeling on the board that they would rather pay a lump sum upfront to Larry to address the concerns surrounding the project and to then expect a minimal annual rent payment for a long term lease if the project proves successful and it is set up to be of minimal inconvenience to Larry. There was also a belief that an attorney mutually acceptable to both Larry and the WID should review the contract.
    - The Stream Assessment Model component of the new contract with Ecology was discussed. Llyn Doremus had put us in touch with Christina Bandaragoda who had drafted a scope of work. Joanne, Karen, and Tom will be involved in this contract which will help make the model produced by Utah State more useful in the Bertrand.

F. PUD pipeline - there was no news about the state of the PUD directed feasibility study. Bill reported that the City was still in discussions about the project. The group reflected on the recent direction from Lummi to address issues like water for farms, water for Lynden, and other issues in a much larger regional context. The Tribes are meeting with Ecology in early April to reflect on how to best address these concerns. The Board and guests recognized the frustration of making progress in projects like the Bertrand and the City of Lynden and agreed that these projects must be understood within the larger regional context. There was also little optimism that all issues would be solved in the larger discussion and that efforts like the Bertrand and others are our best hope for real world progress. These projects are long and frustrating but they provide a template for many other basins and a building block for a solid regional solution.

G. Groundwater – Terry reported the County was deciding on the acceptability of the product this Friday and would be scheduling a Presentation before June. This meeting will be preceded by technical transfer training and a meeting of the technical team of the in-stream flow negotiations to determine how the product would be incorporated into the process. Mary suggested that the public presentation be a potion of another Open House this spring where several issues the WID is working on could be displayed. The cross border component was a continual interest to the Bertrand residents so they will be invited to participate. It would also be nice to show the BC contingent the actual low flows that we receive in the summer.

III. New Business

A. Fishtrap District update – John reported on the progress of our sister WID. They are focusing on the maintenance and improvement of drainage. They have identified 81,000 feet of ditches that need to be maintained. The County Public Works department met with the WID and will be responsive to requests to mow ditches and will cooperate with the WID on submitting applications for permits to clean the ditches. Steve noted that the border to Pangborn work was moving towards planting and that he had had very good cooperation there.

B. Project manager selection - Henry reported that a RFQ had been issued with 5 responses. Several board members from both the Bertrand and North Lynden WIDs have reviewed the submissions and a clear preference was indicated for Reichhardt and Ebe Engineering. Other submissions had been received from Geotest, Hydrologic Services, RothHill, and Aero/Matric. Pete moved to contract with Reichhardt and Ebe to serve as our Project Manager for the work under the new contract with Ecology, Steve seconded, motion carried unanimously.

C. Legislative/Agency Tour – Henry had canvassed several potential attendees for a watershed tour and noted that June 13th was the best tentative date. It will likely be a 10am – 4pm tour predominately in the Bertrand but possibly incorporating the Fishtrap. Henry asked the board to suggest issues and sites to feature.

D. Deep Aquifer - Dale submitted a proposal to explore information for water standards for irrigated crops. He proposed to evaluate 2 irrigation systems on three primary local crops. The proposal was for $3,983. The Board decided to table this until Marty was there as he had been the primary motivator for considering the study.

E. Exempt wells - A Farm Friends discussion/ position paper was circulated and Henry asked the board for feedback when they had a chance to consider it.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the bi-weekly negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(Short discussion held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

April 1

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

DUMAS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

RE: Next Steps for WWU Border Policy Research Institute Work Products

Several work areas have been identified as 'next steps' in developing transboundary information to support the Bertrand WID ISF Pilot Negotiations and improve water quality and quantity issues in the system.

Bertrand WID has requested the following services and support, which are listed in priority order:

1. GIS delineation of the 3 areas in Canada that drain into the US (not at the Jackman), how big are these areas?

2. Research and compile information on Canadian water licenses and land use zoning information re Canadian land parcels adjacent to the surface water storage feasibility sites 6&7

3. Research the status of the surface water diversion permit for the Canadian landowner with a sluice gate on Jackman Creek. Do not contact the landowner directly, simply gather the status of necessary surface water permits for a diversion of surface flows for irrigation purposes.

4. Identify Spring/Summer 2008 opportunities for US technical/policy staff and landowners to work with Canadian technical/policy staff and landowners in improving water quality and water quantities issues in the Bertrand.
    a. Develop list of 2008 Canadian sponsored non-governmental forums and educational events to engage educational, advocate, watchdog, and cooperating organizations north of the border in addressing water quality/water quantity and species at risk issues.
    b. Identify 2008 policy actions (draft new policy, review existing plans) by organizations responsible for regulating key areas of Canadian water law/code affecting the Bertrand Watershed and the United States side and compile brief summary of process and focus areas, contact information, comment deadlines, for organizations such as those listed below. Include an update on the status of British Columbia's consideration of groundwater regulation control, when and if this will come out.
        i. Local, municipal (City of Abbotsford, Langley Township)
        ii. BC Fisheries and Oceans
        iii. Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management
        iv. Ministry of Environment
        v. Ministry of Agriculture

5. Research and compile GIS and data reports (hyperlinked, annotated bibliography) on Canadian data resources as requested by the ISF Pilot Negotiation Technical Work Group and the Bertrand and North Lynden WIDs,
    a. Ministry of Agriculture's water use data
    b. Fecal monitoring reports for Fishtrap and Bertrand Creek
    c. Canadian groundwater studies conducted in the Bertrand and Fishtrap Watersheds

6. Identify what cfs levels were monitored in Bertrand Creek at the Canadian border during the time the IRRP flows were calculated.

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
April 1, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
_____ Pete Vlas	__x__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	__x__ John Gillies
__x__ Terry Holland	__x__ Karen Welch	_____ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	__x__ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

Vern opened the meeting at 2:10.

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of March 4 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$225,851.86	$74,148.14
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$0.00	$161,480.45	$38,519.55
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$67,941.09	$2,004.42
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$0.00	$840.00	$9,021.00
Fund Balance @ 4/1		$17,868.94		
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County		$1,485.00		
Accounts Receivable - WA State				
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$0.00		
TOTAL Available				$19,353.94
Outstanding bills				$11,398.89
Vern Vande Garde		$280.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$4,212.50		
Whatcom Farm Friends	*resubmit - Oct.*	$1,085.00		
Vern Vande Garde	*resubmit - Oct.*	$210.00		
Daily Journal of Commerce		$103.35		
Dumas and Associates Inc.		$3,881.25		
Reichhardt & Ebe		$1,626.79		
Accounts Payable				
End of Month Balance				$7,955.05

Henry noted that there were two invoices from Oct. that had been approved but not paid by the County. They were resubmitted for payment. Larry moved to approve the consent agenda, Marty seconded, motion was approved unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Updates on PIE Task Orders with County
- Informational Interview Task Order 7A

Mary is working on a new Task Order through the County which will support a Spring Community Forum, the Legislative and Agency Tour, and a low flow tour for the Canadians. Vern is supported in his one on one contacts through June.

B. Cross Border Dialogue

Ryan continues to work through June with David Davidson on the projects we prioritized in March. These were:

- GIS delineation of the 3 areas in Canada that drain into the US,
- Research and compile information on Canadian water licenses and land use zoning information,
- Research the status of the surface water diversion permit for the Canadian landowner with a sluice gate on Jackman Creek.
- Identify Spring/Summer 2008 opportunities for US technical/policy staff and landowners to work with Canadian technical/policy staff and landowners in improving water quality and water quantities issues in the Bertrand.
- Develop list of 2008 Canadian sponsored non-governmental forums and educational events to engage educational, advocate, watchdog, and cooperating organizations north of the border in addressing water quality/water quantity and species at risk issues.
- Identify 2008 policy actions (draft new policy, review existing plans) by organizations responsible for regulating key areas of Canadian water law/code affecting the Bertrand Watershed and the United States side and compile brief summary of process and focus areas, contact information, comment deadlines, for organizations such as those listed below.
- Research and compile GIS and data reports (hyperlinked, annotated bibliography) on Canadian data resources as requested by the ISF Pilot Negotiation Technical Work Group and the Bertrand and North Lynden WIDs,
- Identify what cfs levels were monitored in Bertrand Creek at the Canadian border during the time the IRRP flows were calculated.

A brief report on the fecal coliform loading that had come across the border near the Lynden customs was held.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects
- Jackman Ditch reroute – Pioneers in Conservation grant application

NSEA is helping to write a Pioneers in Conservation grant application to assist in funding the Jackman Ditch reroute.

D. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- Fecal coliform database, charts

Karen reported that the only fecal coliform monitoring that is currently occurring in the Bertrand was at B1 and B3. She presented an overview of the monitoring program and asked the board for feedback on some suggested actions and formats for reports. There was a discussion over what

sites should be monitored. Henry suggested further exploration of the monitoring available through the WSU weather station system. Larry moved that we reinstate fecal monitoring at three upper basin sites which would be finalized by Vern working with Reichhardt and Ebe, and include a requirement that reporting occur monthly in a viewer friendly fashion, Steve seconded, motion carried unanimously.

E. Streamflow enhancement
- Storage Survey
- Stream Augmentation
  - De Haan contract discussion – approval

The change order for construction of the augmentation well at De Haans' is ready for approval. B & C is planning to drill the well as soon as all contracts are in place. Larry is scheduling a meeting with Lesa Starkenburg to jointly discuss the outstanding issues related to the contract between the De Haans and the WID. Once this contract is in place the well drilling can proceed.

F. PUD pipeline
- PUD directed feasibility study

Henry reported that Steve had reported that the MSA study would be at least partially released in the next few weeks.

G. Groundwater
- WSU Model Presentation

Terry is organizing a work session with the WSU team in mid to late May. There will be a morning session with the technical team and an afternoon public session. Tom asked how Ecology would view the report. He wondered if it was found to be helpful if Ecology would allow it to be used to demonstrate the degree of hydraulic continuity in water right applications and transfers.

III. New Business

A. Fishtrap District update – John noted there was a two step approach in the Fishtrap. Acute drainage problems were being addressed upfront with the development of a long-term management plan closely following. Larry asked it if was possible to have the Bertrand benefit from the working agreements the NLWID was developing with the County road department. John felt that it would be worth asking and invited WID representatives to meetings of the NLWID where ditch cleaning is being discussed.

B. Administration/Facilitation contractor selection – Five proposals for the contract were reviewed. Marty moved that Whatcom Farm Friends be selected as the prime contractor for administration of the WID with the strong encouragement that they work with Dumas and Associates for facilitation work, Larry seconded, motion passed unanimously.

C. Legislative/Agency Tour - June 13 has been set as the tentative date. Mary encouraged getting details in place soon so that proper planning can take place.

D. Deep Aquifer - Dale resubmitted a project proposal to explore water quality (salinity) standards for irrigated crops. The board asked he include grass and corn along with raspberries, blueberries and potatoes. Marty moved to approve up to $5k for this study, Steve seconded, motion carried unanimously.

E. WWU Cost Optimization - Henry distributed a draft scope of work between the WID and WWU. It was noted that we should also look into the cost of water as determined by other irrigation districts in the state and the west.

F. Odessa Settlement – Marty encouraged the board to read about the recent agreement between the State and the irrigators around Odessa. It is apparent that the State is quite willing to solve water problems in other parts of the state. It might fairly be asked if the State is willing to provide what will be needed to keep our region's economy functioning as well.

G. Flow Meetings – Mary is working to arrange a meeting of the in-stream flow negotiation groups in April with Bob Anderson. Part of this discussion will be an evaluation of the in-stream flow negotiation process in both the Bertrand and the Middle Fork.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the bi-weekly negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(Held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Vern adjourned the meeting at 3:45. The next meeting will be May 6.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
May 6, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__o__ Steve Groen	__o__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	__o__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	__x__ Steve Seymour
_____ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	__x__ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	__x__ Tom Buroker	__x__ Karen Welch
_____ Amanda Cronin	__x__ John Gillies	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda - Vern opened the meeting at 2:07. No motions were made due to a lack of a quorum.

- **a.** Review and Approval of April 1 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- ***c.*** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	*$300,000.00*	*$0.00*	*$225,851.86*	*$74,148.14*
DOE Storage Grant	*$200,000.00*	*$31,171.66*	*$192,652.11*	*$7,347.89*
County Interlocal	*$69,945.51*	*$0.00*	*$67,941.09*	*$2,004.42*
PUD Interlocal	*$9,861.00*	*$0.00*	*$840.00*	*$9,021.00*
2007 Proviso	*$678,200.00*	*$40,972.16*	*$40,972.16*	*$637,227.84*

Fund Balance @ 5/1	*$8,251.81*	
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County	*$1,485.00*	
Accounts Receivable - WA State		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement	*$72,143.82*	
TOTAL Available		*$81,880.63*
Outstanding bills		*$64,857.43*
Vern Vande Garde	*$280.00*	
Whatcom Farm Friends	*$6,245.00*	
Reichhardt & Ebe - STO	*$17,413.08*	
Reichhardt & Ebe - STO	*$12,131.79*	
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO	*$17,737.56*	
Larry & Cheryl De Haan	*$10,000.00*	
Dumas and Associates	*$1,050.00*	
Accounts Payable		
End of Month Balance		*$17,023.20*

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Updates on PIE Task Orders with County - Mary
  - Spring Public Forum – tentative for May 28 – 4-8 at the Firehall
    - Groundwater study presentation
    - Water quality monitoring
    - DOE water right information
    - Transboundary issues
    - CPAL information – Whatcom Conservation District
  - Groundwater model technical seminar – only comments received were from the WID.
  - Cross Boundary Low Flow Tour to be organized in August
- Legislative/Agency Tour - June 13 tentative date – Henry questioned if we were going to be able to organize this and get participation. He is waiting for confirmation on when legislators are available. It was greed that if we don't have a date set by next week the tour would have to be delayed until fall or next spring.
- Informational Interview Task Order 7A – Vern noted that more background work had occurred but that until there was more clarity on understanding the risks it was difficult to communicate with farmers on potential costs of water.

B. Cross Border Dialogue – Mary reported that Ryan will produce final reports by June on Canadian water right information and other projects he has been working on. The Mayor of Langley Township provided a contact person to work with on cross boundary issues. They have a stormwater plan in development which they would like our comments on. David Davidson has a GIS person that may be potentially available this summer. He is also looking for a list of needed skills to help him identify a student this fall that could work on this project. We will provide a list of potential projects to David through Mary by Monday, May 12th.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects – identify projects, available funds – WC $2,004, DOE $19k – Steve suggested possible projects including: woody debris in lower Bertrand, a culvert in the upper McClelland, planting in the Mulder reach of McClelland, and the Jackman Ditch project. The board was inclined to see if the funds could be used in Jackman Ditch but encouraged Steve and NSEA to apply the funds to the best available project.
- Jackman Ditch reroute – Pioneers in Conservation grant application – Steve noted we would hear in June.

D. Monitoring – Karen distributed a memo on Proposed Monthly Water Quality Reporting Templates and charts illustrating how they would look. The Board felt she was getting very close to what we needed. They encouraged her to add some definitions to the template to help those who were not working with this data on a regular basis. It was determined that fecal coliform monitoring was needed monthly and that temperature and DO would be presented quarterly. The Northwest Indian College is collecting data for the three northern sites through June, 2009. Whatcom County is still funding sampling at the two lower sites through December, 2008.

E. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey - Tom's next step is to contact property owners. Dale reported that the wetland study for these sites would total nearly $13k. This prompted some discussion over the potential likelihood of using these sites for storage to augment flows in late summer. There was concern that these projects would not be nearly as

cost effective as using groundwater. The wetland study was tabled for a month. We will think through if we want to proceed with exploring all of these sites, just a few of them, or leave development of surface storage for another time.

- Stream Augmentation – Tom reported that B & C planned to drill the well later this week. Karen is set up to do the quality tests as identified in the QAPP.

F. PUD pipeline – There was no new word on the PUD directed feasibility study.

G. Deep Aquifer - Dale reported on his research into water standards for irrigated crops. He is having difficulty finding any data for blueberries. He wondered if data on plums might be close. Henry felt that data will become available from California as blueberry acreage there has gone from 0 to one of the leading states in the past 3 years.

H. Fishtrap District update – John reported that the NLWID board has completed a land use and water management survey. The County is working with the WID on acute drainage concerns. The draft outline of the management plan is completed. There will likely not be enough funding to complete all the sections but it will get a good start. Steve noted that there was an upcoming meeting with berry farmers regarding farm plans which are a necessary requirement of the stream cleaning project completed last year from the border to Badger.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization – Henry distributed a note from Hart Hodges regarding initial work on the cost of water. Hart is surveying other areas to determine what they are charging for water.

B. Water Right letter to farmers – Whatcom Farm Friends (WFF) drafted a letter to farmers to inform them of the status of flow negotiations. There remain questions about the confidentiality of this information which is being checked with Bob Anderson. The purpose and tome of the letter was also discussed. There is a need to inform farmers about our read of the current status while not creating a situation in which we make the problem worse. The Board felt that WFF should think more about the letter before it is sent.

C. Natural Resources Bank concept – WFF has also drafted a concept paper which brings land and water issues together. Initial feedback from the group was that it was an idea worth considering although significant hurdles are in the way of it being actually implemented.

D. Budget Request for 2009-11 Biennium - Vern noted that we had requests for what we anticipated needing for the next State budget. It was difficult to project this in light of the lack of clarity on many of our current projects.

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46. The next meeting is June 3.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
June 3, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__o__ Marty Maberry
_____ Pete Vlas	__o__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
__x__ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	__x__ Steve Seymour
_____ Doug Allen	__x__ Sue Blake	__x__ Tom Anderson
_____ Mary Dumas	__x__ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
__x__ Bill Verwolf	__x__ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda

a. Review and Approval of April 1 and May 6 Minutes
b. Financial Report
c. Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$225,851.86	$74,148.14
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$7,347.89	$192,652.11	$7,347.89
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$67,941.09	$2,004.42
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$840.00	$1,680.00	$8,181.00
2007 Proviso	$678,200.00	$0.00	$40,972.16	$637,227.84

Fund Balance @ 6/2	$40,586.83	
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County	$2,250.00	
Accounts Receivable - WA State	$40,972.16	
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement	$8,187.89	
TOTAL Available		$91,996.88
Outstanding bills		$38,133.57
Vern Vande Garde	$980.00	
Whatcom Farm Friends	$4,437.50	
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO	$20,905.38	
Reichhardt & Ebe - STO	$7,746.32	
Reichhardt & Ebe	$1,064.37	
Western WA University	$3,000.00	
Accounts Payable	$64,857.43	
End of Month Balance		($10,994.12)

The Consent agenda was tabled due to a lack of a quorum. Henry noted the financial report would be improved once he completed the Proviso Invoice for May (hopefully by Friday!).

II. Old Business

A. WID Education – Henry noted that the WID had received a small grant from the Coordinated Resource Management team for public education surrounding the planned Legislative Tour. Since we had cancelled the June 6th tour the WID staff and Farm Friends were rethinking a scaled down tour in late June. Vern noted that his discussions with dairy farmers indicated many of them felt they could shift to corn and reduce the need to irrigate if water supplies became too problematic.

B. Cross Border Dialogue – Mary is organizing a Low Flow Tour in August. There was no new word on the proposed landfill just north of the border.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects – Steve S. was asked to help us identify projects for the available funds we have for habitat improvements – WC $2,004, DOE $19k. He noted that the Large Woody Debris project to be funded by the Community Salmon Fund had been canceled.
- Jackman Ditch reroute – the grant application to the Pioneers in Conservation program was denied. We don't have adequate funding to complete this project this year.

D. Monitoring – A Fecal coliform reporting chart was distributed. Karen Welch has developed this and we will have it monthly to track our water quality progress. Sue is working with Karen to see if the probes that WSU has been trying will work for our gauging needs. These probes report temperature, D.O., conductivity, and turbidity which has shown promising correlations with other water quality parameters.

E. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – the next step remains the wetland determinations. This will require more communication with the property owners of the sites identified. There remains substantial questions of spending $12k + on a wetland determination for all these sites is a wise investment. The cost of construction to build many of these sites also raises red flags as does the water quality concern of adding warm water to the stream. Steve G. reported that his neighbors were less than enthusiastic about the prospect. It wa generally agreed that the only project that may be worth investing time into was the De Vries site but it has complications as well. There is no funding for this until FY 2009 anyway.
- Stream Augmentation – B & C plans to install the screens and do the pump test on June 16th.

F. PUD pipeline - no report on the PUD directed feasibility study.

G. Groundwater – the demonstration of the WSU model left many still asking about the efficacy of what we purchased. The resolution is too big to make informed site specific decisions. The SFU ownership of the actual model presents questions about how we can incorporate this information into other models as well.

H. Deep Aquifer - Dale reported they were making progress on finding water standards for irrigated crops. Dale reported that Delta Water Association was nearing a decision on their next step and that they appeared likely to drill a new well near their existing well field and blending the water sources together to address the salt in the deep aquifer and the nitrate in the surficial aquifer.

I. Fishtrap District update – John reported that they were meeting with the Corps on the Double Ditch maintenance issue. Steve noted this was necessary because steelhead were now listed as a threatened species. Progress continues on the management plan for the Fishtrap.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization – The WWU team is exploring the cost of water in other areas and will compare that to what we think we will need in the Bertrand.

B. Review future project request – Henry reported that the WID had submitted proposals for advancing the pipeline, the augmentation project, and beginning a management plan for Dakota Creek.

C. DSS – Terry reported that USU had delivered a copy of the Decision Support System and that the County and other partners would be reviewing it shortly.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. The group reflected on the potential consequences of not finding a way to a negotiated settlement and this reinforced all of our desire to keep negotiating.

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41. The next meeting is July 1.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
July 1, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__o__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	__x__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	_____ Steve Seymour
_____ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	__x__ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

Vern opened the meeting at 2:10.

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of April 1, May 6, June 3 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$225,851.86	$74,148.14
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$0.00	$200,000.00	$0.00
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$67,941.09	$2,004.42
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$1,680.00	$3,360.00	$6,501.00
2007 Proviso	$678,200.00	$89,021.20	$169,372.13	$508,827.87
Fund Balance @ 7/1		$20,217.10		
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County		$0.00		
Accounts Receivable - PUD		$840.00		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		$7,347.89		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$90,701.20		
TOTAL Available				$119,106.19
Outstanding bills				$92,893.88
Vern Vande Garde		$1,540.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$14,752.51		
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO		$52,200.78		
B & C Well Drilling		$19,754.78		
Reichhardt & Ebe		$1,645.81		
Western WA University		$3,000.00		

Accounts Payable	$0.00	
End of Month Balance		$26,212.31

Marty moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Larry seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Updates on PIE Task Orders with County
- Informational Interview Task Order 7A
- Tour Report

Mary reported on the various education activities including a recap of Friday's Ag Water Tour. The board reflected on how well the tour was able to convey the message of what we are trying to accomplish in drainage based management. There was a reasonably positive feeling about the tour although it was noted that it is a challenge to convey the complexity of the issues in a short time period.

A request for reallocating the County Task Orders was made to the PUD who manages these funds.

B. Cross Border Dialogue - Mary asked the board about the best time for a low flow tour. The consensus was early September. She will ask Steve Seymour and Karen Steensma to assist. The board felt the issues should focused on technical issues surrounding low flows and should include WDFW and DOE. The message should be to explain to the Canadians the consequences of low flows, what we are doing to address them, and impress upon them the desire to have them help us by improved management of the streams north of the border. It was noted that Langley had asked for comments on their proposed regulations to manage groundwater. It was not known if any were submitted by US agencies.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects – identify projects, available funds – WC $2,004, DOE $19k
- Jackman Ditch reroute –

NSEA and WDFW will be asked to partner on some Bertrand habitat projects. Work in the McClellan tributary was a high priority for the board.

D. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- Fecal coliform database, charts

Dale presented a report prepared by Karen. It indicates low water quality in June tests. It was noted that Mike Cochran was leaving the NWIC. This was a concern as Mike had been a good partner and he had been willing to do some of the analysis and data presentation for us. Without him there it is questionable if this service could continue. Alternatives for data analysis and presentation are Huxley, Reichhardt and Ebe, and the WCD. Dale, Mary and Henry will check with the various candidates to see if this need can be filled economically and consistently.

Tom reported a gage will be installed on Marty's property which will provide the mid-stream gage data we have agreed to collect. The gage will have a probe that can be downloaded monthly. Testing and monitoring of the test well has been occurring. Initial pumping indicates we should get up to a cfs from the well.

E. Streamflow enhancement
- Storage Survey
- Stream Augmentation

Tom reported that Rich De Vries maintains an interest in surface storage at his farm. Dale and Tom were encouraged to further develop some design work for that property in order to get a better sense of the practicality of using groundwater. Marty wondered if a series of smaller ponds might be a better alternative.

The well test indicated that the well could supply 600 gpm but that is not likely to be sustained. 450 gpm is a realistic estimate.

The fill proposal just north of the border was noted. It was unclear if anyone had commented on this proposal. Henry will check with Tom Buroker who had noted that Ecology had been invited to comment.

F. Deep Aquifer - Dale presented information on water tolerances for irrigated crops. Grass is the most tolerant of chlorides with berries the least. Treatment costs for 150 gpm were $125k in capital and a yet to be determined O and M cost. A final report will be submitted soon.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization – The draft cost of water report from WWU was distributed and Henry asked for comments and questions ASAP. Tom noted that they were still working on estimates of the cost of adjudicating the basin. Comments on the report should be sent to Henry or straight to Hart Hodges.

B. Water Right Letter – The letter recently sent by Farm Friends was briefly discussed. Henry noted there had been some feedback but not a large number.

C. NW WA Fair - Larry moved we share the $200 cost of a display table at the Fair with the North Lynden WID, Peter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

D. Contracting with Bob Anderson, consultant – The draft amendment to Component #1 of the Proviso was discussed. We are shifting funds around to pay for a $20k contract with a fish biologist to support Bob Anderson's negotiations.

IV. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25. The next WID meeting is August 5.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
Sept. 2, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__o__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	__o__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	__x__ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	__x__ John Gillies	__x__ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	__x__ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	__x__ Glenn Gentry

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of July 1 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$6,358.02	$232,209.88	$67,790.12
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$0.00	$200,000.00	$0.00
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$67,941.09	$2,004.42
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$0.00	$3,360.00	$6,501.00
2007 Proviso	$678,200.00	$19,452.37	$188,824.50	$489,375.50
Fund Balance @ 8/29		$24,874.81		
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County		$0.00		
Accounts Receivable - PUD		$0.00		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		$7,347.89		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$25,810.39		
TOTAL Available				$58,033.09
Outstanding bills				$31,763.52
Vern Vande Garde		$210.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$6,258.21		
Whatcom Farm Friends - CE		$200.00		
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO		$13,339.16		
Reichhardt & Ebe - Grant #1		$3,531.15		
Enduris - insurance		$2,425.00		
Western WA University		$6,000.00		
Accounts Payable		$0.00		
End of Month Balance				$26,269.57

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The board reviewed the July 1 minutes and financial reports. Henry provided an overview of the grants and remaining balances in each task. Marty moved to approve the consent agenda, Peter seconded, motion passed unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Updates on PIE Task Orders with County – it was noted that the County funds expire in December. The only current task is the Low Flow Tour. A membership forum should be organized for early November.
- Informational Interview Task Order 7A – Vern is waiting on a clear proposal from the negotiation team before he initiates more landowner conversations.
- Low Flow Tour logistics – September 30th was selected as the preferred date. Mary asked the board about key messages to deliver. Presenting clear flow data and the goals we seek to achieve for healthy fisheries was one message. The data should be focused on the reach nearest the border. The group felt that including Fishtrap was important and that this would be less focused on low flows and more focused on flooding challenges especially the flow constraint provided by the City of Lynden.

B. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects – identify projects, available funds – WC $2,004, DOE $19k – Steve noted that work was taking place to place more woody debris in the lower Bertrand on the Schoeneveld and Bedlington properties.
- Jackman Ditch reroute – A meeting will be set up between Dale, Steve, John, Henry, and possibly others to identify potential habitat projects which would include the Jackman reroute and project budgets for these projects. This work would be used as the basis for several upcoming grant applications. Steve noted that there was likely 1 mile of new channel that would be created in the Jackman reroute. The plan would be to keep water flowing in the Jackman Ditch through the summer and feed the new channel with the augmentation well. Once the well was shut off the water from BC would be diverted between the Jackman Ditch and the new channel in a manner that benefits both the habitat and the flooding concerns. It was suggested that Larry be put in charge of this.

C. Monitoring – Joannie passed out the July and August water quality reports. The fecal coliform data was not where we'd like it to be which was likely attributed to the "fall flush". This is a phenomena experienced in most all other drainages as well at the beginning of the fall rains. Joannie also noted that the mid-stream gauge located on Marty's Axling field was in place and in the process of being calibrated.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – The board was inclined to learn more about what it would take to work with Rich to develop storage sites on the De Vries farm. Dale will check on the likelihood there were wetlands to deal with and what it would take to get the needed permits to construct a sizable storage site. Steve warned that evapotransporation needed to be considered.
- Stream Augmentation – Dale has been working on two hurdles for getting the test pump moving. One is the toxicity concern of iron in the groundwater. Finding the right approach to reducing the iron level is still a problem. The other concern is power. PSE removed the transformers and we are working with them to replace them, possibly with larger ones so that Edaleen can share our costs. Marty suggested that we use a generator to get this going. Farmers Equipment might have pumps and generators we could use for a few weeks. Dale reported that Dennis Hoekstra of Express Electric had provided many hours of time to help this project along. The

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Board suggested that he bill a portion of them to the project so we could cover his time and treat him fairly.

- Costshare – Marty asked if we were still considering surface to groundwater conversions. Henry mentioned that this had been planned to be part of an upcoming costshare program that would include several other practices related to conservation and increased efficiency. We would entertain costsharing on wells and ponds that eliminate surface diversions, pumps & pipes required to make the change, as well as meters and other devices that increase irrigation efficiencies. Henry will develop a proposal to consider in future meetings.

E. PUD pipeline – Steve Jilk reported to Henry that the final report was close to completion and would be provided to the WID soon.

G. Deep Aquifer - Dale reported on his research into water standards for irrigated crops. He had provided the tolerances for various crops and he researched the cost of water treatment. Reverse osmosis is the most practical treatment but it creates a wastewater problem with a very high salinity content. There is no practical solution for disposing of this wastewater in the PNW climate.

H. Fishtrap District update – John reported on the field surveying that had taken place over the last months with strong support from NRCS. John and Bill Bonsen had helped with this process for the WIDs. The County is working on ditch cleaning right now and anticipates working with farmers to replace undersized culverts on the Bender Road ditch. Joannie noted that a water supply/demand analysis similar to what was completed on the Bertrand was nearing completion revealing similar problems to what were experienced in the Bertrand.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization – Hart Hodges has submitted a draft report on the cost of water and the cost effectiveness of several planned practices. He will be available to present it this fall.

B. Legislative Proposals – Doug informed the board that proposals for the upcoming state budget would be welcomed after October 1st. The initial pre-proposals submitted and the ranking they received from the review team follow. A joint meeting with the North Lynden WID and the City of Lynden should take place if we are part of the Pepin Creek realignment project.

Capital Budget

- Priority 1 - Bertrand Creek Flow Augmentation, Jackman Ditch Reroute - $650,000 (to qualify for Capital funds it must be an on-the-ground project, not a feasibility or other study)
- Priority 2 - Pepin Creek Realignment - $1,800,000 (Doug will check if property acquisition could be part of this. We, and the City of Lynden will need to apply for SRFB $$ and other funds to complete this project)
- Priority 3 - Water Supply Pipeline to Bertrand Creek - $300,000

Operating Budget

- Priority 7 - Drayton Harbor Management Plan - $100,000

C. Entrix Contract – Peter moved to finalize the contract with Jean Baldrige to support the instream flow negotiations, Marty seconded, motion passed unanimously. Vern and Henry reported they had met with Jean. Doug reported she had been actively working with the City of Bellingham and the tribes over the Middle Fork proposal which was now due the end of September. The continuing delay concerned the board as the promise of adjudication/enforcement in 2009 if no significant progress is made on flow negotiations looms.

DRAFT

D. Glenn Gentry – Glenn reflected on his impressions of what we are trying to accomplish in the Bertrand project and applied it to his effort to get a change application approved for his property.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

A short Executive Session over in-stream flow negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology was held.

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11. The next meeting is October 7.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

DRAFT

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
October 7, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry (via phone)
__x__ Pete Vlas	__x__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
__x__ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	__x__ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	__x__ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of September 2 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$232,209.88	$67,790.12
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$0.00	$200,000.00	$0.00
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$67,941.09	$2,004.42
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$0.00	$3,360.00	$6,501.00
2007 Proviso	$678,200.00	$24,171.18	$212,695.68	$465,504.32
Fund Balance @ 9/7		($681.16)		
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County		$0.00		
Accounts Receivable - PUD		$0.00		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		$26,800.26		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$24,171.18		
TOTAL Available				$50,290.28
Outstanding bills				$25,516.83
Vern Vande Garde		$280.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$5,656.78		
Whatcom Farmers Co-op		$187.51		
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO		$4,200.53		
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO		$13,906.71		
Reichhardt & Ebe - Grant #1		$1,285.30		
Accounts Payable		$0.00		
End of Month Balance				$24,773.45

Henry reviewed the minutes, the financial report, and the grant budget. Doug noted that the State was facing a $3 billion project shortfall so the chances of obtaining more state funding were limited. Steve moved to pass the Consent Agenda, Pete seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education – Mary reported on the following:

- Updates on PIE Task Orders with County - $2,575 remains in the budget to foster communication and education of the WID members. Ideas considered were a community meeting in November and an update of the State of the Watershed Report last published in 2006. The Board was prone to favor an update of the report, likely 4 pages instead of 8, and possibly a low budget meeting for landowners that want to discuss the issues raised in the Report. Steve moved to make use of these funds on the Update, Larry seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- Low Flow Tour report – summary materials were distributed. Six Canadians attended and this helped to build an improved dialogue with the officials and groups in BC. Environment Canada sent a federal representative.
- Cross-Boundary Dialogue – George Boggs suggested to Mary that the WID's seek to formalize the building cross border relationships through the Abbotsford-Sumas International Task Force. Mary will check with George about how to best do this. Several had attended the Bevan Wells presentation by Abbotsford and the regulatory agencies in Lynden the night prior to the board meeting. It is clear that there is a growing realization that natural resources require effective cross boundary management. David Davidson has two interns interesting in helping us address cross-border concerns. Mary, Doug, Joanne, and possibly Steve S. will meet with them Wednesday to determine the right fit between our needs and their interests.
- Ryan Anaka – Mary reported that last year's WWU intern was hoping to use his experiences and follow up interviews as part of his doctoral thesis. The board did not see a problem with betraying confidences if he would do this.

B. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Habitat priority projects – Henry asked if the board would support having Farm Friends contract with a grant writer to help identify habitat projects, available grants, and prepare grants. He was thinking of a contract under $2000. He noted that he did not have the time or expertise to do this and that a biologist, David Timmer, had been put in touch with us through Karen Steensma. The board was inclined to pursue this but wanted to see a resume. Steve S. felt it was a good idea but cautioned that it would be important to be part of the local habitat team and not end up competing.
- Lower Bertrand – Steve noted that NSEA had completed a project putting woody debris in the lower portion of the Bertrand and we would be receiving an invoice from them shortly. It is assumed the invoice will be within the remaining habitat funds in the County Interlocal and the DOE Enabling grant ($20,727.94).

C. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- Fecal coliform – The September Water Quality report was distributed. Fecal counts remain high but slightly lower than in August.
- Contract with USGS – The County's inability to pay for the two USGS gauges in the Bertrand (Zero Ave, and Jackman Ditch) prompted a discussion about how we maintain needed monitoring into the future. A plan was presented that would have the WID use $19,440 from the DOE Proviso to pay for the first six months of the USGS gauges. Since the invoice for the work will not arrive until February, 2009 the County funds to support the Bertrand negotiations will be used to support the work on all the gauges for the next months as these funds expire in December. The Proviso funds anticipated for this work will be applied to the USGS contract. Henry

has been discussing joint funding with USGS. It was also noted that Environment Canada should be contacted about the gauges as they had funded a portion of them in the past. Steve moved to sign the USGS contract in order to maintain work on these gauges for the next six months, Marty seconded, motion carried 4-0-1 with Larry abstaining.

- Gauge issues – The difficulty in paying for the USGS contracts and the anticipation that this problem will only accentuate with the need for quality monitoring throughout the County prompted discussion of how we address this concern. Joanne will prepare a proposed plan in consultation with DOE, WCD, the Northwest Indian College, BTC, and Huxley.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – no action at this time.
- Stream Augmentation – The pump test is underway. Water quality has been a challenge. DO has been effectively managed by the improvised "Seymour Tower". Turbidity due in part to the iron content has been a more significant challenge. The project team has been actively working to address the issues.

E. PUD pipeline - The PUD directed feasibility study is still not finalized. Dale expressed a desire to see the report so he could more effectively prepare the Capital Budget grant request.

F. Fishtrap District update – The North Lynden WID is planning a meeting of the two WID's and the City of Lynden to facilitate long range water management planning in the north Lynden area. The WID board members will be informed of the date of the meeting and were encouraged to attend.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization – More details of the cost of water report will be presented at a future meeting with Hart Hodges.

B. Legislative Proposals – The WID is preparing two Capital Budget requests. One is to make the Augmentation well permanent and convey the water to the Bertrand as well as interact with Jackman Ditch. The other is for final engineering on the proposed PUD Pipeline.

C. Resolution to Certify 2009 Assessment Rate –Resolution 2008-1 (2009 Budget and Assessment Rate). Larry moved to approve the Rate and Budget, Pete seconded, motion carried unanimously.

	2009 Budget
Income	
2009 Assessments	$ 5,825
Project Grants	$ 500,000
	$ 505,825
Expenses	
Directors Insurance	$ 2,425
Board Meetings & Education	$ 2,400
Projects	$ 500,000
Administration	$ 1,000
	$ 505,825

D. Resolution to Set the 2009 Assessment Role - Resolution 2008-2 (2009 Assessment Role). Larry noted that many of the parcels in the role were in new hands. Henry will check with

a number of these. He noted he had received the original database from the Assessor and that they had sent him the segregations and aggregations as they occurred. Change in ownership had probably not been noted. He will seek to get an updated copy. It was noted that the important information to get to the Treasurer by the end of October was the list of parcels to be assessed. Steve moved to approve the current list of parcels, Pete seconded, motion carried unanimously.

E. Elections & Board of Equalization – Both Vern and Peter's positions are expiring at the end of the year. Pete moved to approve placing the following ad in the Tribune to deal with both the nomination and the Board of Equalization hearing requirement. We intend to share the expense with the North Lynden WID. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC NOTICE – Bertrand and North Lynden Watershed Improvement Districts

Residents within the Bertrand and North Lynden Watershed Improvement Districts have an opportunity to:

1) Nominate candidates for election to the Board of the District – two positions in Bertrand, one in North Lynden - candidates must file with the secretary of the district a declaration in writing of their candidacy, or a petition of nomination signed by at least ten qualified electors of the district, not later than five o'clock p.m. on the first Monday in November.
2) Inspect the 2009 Assessment Role and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in the Bertrand will be heard at 2pm, November 4, 2008, for North Lynden at 2pm, November 18, 2008, both at the District's office. The Assessment Roles for both Districts are available for inspection from October 15 to November 3.

Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts' offices located at:
Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
North Lynden Watershed Improvement District
1796 Front Street, Lynden

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology.

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

A free ranging discussion was held about the future of the WID, the state of the negotiations, and the level of support, understanding, and interest there was in the community for the WID's activities.

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

November 4

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
November 4, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	_____ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	__x__ Karen Welch
__x__ Terry Holland	__x__ John Gillies	_____ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	__x__ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

Board of Equalization Hearing

Vern called the BOE Hearing to order and invited anyone present to inspect the 2009 Assessment Role and represent their interests to the District Board which served as a Board of Equalization. With no one present Vern adjourned the meeting of the Board of Equalization.

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of October 7 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills
- **d.** Audit Report

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$232,209.88	$67,790.12
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$0.00	$200,000.00	$0.00
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$67,941.09	$2,004.42
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$0.00	$3,360.00	$6,501.00
2007 Proviso	$678,200.00	$23,464.95	$236,385.57	$441,814.43
Fund Balance @ 11/3		$19,539.31		
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County		$0.00		
Accounts Receivable - PUD		$258.85		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		$7,347.89		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$23,464.95		
TOTAL Available				$50,611.00
Outstanding bills				$43,177.45
Vern Vande Garde		$210.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$3,350.00		
Whatcom Farmers Co-op		$4,478.51		

Entrix - Jean Baldrige	$7,545.57	
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO	$7,649.36	
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement	$19,603.74	
Lynden Tribune	$26.27	
State Auditor	$314.00	
Accounts Payable	$0.00	
End of Month Balance		$7,433.55

The board reviewed the minutes which Steve moved to approve, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously. The financial report and bills for payment were reviewed. Henry distributed a letter from the Auditor indicating they were pleased with the limited investigation into our records and procedures. Steve moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Update on State of the Watershed Report – Mary prepared a draft 4 page newsletter. It is designed to be used as a template for future newsletters. The Border Policy Research Institute (BPRI) at WWU is helping to organize and produce it. There will be 750 printed State of the Watershed Reports for distribution in US/Canadian portions of the Bertrand Watershed and mailed to Bertrand WID member households. Draft article text will be circulated by November 19 and review and sign off for print production is needed on November 28.
- Cross – Border Dialogue – The BPRI help is available through June, 2009. They are helping to increase the accuracy of the models that have been produced for both Bertrand and Fishtrap. There were questions about how the WID has expressed comments to the Langley stormwater plan. Henry will check with Kasey at Ecology to see if they had reviewed it.

B. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- Fecal coliform database, charts – Karen distributed the October report. Upper watershed counts are still quite high.
- Gage plan - how do we sustain current monitoring? Karen reported that we don't have monitoring commitments past June, 2009. The WCD was not too interested in talking on monitoring responsibilities. The County has applied for a grant to continue implementation of the watershed plan and a portion of this may find its way to monitoring. Karen estimates that each gage will cost $17k annually (12 for flow, 5 for quality). She is checking with Huxley and BTC about how they might participate. Vern asked about the Lummi gage project which sought to correlate gage data and hopefully minimize the need for so many gages. A report should be forthcoming.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

Dave Timmer is helping to prepare a Pioneers in Conservation grant application to help fund the conveyance of the groundwater at De Haans to the Bertrand.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – Dale will work on a cost benefit analysis for the De Vries site over the next two months.
- Stream Augmentation – Dale reported that Chuck Lindsey's analysis is about 3 weeks away. It is apparent that even if the report is positive and we proceed with

plans for augmentation we will have to devise better methods of dealing with the iron content.

E. PUD pipeline

PUD directed feasibility study – a draft is about ready. Dale will review and comment. We will make plans about how we proceed in the next month or two.

F. Fishtrap District update

John reported that there had been significant improvement in drainage over the summer. The planned North Lynden Water discussion between the two WIDs and the City of Lynden will be delayed until January.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization – Henry reported that he had not yet followed up with Hart on the cost of water report. He hoped to have Hart at an upcoming meeting to discuss the report and how we could incorporate it into our upcoming plans.

B. Legislative Proposals – Doug felt somewhat optimistic that the capital projects we are proposing are in line for some funding. We have $650k in the Augmentation proposal and $300k to advance the Pipeline.

C. Board Elections – Both Vern and Peter's positions are expiring at the end of the year. A legal ad was placed in the Lynden Tribune announcing the opportunity to be nominated to one of the positions. Only two were received. Steve moved to accept the nominations of Vern Vande Garde and Peter Vlas for another 3 year term as WID Commissioners, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Vern and Henry updated the Board regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. A new proposal is being circulated which would change the direction if it gains acceptance. The WID has concerns about how it meaningfully participate and how the rest of agriculture will be represented. Henry will talk to Jon Hutchings.

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Vern adjourned the meeting at 3:26. The next Board meeting will be December 2.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
December 2, 2008 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__o__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
_____ Pete Vlas	_____ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
__x__ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	__x__ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	__x__ Sue Blake	__x__ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
__x__ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

a. Review and Approval of November 4 Minutes
b. Financial Report
c. Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$42,779.57	$274,989.45	$25,010.55
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$0.00	$200,000.00	$0.00
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$2,004.42	$69,945.51	$0.00
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$0.00	$3,360.00	$6,501.00
2007 Proviso	$678,200.00	$20,858.66	$256,152.39	$422,047.61

Fund Balance @ 12/1	$126.16	
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County	$0.00	
Accounts Receivable - PUD	$0.00	
Accounts Receivable - WA State	$7,347.89	
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement	$65,642.65	
TOTAL Available		$73,116.70
Outstanding bills		$42,679.54
Vern Vande Garde	$350.00	
Whatcom Farm Friends	$5,525.00	
Entrix - Jean Baldrige	$6,659.63	
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO	$11,374.03	
Reichhardt & Ebe - DOE #1	$8,770.88	
PUD #1 of Whatcom County	$10,000.00	
Accounts Payable	$0.00	
End of Month Balance		$30,437.16

The minutes and financial report were reviewed but not approved due to a lack of a quorum.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Finalize State of the Watershed Report – will be printed and mailed before Dec. 17th. The budget allows for 900 copies with approximately ½ being mailed and the others available for distribution. The process is being developed so that the newsletter will be a template for future newsletters.
- Cross – Border Dialogue – The Border Policy Research Institute at WWU provided significant support for the development of the Report. Mary and Joanne are presenting WID projects at the Georgia Basin Conference in February.

B. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- Fecal coliform database, charts – the fecal coliform numbers have not been particularly good in recent months. The Board will ask Larry to explain what the issues may be.
- Lummi gage project proposal – the proposal from the Lummis to fund continued gauging will hopefully be rated as a high priority.
- County funds – Terry was asked how the increase in the flood tax will be applied to water projects. There is some hope that some of these funds could be used for monitoring and/or community education projects related to water issues.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Pioneers in Conservation application – Dave Timmer helped us prepare an application which was submitted last month.
- Other projects – Steve S. had met with Owen Gosal about his concerns over the Guide ditch.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – Dale – cost/benefit on De Vries site
- Stream Augmentation – Chuck Lindsey's report should be ready by the first of the year.
- Conservation and Efficiency – Tom Anderson submitted a scope of work and budget for advancing the surface to groundwater conversions and exploring other conservation tools. The goal will be to increase stream flows while helping to address landowner problems. Tom will work with Doug on further exploration of how we could make some of the conversions happen next summer.

E. PUD pipeline

- PUD directed feasibility study – draft report received. Dale is reviewing the draft and will have a report to us next month.

G. Fishtrap District update – Steve S. reported that the flooding problems at Lewis VM should be addressed by the new culvert under Pangborn Road. The bridge over Assink Road is being examined as to its potential for holding back water at flood events.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization –Hart Hodges is planning to attend the January meeting to discuss the cost of water report prepared last spring and how it could be used in future WID projects. Henry will send copies of the report to the Commissioners prior to the meeting.

B. Legislative Proposals – The projects we submitted were ranked #1 and #2 in the Capital Budget list from the NW. There are applications for $631k for flow augmentation and $300k for Pipeline Engineering.

C. Grant Reduction – in the search for potential cuts the State is asking us to consider a 10% reduction in the 2007 Proviso. This would reduce the 2009 budget from $470,100 to $423,090. Henry will prepare a letter to Ecology concerning this issue for consideration at the January meeting.

D. Salinity Study – Dale distributed a final report of the Salinity Study surrounding irrigation of our crops from deep aquifers.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

January 6

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
January 6, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	_____ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	__x__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	__x__ John Gillies
_____ Terry Holland	__x__ Hart Hodges	__x__ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	__x__ David Davidson	_____ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	__x__ Stacia Dreyer	__x__ Steve Jilk
__x__ Bill Verwolf	__x__ Dale Brandland	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda *(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).*

a. Review and Approval of November 4 and December 2 Minutes
b. Financial Report
c. Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$274,989.45	$25,010.55
DOE Storage Grant	$200,000.00	$0.00	$200,000.00	$0.00
County Interlocal	$69,945.51	$0.00	$69,945.51	$0.00
PUD Interlocal	$9,861.00	$891.84	$4,251.84	$0.00
2007 Proviso	$678,200.00	$19,393.68	$275,546.07	$402,653.93

Fund Balance @ 1/6	$42,956.03	
Accounts Receivable - Whatcom County	$2,004.42	
Accounts Receivable - PUD	$0.00	
Accounts Receivable - WA State	$28,206.55	
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement	$20,285.52	
TOTAL Available		$93,452.52
Outstanding bills		$69,243.70
Vern Vande Garde	$700.00	
Whatcom Farm Friends	$7,637.50	
Entrix - Jean Baldrige	$12,317.80	
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO	$19,113.06	
Reichhardt & Ebe - DOE #1	$9,714.77	
PUD #1 of Whatcom County	$10,000.00	
B & C Well Drilling	$5,774.98	
Dumas & Associates	$3,093.75	
Lynden Tribune	$891.84	

Accounts Payable	$0.00	
End of Month Balance		$24,208.82

Marty moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Larry seconded, motion passed unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- State of the Watershed Report
- Cross – Border Dialogue

Mary noted the significant help that the Border Policy Research Institute provided in the preparation of the recent newsletter. David observed that the newsletter was written in Publisher which would make it easy to use as a template for future newsletters. BPRI is interested in understanding priority areas of focus for their future work with the Bertrand. The Board will try to provide 2-3 top priorities for them. Mary also reported that the report presented to the Georgia Basin Transboundary Conference will convey the WID's desire to see more water storage in BC. This would alleviate the summer low flows in the Bertrand and the winter high flows in the Fishtrap.

B. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- Fecal coliform database, charts – no report received this month. There was brief discussion about the elevated fecal numbers in the last months of 2008.
- Lummi gage project proposal – this was rated the top priority in the operating budget.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Pioneers in Conservation application should be determined in February.
- There are no other projects in the works right now.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – Dale met with a wetland biologist about providing a determination so that he could accurately prepare a cost/benefit on De Vries site. The work has been hindered by the snow.
- Stream Augmentation – Chuck Lindsey's report is not finished but should be shortly.
- Conservation and Efficiency – Tom's scope was reviewed. Pete moved we have Tom work on task #1 – surface to ground transfers with a budget of $5,550, Larry seconded, motion carried unanimously.

E. PUD pipeline

- PUD directed feasibility study – The draft report was received. Dale has reviewed it and found it generally good. He believes the costs are set quite high. Steve agreed but noted that was intentional as the contingencies surrounding such projects are almost always much higher than anticipated. The report considers several alternatives. It also puts into perspective the value of diverting water at Lynden rather than at the PUD and pumping it back upstream. The final report should be completed in the next few months.

F. Fishtrap District update

- John updated the board on the recent drainage activity. He noted that the NLWID was interested in pursuing joint insurance to save costs. Henry was going to check into the possibilities of this. The joint meeting with the Bertrand, NLWID, and the City of Lynden concerning drainage concerns and larger water issues is still being planned. John also noted that the Conservation District had completed a draft of

drainage ditch maintenance guidelines. He suggested the WID look at adopting this set of guidelines as guidance for ditch maintenance activities within the WID.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization – Hart Hodges discussed the cost of water report prepared last spring and wondered what we wanted to do with it to finalize it and what other questions would be prompted by the negotiations. The board will review it further and provide some direction. The report examines the cost of water based on each of the management options identified. It also examines the cost of water in other irrigated areas in order to put water costs into broader perspective.

B. Legislative Proposals – The projects submitted by the WID ranked #1 and #2 in the region for capital projects. Dale Brandland is one of two Senators who make recommendations as to which projects to fund. Dale assured the board that good projects, properly reviewed, would be ranked high in the funding decisions. He will check on the budget for these projects.

C. Grant Reduction – In the search for potential cuts the State is asking us to consider a 10% reduction in the 2007 Proviso. This would reduce the 2009 budget from $470,100 to $423,090. Peter moved to communicate our willingness to reduce the budget and to request some transfer of funds between budget components, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

D. Housing Proposals in Bertrand – Karen Steensma requested the WID review two new increased density housing proposals near Berthusen Park. The Board considered sending a letter of concern to the County stating that water concerns (both availability and effect on drainage) should be factored into the decision concerning the permits for these houses. There was reluctance to make an argument that there is not enough water in the area as the Board doesn't believe that to be the case. There was also a belief that the WID did not want to spend its resources on land use issues. Farm Friends was noted as a better forum for this discussion.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(Held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Vern adjourned the meeting at 4:06. The next Board meeting will be February 3.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:
February 3, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	_____ Steve Groen	__o__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	__x__ Larry De Haan *(phone)*	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__o__ Dale Buys	__x__ Skip Richards
__x__ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	_____ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	__x__ John Gillies	_____ Karen Steensma

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of January 6 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$274,989.45	$25,010.55
2007 Proviso	$631,190.00	$0.00	$276,447.65	$354,742.35
Fund Balance @ 2/3		($2,508.76)		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		$26,743.15		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$0.00		
TOTAL				
Available				$24,234.39
Outstanding bills				$16,086.90
Vern Vande Garde		$280.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$4,954.46		
Entrix - Jean Baldrige		$3,234.01		
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO		$6,708.11		
Reichhardt & Ebe - DOE #1		$910.32		
Accounts Payable		$0.00		
End of Month Balance				$8,147.49

Pete moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Larry seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Cross – Border Dialogue was the major topic presented by Mary. She had prepared letters for all the Canadian participants in the low flow tour this summer. She and Joannie are hoping that their presentation to the cross border conference next week would result in our project being selected for the high priority action list.
- Member Education – Mary was working with the BRPI to examine areas to increase member involvement. Contracting for water and system improvements seem to be the areas that would generate the most interest among the WID members.
- Henry noted that Karen Steensma has suggested trying to find ways to help energize the Langley Environmental Partners so that they could have some positive contributions to the upper Bertrand. The Board was open to listening how they could do so. Doug offered to check if Proviso dollars could be spent in Canada. Mary suggested that fostering more education about the CREP program might be a venue to pursue.

B. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- Fecal coliform database, charts
- Lummi gage project proposal, County funds

Karen did not get the report to us yet. However she noted that the tests were quite good overall with the exception of BJB. The board was inclined to take some additional water tests in strategic areas to try to isolate the source of ongoing problems at this station. It was noted that the problems that were associated with compost at the BC Hothouse Mushroom greenhouse were part of the drainage that would affect this station.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

Pioneers in Conservation application ranked 6th. Five were funded. We are encouraged to submit for the final round of funding in March.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – Dale – cost/benefit on De Vries site
- Stream Augmentation – Chuck Lindsey report
- Conservation and Efficiency – Tom's scope

Dale was ill and not able to report on these projects. Tom was out of town and had the surface to groundwater conversion project "on hold" for awhile. The Board discussed what were the most likely candidates for completing this conversion within the short funding window available to us.

E. Fishtrap District update

John reported on the recent meeting between the NLWID and City of Lynden staff. Steve Seymour was also involved. This group is setting up a larger meeting of public officials in April. Stormwater and flood management in the Fishtrap system will predominate due to the recent flood events. The Bertrand WID will not be directly involved but an invited guest. Mary is helping to arrange logistics for this meeting. She suggested that a connection to the BC governments that have indicated a plan to clean ditches to convey water quicker might be in order so they can see the effects of such an action.

III. New Business

A. WWU Cost Optimization – cost of water report – feedback to Hart Hodges is still welcomed and appreciated. Hart will finalize the report in the next few months.

B. Legislative Proposals – The capital budget request seems to be moving along. Henry indicated he was hoping to convince Kelli to allow us to extend the date of the Proviso grant as that would allow us to remain a meaningful participant in the water negotiations and would allow us to more prudently apply the remaining funds rather than to spend them rapidly or turn them back.

C. Natural Resources Bank - Henry outlined his idea of trying to blend water and land use issues into a natural resources bank. He has a local resident interested in helping to develop this idea. Heather McKay's qualifications were briefly discussed.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(Held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

March 3

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for:

March 3, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

___x__ Vern VandeGarde	__0__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
___x__ Pete Vlas	__x__ Larry De Haan	
___x__ Henry Bierlink	___x_ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
___x_ Terry Holland	__x___ Beth Chisolm	__x__ Steve Seymour
___x_ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	__x___ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	__x__ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
__x__ Karen Welch	__x___ Owen Gosal	__x__ John Gillies
__x__ Holly Hinman		

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of February 3 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

		Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1		$300,000.00	$25,101.52	$300,090.97	-$90.97
2007 Proviso		$631,190.00	$31,192.78	$307,640.43	$323,549.57
Fund Balance @ 3/3			$24,409.36		
Accounts Receivable - WA State			$0.00		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement			$56,294.30		
	TOTAL Available				$80,703.66
Outstanding bills					$29,861.31
	Vern Vande Garde		$210.00		
	Whatcom Farm Friends		$4,178.86		
	Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO		$25,472.45		
Accounts Payable			$16,086.90		
End of Month Balance					$34,755.45

Marty made the motion, Pete seconded
Consent agenda was approved

II. Old Business

A. WID Education (Mary & Beth)

- Draft framework for education document

Seeking feedback from board

Mary Dumas provided a draft document as a handout that offers a framework for Bertrand WID's education and outreach strategy. She asked the board to offer her guidance as to what areas to focus on, since the draft offers very broad suggestions. She will send out an email to board members on Friday that asks for feedback. Mary suggests the focus for education/outreach and then seeking funding that meets those goals.

- Cross – Border Dialogue
  - April 15 Bertrand Enhancement Society meeting
  - Stacia's work with Cross Border Institute

Mary reported that she and Joanie made a presentation at a recent cross border issues symposium. Mary will also attend the Bertrand Enhancement Society meeting on 4/15 in Langley. Henry may go as well. NSEA will also be presenting at that meeting.

Mary is working with a grad student at WWU, Stacia, who is in the Cross Border Institute program. Stacia provided assistance with the draft framework document and will be working to support the WID's cross border communications.

- Beth on Whatcom County & Setback Issues
  - The Conservation District offers free technical assistance to any county landowner who must comply with the 100' setback from waterways. If these landowners submit a Farm Plan to the county they can reduce the distance of the required setback and avoid the $200 "fee" that County officials send with a letter to the landowner if they are in violation of the policy. She wants WID board members to help spread the word to encourage landowners to be proactive about compliance and use the services that Conservation District is offering.

Steve mentioned that there is a need to support berry growers in writing farm plans, especially in communicating with the East Indian community.

B. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- Fecal coliform followup on Jackman Ditch

Karen provided a monthly water quality report handout and said that they have selected 4 sites where water samples would be taken twice this month in the effort to identify sources of fecal coliform. Some of the cost for this testing will be absorbed by available extra funds, but the WID can expect to pay a little extra for this testing.

C. Fish passage\Habitat (Steve)

- Pioneers in Conservation application resubmittal

The Chuck Lindsay report is finally available as of last Friday. This data will be helpful in moving forward with the Pioneers in Conservation application since they

were reluctant to approve it without this information.

- Salmon Summit – March 12

Salmon Summit is coming up. Presentations all day at St. Luke's Community Health Education Center in Bellingham. Henry will attend afternoon sessions, but can't be there in the morning. Holly Hinman will attend morning sessions to take notes and John Gillies was also registered to attend.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – Dale – cost/benefit on De Vries site, biological opinion

A biological opinion is needed by a wetland biologist to move forward but the recent snow has postponed this effort.

- Stream Augmentation – Chuck Lindsay report

The report results are now available and are promising that this strategy could work. Projected CFS is higher than was originally expected. However, it also looks like there will be enough of an impact on Gilliam's well that something will have to be done to mitigate that impact. Dale asked if anyone wanted a full copy of the report and offered to email it to any board member who requested a copy. There was some debate about whether to send a copy of the report to the Lummi. It was decided to do so.

  - Status of the Capital Budget request

    Request for additional funding is still being considered by the legislature. However State is concerned about the sustainability of the project. Who will pay the operating costs for the ongoing maintenance?

- Conservation and Efficiency – Tom

Tom is working with Marty, Greg Smit, and Larry DeHaan on implementation of irrigation boom equipment to lower water use. Marty needs to meet with Ecology to discuss his circumstances. Tom to meet with Larry today if time permits, and Greg Smit would like to wait on implementation for now. Tom asked if anyone else knew of possible candidates? It was mentioned that both Gilliam and Edaleen had tried it but were no longer using it. Suggestion to Tom was to speak to those two to seek their feedback on why it didn't work for them.

E. PUD pipeline

- PUD directed feasibility study – draft report received, Dale's review

The future of the project is still on hold due to lack of funding. PUD study is done, but still needs to be finalized by their consultant.

G. Fishtrap District update (John)

- April meeting with Lynden on north county storm water management

John reported a tentative date for 4/21 for a North County water meeting. Fishtrap is calling the meeting. Includes city of Lynden, Bertrand WID.

He gave a summary of this morning's North Lynden WID meeting to review stormwater flow modeling data with Hydrologic Services. Joanie presented modeling data that shows 70-84% of flow is coming from Canada. Options for stormwater management were discussed. Options that move water south faster will affect Lynden.

III. New Business

A. Proviso Extension and refocusing request - approx $250k – negotiations, bank, Fishtrap, monitoring, administration

Proviso grant is scheduled to end in June but we're asking the legislature to extend it. Henry referred to a handout addressing how we may apply the remaining funds. If we keep working at our current rate we'll have $250K unspent in June. Do we want to get aggressive now about spending the money in case the extension is not approved? Henry has a number of calls with Kelli Linville's office. They are coordinating the request. We don't know anything definitive yet.

Doug added that although the funding for the negotiation project was possibly in jeopardy, it looks like we'll be able to keep $150K after all. ($250K is needed to sustain this project for the entire year however.)

Mary suggested setting a "go" date for when to ramp up and spend as much as possible if they continue to postpone an answer.

B. Natural Resources Bank (Henry)

Handout: Henry shared the NRB outline proposal that WFF has begun to develop. Heather MacKay's draft.

C. Interlocal Agreement with Whatcom Conservation District

Pete moved that we establish an interlocal agreement with CD. Marty seconded. Motion approved. The interlocal agreement will be the framework for specific tasks to be accomplished between Bertrand WID and CD.

D. Land Use request – Steensma

Henry offered a handout: a copy of email from Karen Steensma requesting support to oppose some proposed development in the Bertrand watershed. Consensus was that this is a Farm Friends issue not a WID issue.

E. Owen Gosal's comments re. Guide Drainage

Owen presented about frustration with drainage around the Guide.
He was encouraged to get a hydraulic permit to clean ditches. We said we'd help him get a permit. He should contact WDFW for his permit and DOT for permission to clean the ditch.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology.

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

We didn't get to this item – would have needed to be in an Executive Session (after all non-board members had been excused). No new info was shared. On 3/5 there will be the next negotiation meeting in Bellingham.

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Next meeting: April 7
Meeting adjourned at 3:54p

Respectfully submitted by Holly Hinman, WFF Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: April 7, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

WID Commissioners Attending:

x	Vern VandeGarde	x	Steve Groen (via phone)		Marty Maberry
	Pete Vlas	x	Larry De Haan		

Other Attendees:

x	Henry Bierlink	x	Dale Buys		Greg Ebe
	Terry Holland		Beth Chisolm		Steve Seymour
x	Doug Allen		Sue Blake	x	Tom Anderson
x	Mary Dumas		Joanne Greenberg		Steve Jilk
x	Bill Verwolf		Tom Buroker		Karen Steensma
	Karen Welch	x	John Gillies	x	Holly Hinman

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of March 3 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$300,090.97	-$90.97
2007 Proviso	$631,190.00	$62,130.85	$369,771.28	$261,418.72
Fund Balance @ 4/6		($21,284.33)		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		56,294.30		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$62,130.85		
TOTAL				
Available				$97,140.82
Outstanding bills				$61,480.85
Vern Vande Garde		$700.00		
Whatcom Farm Friends		$17,031.59		
USGS - gages		$19,440.00		
Entrix - Jan -Feb		$8,591.85		
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO		$15,717.41		
Accounts Payable		$29,861.31		
End of Month Balance				$35,659.97

Steve moved approval of the Consent agenda, Larry seconded, motion passed unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. WID Education

- Framework for future education activities

Mary thanked the board for reviewing the survey she sent recently. All these methods are designed to be standalone on a project by project basis. Pick and choose what you want to move ahead with. Now is the time to start creating staff work plans

We have 4 hours a week with the border research institute intern through June. She's mainly interested in writing newsletter articles for you. You just have to come up with feature article topics, interviewee(s) and focus for the articles and she'll write them. BPRI is interested in continuing work with you but we need to be clear about what we want them to do.

Conservation District – Beth would really like to get her farm plan program going. Can we come up with a candidate she can work with so we can get a good article out of it?

Cross – Border Dialogue May 20 Bertrand Enhancement Society meeting - NSEA will attend the May 20 meeting (Wed night) in BC. Goal: identify streamside projects up there and they are looking to NSEA's successful work. Group has been dormant but is now re-engaging so they want to grab onto a project that gets people excited.

B. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

Fecal count issue: can we use this data to publicize it and turn it into an education opportunity?

Mary: You keep saying "hold off" but I'm afraid you'll miss your window of opportunity to do some education with your members before summer.
Then conversation turned to how can we write an article about it when we don't *really* know who the culprit is. Culprit first or education first? Mary is suggesting they not sit on this forever. Suggestion: get Jason/Mak to come up here and take more samples but not under the auspices of a formal investigation. As long as the board is ok with that.
Mary: It seems to me that the WID is in the role of accountability for these issues.
John: I see a problem here from my experience with EPA. The person who is in the role of enforcer should NOT be giving advice about how to fix the problem b/c then when other agencies tell to do something else.
The Plan: Doug will talk to Mac, Henry will talk to Jason

There is a map of the water quality issues in the packet from Joanne and Karen – testing
Larry: I took a drive in Canada recently and it would be worthwhile to do some more inspection/monitoring up there? Horse pastures and mushroom farm especially. This has been going on through the month of March. Fecal counts are highest at BJ-B3
Mary: do you want me to spend some of my cross border time investigating that?
Henry: the problem with fecal – you need to collect data over a long time to get reliable information. We used to stand out as the best, and in recent months we're showing up as worst.
Mary: That's not in our favor when we're looking for money.
Doug: We need to hone in on BJB3 locally first and then look at Canada.
Larry: Let's move to BJB2 north of H St. next so we can isolate the problem more
Henry: So we don't need an ***additional site***, but rather move the monitoring location? Will someone remind me how much this additional testing costing us again? We need to get our data better before we try to go to the Canadians for further dialog.
Mary: I can ask the WWU group to review the regulations information they have collected for info on the mushroom farm. They have this documentation in hand and won't have to call anyone up there.

Henry: As long as it doesn't end up costing us a bunch of money to have them do that research.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Pioneers in Conservation application

Henry reported the application was submitted and we should know about the decision by late April.

- Salmon Summit – report

Salmon Summit: John gave a quick summary about the keynote speaker. Doom and gloom for Puget Sound except that Whatcom County has some chance to restore salmon habitat – could be good news or bad news depending on where you sit.
Question: Who is there? Mostly students?
John: Not necessarily. Maybe 1/3 students. Not enough landowners come. You guys would do well to make a showing there. An opportunity to see many colleagues in the area of water quality.

- Guide Meridian ditch

Mary: The only ditch cleaning efforts I've heard about up north is by Alderwood Mall. Taking garbage out only. Ecology just sent in comments on the gravel pit project in the Fishtrap drainage.
Henry: This project is a personal project for Owen so I don't want to spend a lot of the WID's time on it but he will help Owen try to get his permit applications in.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Storage Survey – Dale – cost/benefit on De Vries site, biological opinion

DeVries visit: still waiting to get a report. There was a woman out in Larry's field taking samples recently who said she was working under R&E but she was on Larry's land.

- Stream Augmentation – Chuck Lindsey report
  - Status of the Capital Budget request – Doug noted that the Senate budget allowed for $8 million, the House for only $4 million.
- Conservation and Efficiency – Tom

Tom: His exploration correlates with Craig McConnell's comments. What came out of efficiency side: Greg Ebe and Craig both support teaching farmers how to use less water. Greg's of the opinion that farmers overwater. But you've got to have an audience that cares.
John: It's not my experience that farmers overwater. What I've seen is farmers tend to supplement but not overwater in general. If you're using a big gun you can't cover more than 40-60 acres.
Tom: If we purchase some new, water efficient equipment then we can get other agencies to do the technical assistance for farmers.
Dale- suggested a method to have high school students collect some comparison data for a particular farmer and then you could turn it into a education opportunity by writing a newsletter article 'You all know XXX as a highly skilled farmer, but let us tell you how we helped him save X amount of dollars by reducing water usage in this case study. . .'
Henry: Shall we talk with Greg more? Pursue this.

E. Fishtrap District update

- April 21 meeting with Lynden on north county storm water management

Mary: The North County water meeting on April 21st. The team will be walking through the presentation with the NLWID commissioners at 10am next Monday, then meet again the afternoon for the presenters involved.
John - Joint meeting on Storm Water & Drainage Management is all set up (There was a handout in the packet-draft agenda)

John: Talked about the watershed report progress. Dale and I need to decide how to move ahead (it's a plan to make a plan). If we plan to maintain the drainage district it will affect Lynden??

III. New Business

A. Proviso Extension and refocusing request - approx $150k – negotiations, bank, Fishtrap, monitoring, administration

Henry started the meeting by reviewing the numbers. If we turn back about 153,000 plus the $47,010 previously returned, they think they can repackage that with a little extra money in a 2010/11 budget.
Henry: what do we want to do? We have a central question to answer. Spend it now as fast as we can OR do we risk staying in the game we should cut back on a few things.
Doug: we asked Kelli to not cut it out of the Ecology budget. He urged the WID to stay in touch with the Tribes on the new Proviso.
Doug: we got them to say that Walla Walla & Nooksack are watersheds of statewide significant b/c of our instream flow negotiation. So they gave us $250K for 2 years for the negotiations coordination.
Tom: If I were on the WID board I'd want to know if anything has happened to indicate encouragement for moving forward. If there was no hope we should just do what we can over the next few months and give up on being involved in the future negotiations.
Doug: Seems like we're making progress. Trickiest part will be getting past the forks agreement.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

May 5

Respectfully submitted by Holly Hinman, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: May 5, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Farm Friends Office 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

WID Commissioners Attending:

x	Vern VandeGarde		Steve Groen	x	Marty Maberry
	Pete Vlas	o	Larry De Haan		

Other Attendees:

	Henry Bierlink	x	Dale Buys		Greg Ebe
	Terry Holland		Beth Chisolm		Steve Seymour
x	Doug Allen		Sue Blake		Tom Anderson
x	Mary Dumas		Joanne Greenberg		Steve Jilk
x	Bill Verwolf		Tom Buroker		Karen Steensma
	Karen Welch	x	John Gillies	x	Holly Hinman

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda *(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).*

a. Review and Approval of April 7 Minutes
b. Financial Report
c. Payment of Bills

There was not a quorum at this meeting, so the consent agenda was not passed.

II. Old Business

A. <u>WID Education</u>

- **Cross – Border Dialogue** (Mary Dumas)
  - **May 20 Bertrand Enhancement Society meeting**. NSEA is organizing some vans to get people up there.
  - **Intern Availability** - reminder that we've got intern hours to use. She has put together some ideas for how to get information out in other people's newsletters. She's available to write an article for you. Possible story: the May 20 meeting. OR Whatcom CD program that features the WID as a problem solving agency. She needs to know soon so she can complete an article by June. She's got 4 hours a week.
- **WID Website** – (Holly Hinman) A basic website structure is now available.
  - Discussion regarding what kinds of content should be available for the public: Water quality reports, State of the Watershed reports, events, grant report documentation. Mary will provide a template to help set guidelines for what should be public info and what should be protected on the site.

- **Possible presentation opportunity** for a WID commissioner at a conference first week of November. Mary will report back with more information at next meeting.

B. Monitoring – Dale, Karen

- **Fecal coliform followup on Jackman Ditch** – Numbers indicate contamination may be coming from Canada. Need to continue to work toward isolation of source. Need to record 3-4 months of solid data before beginning a cross-border discussion.
- **Future of gages/monitoring** – Need to scale back on monitoring for now to adjust for grant money extension.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback - Henry

- **Pioneers in Conservation application** - Grant application is turned in. It's worth $75K total, with $30K request for the iron removal.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- **Storage Survey** – Dale – cost/benefit on De Vries site, biological opinion
  A low grade wetland was found on the site. If we dig a pond we could actually get a credit for it. If a shelf is built along the edge it can sustain different species habitats.

- **Stream Augmentation** – Status of the Capital Budget request
  Doug will provide an update ASAP regarding status. Sites will need to be transitioned starting now if the money is no longer available.

- **Conservation and Efficiency** – Henry
  Given our current money / budget issues we're putting these projects on hold so Tom didn't attend today

E. PUD pipeline

- Nothing to report this time.

F. North Lynden WID Update (John Gillies)

- **Watershed Report** – Conservation District is hosting an FTP site where the watershed report sections are being uploaded. Sections are being completed now and Holly Hinman will assemble and format the document.
- **4/21 Joint Meeting re. Stormwater Management** –Canadian contacts attended. Meeting met the goal of being a broad discussion of issues and of raising awareness amongst various stakeholders.

III. New Business

A. Proviso Extension and refocusing request (Henry)
We turn back an additional $152,990 – in return we will receive $300k for negotiations, bank, Fishtrap, monitoring, administration. Good news is we got more than we thought we would, but the intention is for the money to be shared amongst more than one group. The Bertrand will get some, but it's also for WIRA1. This grant is more general than the previous one. Does include support for water banking and in-stream flow negotiations, but the rest is less defined.

B. Budget Amendment proposal
Henry estimates that 50K will be easily taken up with negotiations going and basic survival for the boards, but there won't be a lot of money for real projects. To keep moving forward with water banking we'll need to bring in more people (legal etc.)
Doug: monitoring money is becoming scarce. We need to begin a cooperative/shared process with all interested stakeholders.

Henry: We've got 45K to spend in the next two months so where are we going to spend it? We have to balance all the contractor work, and put some projects on hold.

C. Natural Resources Bank

Henry: Heather is working on this, city of Bellingham involved. I'm hopeful.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology.
(Executive Session was confidential)

Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes

- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

June 2, 2009

Respectfully submitted by Holly Hinman, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District

Minutes for: June 2, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Farm Friends Office 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264
x = present o = absent with notice

WID Commissioners Attending:

x	Vern VandeGarde	o	Steve Groen	x	Marty Maberry - *via teleconference*
x	Pete Vlas	o	Larry De Haan		

Other Attendees:

x	Henry Bierlink		Dale Buys		Greg Ebe
x	Terry Holland - *via teleconference*		Beth Chisolm	x	Steve Seymour
x	Doug Allen - *via teleconference*		Sue Blake		Tom Anderson
	Mary Dumas		Joanne Greenberg		Steve Jilk
	Bill Verwolf		Tom Buroker		Karen Steensma
	John Gillies		Karen Welch	x	Holly Hinman

I. Consent Agenda *(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).*

- **a.** Review and Approval of **May 5th** Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

We had an audit recently conducted by the State Auditor. They charged us $471 to provide it. The outcome is that we're doing everything right.
Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Pete, seconded by Marty.
Approved

Monthly Financial Report for June , 2009

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$300,090.97	-$90.97
2007 Proviso	$478,200.00	$0.00	$435,218.64	$42,981.36
Fund Balance @ 6/2		$13,363.29		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		61,619.51		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$0.00		
TOTAL Available				$74,982.80
Outstanding bills				$51,604.99
Vern Vande Garde	May	$140.00		

Whatcom Farm Friends	May	$4,216.90
Entrix - April		$5,124.01
Vern Vande Garde	April	$420.00
Whatcom Farm Friends	April	$13,170.05
Entrix - March		$7,625.33
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO	April	$20,437.70
State Auditor		$471.00

Accounts Payable
End of Month Balance $23,377.81

II. Old Business

Today's meeting was scaled back and a conference call option was made available to board members so that at a minimum the consent agenda could be approved. Not much of the old business presented on the original agenda was discussed.

C. Fish passage\Habitat\Levee Setback

- Pioneers in Conservation application

  The Pioneers in Conservation grant did NOT come through. We missed it by just a few points, which is disappointing. They didn't like the iron removal problems in the well.

D. Streamflow enhancement

- Stream Augmentation –

  Status of the Capital Budget request – Doug Allen
  There was a meeting this morning, but we didn't get as much info as I'd hoped for. Projects all over the state are vying for money. WAG (watershed advisory group) is in control. We're working hard to make sure that all the money doesn't go to the east side. The chances are still good that we'll get some funding, but we have to wait until WAG makes the final approval and priorities.

  Henry: Is there a date on this?

  Doug: They don't seem to be in a big hurry. WAG meets again next Monday. By end of next week we should have an idea which way they are going to go.

III. New Business

A. Proviso Extension and refocusing request - Status

BUDGET BY COMPONENT

		2010	2011
Component 1	**Project Administration, Public Education and Involvement**	**$60,000**	**$60,000**
Component 2	**Fishtrap Watershed Assessment and Plan**	**$20,000**	**$20,000**
Component 3	**Water Bank/Negotiation Support**	**$50,000**	**$50,000**
Component 4	**Monitoring and Reporting**	**$20,000**	**$20,000**
		$150,000	**$150,000**

Henry: We've got about $25K left in the Proviso grant. It will be tight. Jean Baldridge has a couple more meetings to go. About $17K left in there.

Henry: I need to talk to the tribes about the well at Larry's. Is Ecology ok with this, or do you want to pull the well too?

Doug: I don't think we'll be in a big hurry to decommission the well if we think we can still use it.

B. Discuss Conference call option for board meetings
Evaluation of use of teleconference for monthly board meetings – goal will be to have physical meetings quarterly – (Holly)

Vern: Marty are you comfortable with doing this via conference calling?
Marty: yes.
Henry: The goal here is to use this for monthly meetings and then only schedule an in person meeting once a quarter.
Holly: note after the fact – conference calling has a cost of .20/minute/line connected. So a 30 minute call with 10 participants would have a cost of $60.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

No Executive Session was held.

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

July 7, 2009
Respectfully submitted by Holly Hinman, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Meeting Minutes for:
August 4, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

x = present o = absent with notice

WID Commissioners Attending:

x	Vern VandeGarde		Steve Groen	x	Marty Maberry
x	Pete Vlas		Larry De Haan		

Other Attendees:

x	Henry Bierlink	x	Dale Buys		Greg Ebe
	Terry Holland		Beth Chisolm	x	Steve Seymour
	Doug Allen		Sue Blake	x	Tom Anderson
	Mary Dumas		Joanne Greenberg		Steve Jilk
	Bill Verwolf	x	Tom Buroker		Karen Steensma
x	John Gillies		Karen Welch		Holly Hinman
x	Heather Mckay				

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of June 2 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

2007 Proviso	$478,200.00	$45,073.69	$480,209.92	-$2,009.92
2009 PUD Interlocal	$117,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$117,000.00
2009 Capital Grant	$283,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$283,000.00

Fund Balance @ 7/9	$22,828.59	
Accounts Receivable - WA State	0.00	
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement	$45,073.69	
TOTAL Available		$65,801.39
Outstanding bills		$49,354.89

Whatcom Farm Friends	June, July	$13,748.20
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO	May	$11,140.06

Outstanding Bills Continued:

Entrix	June	$9,457.29
Entrix	May	$6,313.97
Reichhardt & Ebe - PRO	June	$5,484.09
Whatcom Farm Friends - CE		$200.00
B & C Well Drilling		$2,801.28
Vern Vande Garde	June	$210.00

Accounts Payable
End of Month Balance $16,446.50

Motion to approve consent agenda. Marty moved, Steve seconded. Motion carried.

II. Old Business

A. 2007 Proviso Wrap-up

- Budget Report
  - $2000 over budget at end of grant
- Access to Final Grant Reports
  - www.bertrandwid.com has the grant report documents available

B. Natural Resources Marketplace

Introducing Heather McKay
Heather has been providing her expertise in the area of developing a Natural Resources Marketplace concept. She has lived here in Lynden for the past 4 years, but previously lived in South Africa. A lifetime civil servant for the South African Water Ministry (government). Heather has been working with Belisles on the 4 mile creek project. She's also involved with United Nations environment conventions. The head offices are in Switzerland but she's able to work from here. She "fills in the sandwich between the scientists to the diplomats". South Africa is very Dutch so she feels right at home in Lynden. Her husband's mining career brings them here. She also does some work through UBC. Heather is well connected with many people who have been successfully implementing natural resources banking, so for what she's not experienced in, she has the right contacts to reach out to.

Introducing Commodification of Natural Resources
With ideas like Water Banking: trick is to make this thing big enough to do something good, but also focused enough to be practical.

Natural Resources Marketplaces have a solid history in other countries. Water/wetland/habitat banking lend themselves well to integration of land and water use. A water bank on its own is viable, but diversifying it to include other components like wetlands and water quality mitigation offers a number of opportunities: better ways of managing water, ways to tie land/water more closely, generation of alternative revenue streams for farmers. Ag land if well managed can offer ecosystem services like water remediation. We've been exploring if we have enough value here to make it work. Not just trading water rights, but water quality

credits can be traded too.

Although it's difficult to quantify the real value of preserving open spaces and Ag land (it's really more than the monetary value of a development right) this process helps to bring the hidden value to light. Puts these things back on the balance sheet.

We've been talking about this for about a year now. Whatcom Farm Friends has been the lead, but many agencies involved to date. PUD, WSU, County, Ecology.

Next phase will be the technical feasibility. We need to quantify the value, determine the costs, and clearly identify who might want to participate. After that it will be time to begin presenting the information more widely to stakeholders.

As the project develops the Ruckelshaus Center will likely take a role as a neutral facilitator to bring the discussion to the next level: http://ruckelshauscenter.wsu.edu/ (RC is a non profit environmental dispute resolution entity that is a collaboration between WSU and UW.)

- Natural Resources Marketplace Tour on August 5th

  See handout provided at today's meeting for details.

  Tomorrow: tour of 3 possible pieces of land where we might be able to generate ecosystem services. This will help to make the concepts concrete and start to crunch some real numbers on how to determine value. 3 sites:
  - 4 mile creek site (BelleWood Acres) temperature credits. Dorie has been taking data for 6 years.
  - Water right vs. development right trade
  - Flood management credits (say to a public utility or city of Lynden)

C. Project Management
- Monitoring
  - There is no funding for this any longer. NWIC will continue some basic monitoring of gages, but fecal counts are not funded.
- Augmentation
- Storage
- Pipeline
- Habitat
- Drainage

D. WID Education

E. Fishtrap District update

John Gillies spoke about the completion of the North Lynden (Fishtrap) WID Watershed Report. The document is now published at www.northlyndenwid.com and at www.bertrandwid.com . Now that the watershed is much better documented the next steps might be to go to Lynden and begin collaborating on how farmers might help in the efforts to retaining stormwater to keep it out of the city's stormwater system. NLWID's next big issue is an acute need for ditch maintenance (cleaning). This is being held up – Fish & Wildlife is

asking the County to pay $300K for revegetation mitigation and County is resisting. We may not get work done this season.

III. New Business

A. 2009 Proviso contract

See handout provided for today's meeting.

The new grant is for $300K over two years: $150K per year. Three main agencies are beneficiaries listed below. Allocated dollars per year:

$60K to Lummis for gaging
$65K to PUD (Bertrand WID gets most of this money, PUD will administer the grant this time under Task 6 – all other tasks are for Betrand WID)
$25K to Whatcom County for watershed planning implementation

B. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project

$283K grant – yet to be approved. Waiting for some more definition of the proposal from Dale and R&E.

C. Consideration of Administration Contract

With the transition to the new Proviso, the Bertrand WID board may want to reconsider Henry's/WFF's administration of the board. No decision made, but there did not seem to be a feeling of a need to change.

D. Future WID Meeting Schedule

Consideration of whether a monthly meeting is needed. For now, we will proceed with every other month, and Henry will look into the legality of less than monthly meetings. Henry and Heather will provide monthly email updates to the board at a minimum.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(May be held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
  -
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
  -
- Contracts with landowners
  -

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

To be determined

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Meeting Minutes for:
October 6, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm

Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

x = present o = absent with notice

WID Commissioners Attending:

x	Vern VandeGarde	x	Steve Groen	x	Marty Maberry
	Pete Vlas	o	Larry De Haan		

Other Attendees:

x	Henry Bierlink	x	Dale Buys		Greg Ebe
	Terry Holland		Beth Chisolm	x	Steve Seymour
x	Doug Allen		Sue Blake		Tom Anderson
	Mary Dumas		Joanne Greenberg	x	Steve Jilk
	Bill Verwolf		Tom Buroker		Karen Steensma
x	John Gillies		Karen Welch	x	Holly Hinman

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

a. Review and Approval of August 4 Minutes

b. Financial Report

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$300,000.00	$0.00
2007 Proviso	$478,200.00	$0.00	$478,200.00	$0.00
2009 PUD Interlocal	$117,000.00	$12,257.50	$0.00	$117,000.00
2009 Capital Grant	$283,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$283,000.00
Fund Balance @ 10/5		$16,585.14		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		0.00		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$12,257.50		
TOTAL				
Available				$28,842.64
Outstanding bills				$14,252.50
Whatcom Farm Friends		$11,312.50		
Enduris		$2,450.00		
Vern Vande Garde		$490.00		
Accounts Payable				
End of Month Balance				$14,590.14

c. Payment of Bills
- Bill for Farm Friends is Henry's time. Insurance bill is due. $2450. Vern's pro bono time. We have $16,000 in the bank and if we pay this we're down to $14,000. All our bills are paid up at the moment.

II. Steve Groen moves to approve consent agenda, Marty seconds. Motion passes.

II. Old Business

A. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project
   a. Easement
   b. Monitoring/gaging

Chuck Lindsay came back with a $30,000 budget for showing the drawdown of the well won't impair or negatively affect flows in Bertrand Creek when we're pumping. The question to Doug is do we need to spend 30-50,000 dollars to convince Tom Culhane that it's ok to proceed. Tom is looking at a modeling program you can punch in the amount of water, distance from creek etc. for a period of time and see if you're being effective. Marty noted that it depends on the model. If the model is wrong the data will be wrong. So many things go into hydraulic modeling. Doug will work with Tom, Chuck, and Dale to determine what has to be done to proceed.

Doug stated that because this is a capital grant it's not eligible for routine O&M expenses. Henry reported we've taken O&M out of the budget.

Karen said we need to do spot monitoring. Doug felt that the Rathbone gage would be sufficient. We have to choose the right 6 month window for monitoring. Marty asked if we going to check the iron content in the well or in the stream. Steve reported that iron is an easy to thing to measure. We should test upstream, and downstream and also from the well itself. The iron doesn't seem to hurt the fish. It will turn the water orange and so you'll have some people looking and wondering what you've done. Doug wonder about the iron that settles on the bottom. Does it affect spawning? Steve believes the rain flushes it out.

Henry mentioned that the current wells are a management problem for Larry. Last year we paid him $10,000 for the land and the trouble. What about this year? We want to treat him fairly. He doesn't have a figure in kind but we should be planning for something.

Dale observed that implementation will be different in that we'll have the iron treatment set up. If we need to mitigate for Jackman the iron treatment needs to be prior to Jackman.

B. Natural Resources Marketplace

Henry reported that Heather is in Nairobi right now but will be back soon. There have been several briefings for potential project partners recently. Henry went over the flowchart handout provided at the meeting and discussed the case studies. Steve Jilk echoed that this ecosystems services concept is being used all over the country now, although "marketplace" is a relatively new term (last 4-5 years).
- Questions about how it will be managed: it's a multi-agency approach. Has to be a public entity.

- Henry and others stressed that this is an opportunity for the WID to take leadership. If the WID doesn't lead it, someone else will.
- Because the concept is still in development and fairly complex, it's best to not talk too widely about it until the case studies can be defined more clearly for presentation.
- More workgroup meetings starting mid October when Heather is back to define the case studies better.

C. Project Management

- Monitoring – no new information
- Storage– no new information
- Pipeline – no new information
- Habitat - Steve S reported that the formation of the WIDs has provided him access to stakeholders I haven't had before. I still have to work with individual landowners. I'm pretty positive about it. I'd like to see a WID in every basin. Needs to be assessing more tax so you can actually get something done.
- Drainage – no new information

D. WID Education

The interlocal grant requires a draft PIE plan by the end of October. Mary Dumas provided an outline for the plan earlier this year. Vern asked for a motion to approve Mary's plan. Marty moves, Steve Groen seconds. Motion carries.

E. Fishtrap District update

John reported that nothing happened this year in terms of maintenance. We're working on a 5 year HPA. George Boggs will draft the 5 year HPA. We're not reinventing the wheel: King County example. We just completed a plan with the Bertrand as a template but we did get some information we didn't have before. My personal goal is getting the board to use the information.

III. New Business

A. Board membership – elections

Terms are expiring for Larry De Haan and Steve Groen. A proposed notice –

PUBLIC NOTICE – Bertrand and North Lynden Watershed Improvement Districts

Residents within the Bertrand and North Lynden Watershed Improvement Districts have an opportunity to:
1) Nominate candidates for election to the Board of the District – two positions in Bertrand, two in North Lynden – candidates must file with the secretary of the district a declaration in writing of their candidacy, or a petition of nomination signed by at least ten qualified electors of the district, not later than five o'clock p.m. on the first Monday in November.
2) Inspect the 2010 Assessment Role and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in the Bertrand will be heard at 2pm, December 1, 2009, for North Lynden at 10am, November 17, 2009, both at the District's office. The Assessment Roles for both Districts are available for inspection from October 14 to November 2.

Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts' offices located at:
Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
North Lynden Watershed Improvement District
1796 Front Street, Lynden

B. 2010 APPROVED BUDGET AND SETTING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RATE
Steve G. moved to approve Resolution 2009-1, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-1

2010 APPROVED BUDGET
AND SETTING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RATE

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Bertrand Watershed Improvement District (WID) have approved the attached budget for the succeeding year, and

WHEREAS, the Bertrand WID may incur indebtedness prior to a levy, not to exceed fifty cents/acre, and which shall be assessable against the lands in the WID. (RCW 87.03.475) This indebtedness may be used for necessary costs and expenses of organizing, surveys, engineering work, feasibility of a proposed irrigation project, ordinary administrative affairs, and ordinary expenses of operation and maintenance of an irrigation system. The board may issue warrants for the payment of any indebtedness incurred under this section, and amount of all warrants shall be included in the next annual levy for payment of expenses of operation and maintenance

WHEREAS, according to RCW 87.03.475 the board may issue warrants for the payment of any indebtedness incurred under this section, which shall bear interest at a rate or rates determined by the board, and it shall include in its next annual levy for the payment of the expenses of operation and maintenance, the amount of all warrants issued by virtue hereof

WHEREAS, RCW 87.03.475 specifies that the maximum indebtedness hereby authorized by the WID not exceed one dollar per acre of the total irrigable area within the district

WHEREAS, the Bertrand WID has incurred expenses used for necessary costs and expenses of organizing, surveys, engineering work, feasibility of a proposed irrigation project, ordinary administrative affairs, and ordinary expenses of operation and maintenance of an irrigation system.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Bertrand Watershed Improvement District direct a special assessment for 2010 in the amount of **$.50** per acre for all parcels exceeding 3 acres within the boundaries of the District, and that said assessment, shall be imposed pursuant to the system of assessment established by the County.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2009

2010 Budget

Income	
2010 Assessments	$ 5,825
Project Grants, Interlocals	$ 300,000
	$ 305,825

Expenses

Directors Insurance	$ 2,425
Board Meetings & Education	$ 2,400
Projects	$ 300,000
Administration	$ 1,000
	$ 305,825

C. ESTABLISH 2010 ASSESSMENT ROLE
Steve G. moved to approve Resolution 2009-2, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-2

ESTABLISH 2010 ASSESSMENT ROLE

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Bertrand Watershed Improvement District (WID) has approved the attached assessment role for the succeeding year, and

WHEREAS, the Bertrand WID has prepared an Assessment Role according to RCW 87.03.260 and RCW 87.03.270

WHEREAS, the Bertrand WID has maintained a parcel list and reviewed and edited the list according to the criteria and boundaries established in the organization of the Irrigation District

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Bertrand Watershed Improvement District submit the attached list of parcels as the 2010 Assessment Role

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2009

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(Held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

November 3 *(tentative)*
December 1

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, WID Administrator

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Minutes for:
December 1, 2009 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

___x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
___x__ Pete Vlas	__0__ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	___x_ Dale Buys	_____ Greg Ebe
____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	__x__ Steve Seymour
___x_ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
__x__ Mary Dumas	____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
____ Karen Welch	____ John Gillies	
__x__ Holly Hinman		

x = present o = absent with notice

The Bertrand WID opened the meeting as a board of equalization. The required public notice went to the paper to let people know they can express their grievance about assessment rates. No complaints have been registered.

I. Consent Agenda

a. Review and Approval of October 6 Minutes

b. Financial Report

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
DOE Grant #1	$300,000.00	$0.00	$300,000.00	$0.00
2007 Proviso	$478,200.00	$0.00	$478,200.00	$0.00
2009 PUD Interlocal	$117,000.00	$20,122.00	$32,379.50	$84,620.50
2009 Capital Grant	$283,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$283,000.00
Fund Balance @ 11/30		$16,894.97		
Accounts Receivable - WA State		0.00		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$20,122.00		
TOTAL Available				$37,016.97
Outstanding bills				$19,887.00
Whatcom Farm Friends		$19,582.00		
Enduris		$25.00		
Vern Vande Garde		$280.00		
Accounts Payable End of Month Balance				$17,129.97

c. Payment of Bills
Large one for Farm Friends – Heather (and intern for $10/hr for 100 hours), Henry, Holly, John Gillies (Fishtrap WID), water conference.
We'll keep some interns going on this project as we go.
Marty moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Peter seconded. Motion carries.

II. Old Business

A. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project
   a. Easement
   b. Monitoring/gaging

Doug noted we need to fill out a water right application for the augmentation well. We need to get a read on the native tribes as to whether they will object. Vern was authorized to sign the water right packet.

Doug: The Lummi's always 'protest' so they can get a full copy of all records. Then they decide.

Henry: How that turns out will have some bearing on whether we proceed.

Mary: There were guidelines about these transitions in the beginning. An MOU and stuff in the QUAPP.

Doug: I suspect they'll want conditions put on the permit. Re: 'If you stop using the well for augmentation you decommission it.' Which I think is reasonable. If we suggest some conditions it might be a bargaining point.

Henry: Decommissioning costs money. Who will pay?

Dale: Analysis of anticipated benefits was a condition put on us by DOE above and beyond Doug's control. They want analysis of groundwater flow.

Henry: Operational conditions is for documenting that we are not simply circulation water.

Vern: Chuck's report wasn't good enough?

Dale: That's right. They want more/different data.

Doug: We tried to make the case that it's far enough away etc. that there won't be impact, but were not successful. I personally feel the model is not accurate enough to give good data, but they insisted it was 'cheap and easy' to run the model. In the past there have been projects that were approved with too loose of science, so this is what he's been asked to do to address that.

Henry: Task 3 is permits/easements for Larry. He's still reluctant to give us a price, but we need to make an offer. We need to decide.

Steve: Once it's up and running do you need to get in there to get access to it?

Dale: Yes. We don't have the money to bury pipe, so we do need to go on the property. We're planning to use flexible hose.

Marty: How many feet would you have to bury to get out of Larry's way?

Dale: 1600 feet.

Marty: What's the price difference between flexible hose and 6 in pipe? I've got a trencher. If we could pay my guys I'd be happy.

Pete: You have to move that flexible pipe every year and how long would it last anyway?

Dale: 5-7 years.

Pete: We need to figure out how to bury pipe.

Marty: if this works and can pump 4 times as much water in, what's the chance we could expand this project?

Dale: even with 2 cfs we're going to impact other nearby wells.

Marty: impact yes, but will you damage the practical functionality of those wells? It will recharge.

Moved onto discussion of iron in the water.

Henry: We can keep punting this question, but we eventually need to put something in the budgets for permits and easements.

Doug: The nice thing about capital grants is they are not use it or lose it.

Henry: That's helpful. We can save now. Continuing with the budget; admin is our time here at WFF office. Component 4 is Joanie & Karen. What's our conclusion on this?

Marty: we have pretty good evidence that we can get water in the stream this way.

Doug: We'd like to think of this as an ongoing, long term solution. Right now there's not committed funds for ongoing operations. We're asking these questions too.

Marty: It's my opinion that it's worth doing. It gives us one potential we can expand on. If indeed the issue is fish and streamflow this is an opportunity to solve this. It can't hurt us if we go to court. It can't hurt us politically. At least we can say we tried something. It would put water in the most critical part of the stream.

Steve G: Politically it's a great point of reconciliation.

Vern: We've got the money right now. If we wait, our chances of getting this again in a couple of years are a lot less. If the negotiations go "boom" at least we tried.

Doug: I do think as far as opportunity goes, if we had to process a new grant application it could be tough.

Henry: Steve (Seymour), is this a good way to spend money for fish?

Steve S: If it weren't for the iron I'd be all for it. It will turn a section of creek orange that previously hasn't been orange. People are going to see that and you'll have to deal with communications about it. But if it could lead later to a project that could put 3-4 cfs in the creek that would be great.

Marty: I really believe if you look at the Bertrand we can get more flow in there if we can get the tribes and DOE to agree to our methods.

B. Natural Resources Marketplace
- Interns
- Briefings

Henry handed out the 'Debits & Credits Within a Watershed' diagram handout. The ideas is we'd generate changes in law such that about a year from now we'll be instituting this system.

Marty: What's the tribes' take on this?

Henry: We've been briefing them all along. Haven't gotten a face to face meeting with them just yet, but hopefully by mid December Heather & I will go out there to talk personally with them.

Doug: I think they're hesitant to talk too much while things are in flux with the negotiations, but I think everyone realized that we have to come up with a program sooner or later.

Marty: If the state is in a position to say this plan looks good to them I'd feel better when we know that. Does DOE really have to go to the legislature legally?

Doug: From our standpoint, does DOE want to deal with it on a case by case basis and deal with an appeal on every one, or do we want to get it solved at an overarching level and get it over with?

Henry: the funding that's been carrying Heather and I so far is about to run out. So we're working on continued funding and filling funding gaps with the Land/Water integration Concept budget. We're looking at a 2 year project. DOE funding was to get us started. We are partnering with the PUD, Port, and County water resources. The big chunk would be coming from the Economic Development fund through the County. Bertrand will be a lead entity on the NRM component of this project.

Steve S: You're aware of a EPA grant?

Henry: which one?

Steve S: It talks about integration. We're shopping it around.

Mary: I took your cross boundary stuff to Washington DC foundations. It's a challenge to figure out who is driving the car.

Doug: I think the EPA grant is intended to help answer that question.

Mary: When is the EDI application due?

Henry: It's an open process. We believe if we can get the small cities in on it we think we have a pretty good shot.

C. Project Management
- Monitoring
- Augmentation
- Storage
- Pipeline

- Habitat
- Drainage

Henry: Anyone have anything on these? No.

D. WID Education
- Plan required
- Cross border clearinghouse

Mary: I noticed in your last minutes that you were required to "adopt a plan". I just want to note that what I produced was a framework, but not the nuts and bolts of a *plan*. I came today to share what I leaned in DC. There was a lot of interest in your model to meet face to face across the border. I just came to say that yes, they are interested. I'm not sure how to proceed, however. An air quality attorney is the most interested and there could be money attached.

Henry: I think the answer is you have to develop the case studies as concrete examples.

Mary: The EPA is mandated to demonstrate how they are using collaborative process to make change, so that's why they are interested.

E. Fishtrap District update
John wasn't able to come. They are meeting every month and getting things done.

III. New Business

A. Board membership – elections

Henry: We have two openings. No one has applied yet. The board can appoint. I think Larry is not interested in continuing.

Steve: I'm ready to go. I talked to John Hiner. He's going to think about it, but he's pretty busy. He's a geologist working for mining companies. He'd be a great board member. He's a WID member. He lives across from Gary Van Loo.

Mary: Do you guys want me to ask Greg?

Henry: Yes, he'd be great. He was on the Farm Friends (APC) board way back when. Possible conflict of interest since he's a contractor that might do work for the WID.

Doug: It doesn't look good. If he's on a board that makes decisions on contractors who will do work for the WID.

Marty: can we recuse him from those votes?

Henry: I think that would be a risk worth taking.

Marty: I don't know if he'd say yes or not.

Pete: I don't think most people know what the WID is.

Henry: That brings us back to education. We've tried to do an open house in past years. I'm not sure what our message would be right now if we did that.

B. Water Users Group
C. Consideration of Administration Contract

Henry: The contact with Farm Friends to provide administration services ends at the end of this year. You'll have to vote to either extend this or drop the contract and find another.

Marty I'll move to approve extension of the current contract for two years.

Steve: Seconded.

Motion carries. Another two year contract is confirmed.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(Held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

February 2, 2010

Respectfully submitted by Holly Hinman, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Minutes for:
February 2, 2010 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	_____ Larry De Haan	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	__x__ Greg Ebe
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	_____ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
_____ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	__x__ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
_____ Karen Welch	_____ Holly Hinman	__x__ John Gillies

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda
(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of December 1, 2009 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

	Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
2009 PUD Interlocal	$117,000.00	$13,277.50	$45,657.00	$71,343.00
2009 Capital Grant	$283,570.00	$1,726.87	$1,726.87	$281,843.13
Fund Balance @ 2/1		$17,220.83		
Accounts Receivable		0.00		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement		$15,004.37		
		TOTAL Available		$32,225.20
Outstanding bills:				$14,744.37
	Whatcom Farm Friends	$12,787.50		
	Reichhardt & Ebe	$1,676.87		
	Vern Vande Garde	$280.00		
Accounts Payable				
End of Month Balance				$17,480.83

Doug provided an update on the status of the FY11 dollars in the State contract with the PUD. It is doubtful if these funds will be fully available. The board recognized that these are challenging budget times and that we would have to focus and prioritize our spending. Doug thought that Ecology would be open to amendments to the contract in order to resort the budget to reflect these decisions once made. Steve moved to approve the consent agenda, Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Board membership – We received no nominations for the seats occupied by Steve Groen and Larry De Haan. These terms were complete at the end of 2009. The board has the authority to appoint WID members to fill these open positions. Marty moved to appoint Steve Groen (who was looking for another person but had not yet been able to confirm one) and Greg Ebe to fill the open positions, Peter seconded, motion carried 3-0 with Marty, Peter, and Vern approving. It was noted that since Greg still owned 10% of the Reichhardt & Ebe Engineering firm which serves as Project Manager for the projects administered by the WID we would have to be sure to recues Greg from any voting or discussions regarding contracts with R & E.

B. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project

a. Easement – After some discussion Steve moved to offer Larry $10k to extend the easement agreement on the augmentation well through 2010 and 2011 and to offer $3,000 per year once the facilities are all installed and operating. Marty seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Henry will contact Larry and discuss how this may match his expectations.

b. Do we proceed? - The uncertainty around the direction and timeline in the water negotiations made the board question if we should accept state support to implement a project that we are not sure we could sustain. We had envisioned be much further along in negotiations and had anticipated the augmentation well to be a tool to help us implement improved stream flows. The board is concerned that we not squander public support dollars for this project. It is also clear that the water right application for this project will be protested by Lummi Nation. Despite these concerns the board also saw reason to keep progressing on the project. We are learning valuable lessons about iron removal and the effect of iron on fish. We are also learning a lot about groundwater conditions in the area. There was a consensus not to hurry the project along this summer but instead make careful plans and target a 2011 implementation.

C. Natural Resources Marketplace

Henry briefed the board on recent meetings with various groups around this concept. There have been many positive reactions to the idea and it continues to gather momentum. The general idea is to make land and water policies consistent. Henry has been actively exploring new avenues of funding this work in light of the probably reduction in funding from the State.

D. Project Management

- Monitoring – a recent water quality report was distributed and reviewed.

E. Fishtrap District update

John provided an update on the efforts of the NLWID to develop 5 year permits to maintain drainage as well as developing alternatives to the fill and grade limitations that currently drive up cleaning costs unnecessarily. John also reported on a substantial grant submitted to EPA by the City of Lynden. This grant includes several elements including planning for the Pepin Creek reroute between Main and Badger and further development of the Natural resources market concept in this geographic area.

III. New Business

A. Water Users Group

Steve Jilk reported there would be discussion about the future direction of this group at a Feb. 16th meeting of the Small Cities caucus. The group is a very helpful partner in the guidance of a water use budget, a coordinated water supply plan, and advancement of an EDI grant request to help fund portions of this work.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(Held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The Board indicated they believed we should keep the March 2 meeting scheduled.

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Agenda for:
March 2, 2010 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
____ Pete Vlas	___x_ Greg Ebe	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	_____ Steve Seymour
____ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
_____ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
_____ Karen Welch	__x__ Holly Hinman	__x__ John Gillies

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda *(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).*

a. Review and Approval of February 2, 2010 Minutes

b. Financial Report
Financial statement in the printed packet (HH doesn't have it electronically)

c. Payment of Bills
Greg moves, Marty seconds.
Motion passes

II. Old Business

A. Olympia Report

- Funding update – Doug
Henry let most attendees know not to bother to come today. There is some money left to support the rest of the negotiations. Steve Jilk to meet with HB later this week about how to cover that cost. State grants are not going to be there

B. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project

- Easement – follow-up on discussions with Larry
HB talked to Larry. He understood our proposal, but will come back with a refined proposal. Expect that in next couple of weeks
- Monitoring/gaging
Holly will now be preparing the monthly report from the data instead of Hydrologic Services.
Data in this month's WQ report is not bad, but not great. Vern: reading taken just after a rainstorm.
Greg: Have the levels been measured coming out of Canada?
HB: not much. We know that we are a larger contributor. Fishtrap can be bad out of Canada.
Greg: Theories about the cause?

Vern: We've had issues with place just north of Larry. Mushroom compost that isn't properly contained.

- Greg: What can we do to improve it?
  Henry: It would be nice to monitor more, but nobody is paying for it now. County pays for a little monitoring in the area including ours.

C. Natural Resources Marketplace

- Briefings
- Discussion with Heather

Heather has been in Europe. Back soon to continue work on NRM.

D. Project Management

- Monitoring
- Augmentation
- Storage
- Pipeline
- Habitat
- Drainage

Didn't talk about this.

E. WID Education

- Cross border clearinghouse

Didn't talk about this.

F. Fishtrap District update

John started talking: Report about the developing 5 year HPA. There will be an agreement that everybody signs. Meeting this Thursday with George, John, and WDFW. They want to do work in the doubleditch this year. We need a way to get permits in a more effective way.

III. New Business

A. Water Users Group - EDI Fund application

B. Reichhardt & Ebe Contract

We had a contract through June 30, 2009. That's run out. We need a motion to renew that contract. Henry presented a draft contract to look at. Motion: From July 1, 2009-July 1, 2011. Let's do a 2 year contract. Greg won't participate in any of the discussion or voting. Dale: the amount on the budget looks high, but the majority of the amount gets paid out to other contractors through us.
Steve G. moves that we retain R&E as our contractor through June 30, 2011. Marty seconds. Motion Passes. Greg abstains.

C. Main Street Drainage

Randy Kortus called me recently. He hasn't been happy with the flooding they've had to deal with. They feel that the drainage solution put in by the city is faulty? Since he pays into the WID he feels we should help him. I've talked with Vern and Dale: What would we do if we do anything?

Dale: If Bertrand was to take any action to resolve we need to look at what's been done before and assess if those actions have been helpful or detrimental. This is sort of like the fecal coliform data. Unclear if there is a conflict of interest if we review the improvements that the city put in since Dale also works for the city.
Henry: we need somebody professional to review it, but we can't afford it.
Marty: Not clear if we have the legal authority to get involved. What's he really asking for? We can write letters / put pressure on the city, but we don't have the kind of money
Steve: I think we should write a letter to the city sympathizing with Randy's situation and asking them to review their current engineering and plans.
Henry: An irrigation district does have the POWER to take legal action, but we don't have the money.
Marty: we can put it on record that we see problems there, but there's always been problems there.
Dale: I think it's a good idea to bring the DOE into it, but maybe we should start by keeping them out of it and saying that if it's not resolved we'll have to bring the DOE in. Let's not open the can of worms right away.
Henry: Even Randy admitted that he didn't have a clear request for us and that it's not an easy problem to fix.
Dale: It could be that someone else crushed a culvert somewhere else.
HB: Summary – We'll draft a letter to the city now and say that DOE will need to be involved if they can't solve it, because Randy doesn't stand a chance if it goes on. He'll be enforced on for things that aren't his doing.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(May be held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

Greg: Just after last WID meeting I was in Olympia. I visited some legislators. Got some hope when I leaned about these two examples:

1. Odessa was on a reclamation project and the well levels were sinking. They got some stimulus dollars and other big money to solve this problem. To me this says that Ecology is willing to lead the charge for a major project and there are some funds.
2. I also learned that in Skagit a lot of irrigators have same problem. Enough water rights, but wrong point of entry. They were irrigating and the tribes got upset. So they pushed for a bill that would allow their drainage districts to become purveyors of water and pump water right where the water goes in the sound and pump it back to where the irrigation needed to happen. Put pressure on Ecology to look at the problem. By creating legislative pressure it helped create action. They'll be "pump ready" by summer. Marty has always said we need a multi pronged approach. Our negotiations are one thing, but maybe there are other approaches. Can we send HB to Olympia to learn more about these two scenarios to see how we can also leverage that kind of action? And report back to us with some legislative action recommendations?
Steve: Are you making a motion, Greg?
Greg: Yes??? No.
Henry: How will we pay for that? Not grantable. Do you want to spend the cash?

Marty: I think we need to pursue both paths.
Greg: Evan told me that it was the threat of lawsuits that got Ecology moving.
Henry: I'm guessing this is a ~20hrs project for me over the next month. We bill at $75/hr, so that's about a $1500 cost.
Marty: This is an issue that Farm Friends should also support.
Steve: Ok, if we're not making a motion then our next action is to explore XXX with John (Gillies). What was that? Some kind of change in definition of the WID?

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned 3pm
April 6, 2010

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Minutes for:
June 1, 2010 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	___x_ Steve Groen	_____ Marty Maberry
___x_ Pete Vlas	_____ Greg Ebe	
_____ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Larry De Haan
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	___x_ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
_____ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
__x__ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
_____ Karen Welch	__x__ Holly Hinman	_____ John Gillies

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda *(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).*

- **a.** Review and Approval of March 2, 2010 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

  Includes a 2008 invoice from Farm Friends (#1365) that the grant paid to the WID but that WFF didn't invoice to the WID. Memo is included in the board packet, and Henry passed around more detailed documentation. Heather has been working gratis for now.

  Steve G. moves, Pete V. seconds, motion passes.

II. Old Business

A. <u>Capital Budget – Augmentation Project</u>

a. Easement – followup on discussions with Larry – do we proceed, and how?

Memo included in board packet. Is the WID still interested in pursuing this project? There are a few farmers who would be willing pay to make this happen, but not a lot.

Pete: can we put it on hold?

Henry: I was encouraged by what our grant officer told us about postponing. Also about the possibility of moving an augmentation well across the boarder in Aldergrove.

Doug: It's a capital grant, so the rules are a little different.

Henry: Issue is how can we prevent the Canadians from taking the water all out before it gets to us. The balance is that the further north we go the better.

Steve S.: We need to know more. What are the iron levels up there? Cross boundary issues.

Vern: Mike Pearson is going to do some investigating.

Steve S.: Let's convene a cross-boundary work group and explore it more.

Henry: If we do more forward with looking at Canada we have two loose ends to deal with. Our agreement with Larry, and the structure of the well itself. Do we decommission it? The language in the agreement is specific. If it's not being used for augmentation it has to come out.

Dale: Can we find a way to let Larry use it until we know if we're going to want it?

Pete: Could buy us 2-5 years.

Henry: might cost us $10K to take it out.

Doug: the grant officer said that we'd be able to postpone its use as long as we have a clear plan forward.
Henry: If you're inclined to head this direction we need to create an alternative workplan. Get rid of the monitoring. The monitoring is Larry's biggest complaint. Should we offer him anything in terms of easement? Something like $2,500?
Doug: If we decide to go back and use it later, will we need to put the monitoring wells back in?
Dale: Chuck was adamant that they were needed at first, but I'm not sure about now that it's going.
Pete: What's the problem? Mowing?
Henry: Yes, tubes stick up out of the ground. How about we make a projected budget for capping them or removing them and then offer Larry that amount. Tell him we want to leave them there for the next three years. Should probably have a motion.
Steve G: Hold on. I'm remembering past efforts. Wouldn't we be better off to put augmentation wells in the unnamed north stem? A neighbor just drilled a new well and it's beautiful water. McClellan system and north tributary / Valley View curves back up into my property. Seems to be an excellent supply up there. I think we should have more than one augmentation project going on.

Here's what we're proposing as a plan of action:

MOTION 1
-Delay project
-Research Canada
-Research an additional well in the Upper Bertrand west/McClellan area
-Holding $XXX for decommissioning back
-Give Larry $2500
-Decommission monitoring wells
-discuss project with ValleyView and Delta Water Assoc.

Pete moves. Steve G. seconds.

MOTION 2
-Establish rationale for use of existing well
-Talk with Edaleen (Vern?)
- consider how the well could tap into existing pipelines to eliminate surface diversions and keep water in creek

Pete moves. Steve G. seconds.

"This is starting to sound like a good idea."

b. Monitoring/gaging

C. <u>Natural Resources Marketplace</u>

- June 2 agenda
- Discussions with BIA, Futurewise

  Meeting tomorrow with steering committee. Farm Friends website is updated with NRM information now.
  Steve G.: Who is on the steering committee?
  Henry: listed on the back of the website information handout. Tribes have asked us to not push too far on this until the negotiations are more settled. We can't have any certainty until that's resolved anyway. I've been encouraged by how many people have stuck with this complicated discussion.

D. Project Management

- Monitoring – updated water quality report – rising fecal levels prompting Lummi to write a letter of concern to EPA
  Henry: In your packet are water quality reports. Holly's been preparing them the last few months. I was surprised that the Lummi's reacted. It's disappointing on several levels. Our feeling is dairy has tightened up pretty well. What else could be causing it? Cattle industry and horse owners haven't really responded to the call to reduce impact. Still rebelling against farm plans. But it's not clear cut to say that's the culprit.

E. WID Education

- Cross border clearinghouse
- Shared Waters Report

F. Fishtrap District update

- HPA application for ditch cleaning
  FT WID is working on two major projects.
  HPA application for ditch cleaning. Would be an MOA with fisheries and county. What we'd be willing to do to get the permit. Some habitat enhancement, some mitigation.
  Steve S: We'd like to get serious about hedgerow development along ditches. There's a good project on Enterprise. East side of the road re-veg. I'll bet that in 2 years there won't be any reed canary grass in there. Everybody's long term goal is to reduce the maintenance loop on these things. County will raise the site distance issues, snow issues. Some of those ditches like Bender and Depot we'd look at mitigation. I want to see lower reach
- Fill and Grade MOA
  County seems open to changing regulations as long as there is an MOA for a good way to use fill. We'll keep Bertrand apprised about how this is going.

  Henry: This board has never been big on ditch cleaning. Should we be? Which ditches should we focusing on?
  Pete: I don't have a lot of problems myself, but further up on the Guide is an issue.
  Henry: West Double Ditch, Jackman, Guide ditch

III. New Business

A. Water Users Group - EDI Fund application

B. Main Street Drainage – correspondence with City of Lynden
   Still talking about this. Copy of the letter in today's packet.
   Bill: Duane is gone for three weeks so won't hear from him for a while.

C. Report on State efforts in Odessa, Skagit

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(May be held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

July 6, 2010 - Probably to cancel August meeting
August 3 – Henry gone

Doug talked. Something about Skagit. I don't remember how it was proposed. Buck. Let's find a way to make this work this summer. Odessa is a whole other deal. The lake Roosevelt storage business where they're going to put more water in the canals to take pressure off the ground water. Went to court. We just won there. It was a legislative effort. You have to find a champion. That's how the wheels turn to get money for projects.
Henry: Kelli has been our champion. We need to clearly identify our budget and then identify our budget.

Respectfully submitted by Holly Hinman, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Minutes for:
July 6, 2010 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

___x__ Vern VandeGarde	_phone_ Steve Groen	_____ Marty Maberry
_____ Pete Vlas	__x__ Greg Ebe	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	___x_ Dale Buys	_____ Larry De Haan
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	___x_ Steve Seymour
___x_ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
_____ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
__x__ Kelli Linville	__x__ Holly Hinman	___x_ Casey Lankhaar

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda
(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of June 1, 2010 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

Phoned Steve G who moved to accept the consent agenda. Greg seconded. Approved.

		Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
2009 PUD Interlocal		$62,283.00	$5,080.87	$62,245.94	$37.06
2009 Capital Grant		$283,570.00		$12,101.04	$271,468.96
Fund Balance @ 7/6			$13,725.43		
Accounts Receivable					
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement			$5,080.87		
	TOTAL				
	Available				$18,806.30
Outstanding bills:					$4,950.87
	Vern Vande Garde		June	140.00	
	Whatcom Farm Friends		June	4,810.87	
Accounts Payable					
End of Month Balance					$13,855.43

II. Old Business
A. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project
   a. Easement, Monitoring Wells – followup on discussions with Larry
   b. Alternative uses for production well
   c. Valley View alternative

d. Monitoring/gauging

Kelli Linville attended the beginning of today's meeting.
Henry: reviewed the high iron problem in the augmentation well and the possible alternatives of augmenting from a point in Canada, or from the Valley View Water Association wells near Steve Groen's place.
Kelli: You know how water bills go in the legislature. The more you can do administratively to prepare the details the better. I don't want you to have to wait any longer.
Doug: We've been building that into the federal decree as much as possible so we don't have to depend on the legislature.
Kelli: Or the rule amendment.
Dale: The best thing would probably be to write up a proposal for DOE to allow Larry to use the well. It really can only supply one big gun.
Henry: We need to put what you just said in a real black and white proposal. He has a surface water right. We'd have to run electricity out there for the pump. Dale, can you get this written up?
Dale: I know that Larry wants to get rid of the monitoring wells. He wants to till that field.

C. Natural Resources Marketplace

- Discussions with BIA, Futurewise

Henry: There were a quite a few people in attendance at the BIA presentation. We are waiting for them to respond to the symposium sponsorship proposal.
Vern: Was there opposition?
Henry: Not opposition. They had pointed questions, but more along the lines of how can we make this happen, not that it can't happen. They were uncertain about co-sponsoring an event with Futurewise, but we feel that the joint involvement is exactly what we need to make this thing really get off the ground. It's not really about the financial sponsorship as much as it is about starting the conversation.
Steve: How about asking for NSEA to participate?
Henry: We're on their meeting schedule, but it's too close to the symposium date to wait to ask them.
Steve: I think you should ask now.

D. Project Management

- Monitoring – updated water quality report –Lummi letter of concern to EPA
- Response from Farm Bureau and Farm Friends

Farm Friends and Farm Bureau wrote a joint letter in response, which is included in your packet today. Dairy Fed declined to join on the letter because they wanted to try meeting with the tribes first before formulating a response.

F. Fishtrap District update

Request Action to Join NLWID on MOUs for:

- HPA application for ditch cleaning
- Fill and Grade MOA

Casey: In our last meeting the North Lynden WID approved the 15 foot buffer and shrubs mitigation plan for ditch cleaning for the HPA application.
Henry: It says there will be a 5 year permit. It will allow cleaning 20% of ditch per year and then replant that same percentage (foot for foot) it in shrubs that same year.
Casey: Conservation district will be doing the tree planting. They'll be contacting land owners to get them on board.
Henry: It gets a little complicated b/c the east half is in Fishtrap and west half is Bertrand. Fishtrap WID is handling this, but Betrand needs to be aware of it. If you have any concerns about the plan this

is the time to speak up.
Vern: I'm afraid that this will be the last chance to get those ditches cleaned for a long time.
Steve: I think Kelli, what we've shown is that this approach reduces the frequency of ongoing maintenance.
Henry: We may want to write up a resolution that says the Bertand WID will defer to Fishtrap WID's leadership on this issue since the two sides of the ditch are in the two districts.

Henry: Kelli, before you leave will you tell us what you see coming?
Kelli: Big deficit again. We'll be doing priorities of government and we can also change the law if we need to. Everyone will have to communicate their priorities. You won't be able to do all you are doing now. For our part, we are doing what we can to avoid the "circling the wagons" effect where Olympia cuts the jobs that are furthest from Olympia.

III. New Business

A. Water Users Group - EDI Fund application

Henry: Still in progress. It's just taking a lot of time. Nothing new to report.

B. Main Street Drainage – correspondence with City of Lynden

Henry: I'll provide Greg with copies of the letters to get up to speed. Still working on resolving this because people have been away.

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

August 3 – Henry gone, meeting cancelled.
September 7, 2010 will be the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Holly Hinman, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Minutes for:
September 7, 2010 Meeting, 2 pm - 4 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__x__ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
__x__ Pete Vlas	__x__ Greg Ebe	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Larry De Haan
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	_____ Steve Seymour
_____ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
_____ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
_____ Karen Welch	_____ Holly Hinman	_____ John Gillies

x = present o = absent with notice

I. Consent Agenda *(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).*

- **a.** Review and Approval of July 6, 2010 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Insurance Premium – level of protection question -
- **d.** Payment of Bills

Monthly Financial Report for August , 2010

		Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
	FY				
2009 PUD Interlocal	2011	$58,500.00	$14,815.50	$14,815.50	$43,684.50
2009 Capital Grant		$283,570.00	$2,878.63	$14,979.67	$268,590.33
Fund Balance @ 9/2			$8,826.35		
Accounts Receivable					
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement			$17,694.13		
	TOTAL				
	Available				$26,520.48
Outstanding bills:					$20,144.13
	Vern Vande Garde				
			July,		
	Whatcom Farm Friends		August	14,815.50	
	Enduris			2,450.00	
	Reichhardt & Ebe			2,878.63	
Accounts Payable					
End of Month Balance					$6,376.35

Henry noted that the North Lynden WID had reduced their liability coverage from $10 million to $1million, a move that saved them $950. The Board felt more comfortable with staying at $10 million.

Greg moved to accept the Consent Agenda, Marty Seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project

a. Easement, Monitoring Wells – follow-up on discussions with Larry
b. Alternative uses for production well
c. Valley View alternative
d. Monitoring/gauging

Henry and Dale presented a plan to address new options in the augmentation project. The new scope anticipates locating additional augmentation sites, conducting a feasibility analysis for these sites, and including aquifer verification in the monitoring component for the project. The Board asked Henry to test these ideas with Ecology and to try to schedule a meeting with Buck Smith to explore: 1) the feasibility of surface to groundwater conversions; 2) a pilot project for pumping irrigation water from Larry De Haan's augmentation well (requires increased water right but could be demonstrated to be water budget positive); and 3) the potential of a Valley View and Delta Water Association tie in that would benefit all the parties. This was based on knowledge that Valley View had discovered quality and abundant water at 178' at Dean Tjoelkers and could pump over 300 gpm of iron free water at the old Walt Vis farm.

C. Natural Resources Marketplace

- Symposium on September 23rd – There are 18 commitments to date. Target audience is 60-70. The idea is to use this discussion to clearly illustrate how a market could work by using the North Lynden area as a case study. This is part of an ever-expanding discussion on this concept leading to legislative changes that would allow the market to work in the creative manner we envision.

D. Project Management

- Monitoring – updated water quality report –Lummi letter of concern to EPA
- Response from EPA

The WQ maps were noticed to be labeling roads wrong. Henry will recheck this. There was continued concern that the numbers, while not bad, were not at where we would want them to be. It was unclear why the trend line was not improving. There was also concern that the data for the Bertrand that Lummi used to present its case to EPA was significantly higher in the Bertrand than the data that we had been tracking.

E. WID Education

- Cross border clearinghouse
- Shared Waters Update– meeting in Lynden Sept 21

F. Fishtrap District update

Progress on MOUs for:

- HPA application for ditch cleaning
- Fill and Grade MOA

Henry noted that the HPA for cleaning Double Ditch did not get any commitments for planting and therefore no cleaning would take place in 2010.

III. New Business

A. Water Users Group - EDI Fund application

No new action.

B. Main Street Drainage – correspondence with City of Lynden

Greg noted he had attended a meeting with Lynden where this topic was discussed. They had reviewed the history of the problem and were quite certain the City had done its due

diligence in reviewing and approving the plans. It was their contention that the County had a potentially undersized culvert on Berthusen Road. The Board did not see a clear role for the WID in this issue although most sympathized with the farmers in the area and agreed the problems with flooding were likely getting worse in this area. Henry felt that the only real help that the WID could provide would be to advocate for a solution with the governments responsible for the area. The City seems to have spoken their final word on the subject. Perhaps the landowners could contact the County once again.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology. *(May be held in Executive Session)*

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

October 5, 2010

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Minutes for:
October 5, 2010 Meeting, 2 pm - 3 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	__#__ Steve Groen	_____ Marty Maberry
_____ Pete Vlas	__#__ Greg Ebe	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Larry De Haan
_____ Terry Holland	_____ Beth Chisolm	_____ Steve Seymour
__#__ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
_____ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
_____ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
_____ Karen Welch	_____ Holly Hinman	_____ John Gillies

x = present o = absent with notice # = present via teleconference

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

- **a.** Review and Approval of September 7, 2010 Minutes
- **b.** Financial Report
- **c.** Payment of Bills

		Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
2009 PUD Interlocal	FY 2011	$58,500.00	$9,544.72	$24,360.22	$29,208.78
2009 Capital Grant		$283,570.00	$1,782.99	$16,762.66	$266,807.34
Fund Balance @ 10/4			($11,239.90)		
Accounts Receivable			17,694.13		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement			$11,327.71		
	TOTAL				
	Available				$17,781.94
Outstanding bills:					$11,067.71
	Vern Vande Garde			280.00	
	Whatcom Farm Friends		September	9,004.72	
	Reichhardt & Ebe			1,782.99	
Accounts Payable					
End of Month Balance					$6,714.23

Greg moved to approve the consent agenda, Steve seconded, motion passed unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project

a. Amendment request
b. Scheduled meeting with Buck Smith November 2nd

Dale reported that he had discussed the De Haan well decommissioning with Chuck Lindsay. Chuck had suggested that if the board and Larry wanted to make use of this well there would be three factors to examine: 1) benefit of the transfer of the surface water right to a groundwater right, 2) how much increased Qa and Qi could be justified, and 3) the effect of the change on the priority status of the right. We will look forward to having this discussion with Buck next month.

Dale prepared a rationale for amending the augmentation grant so we could further explore the potential of working with Steve Groen on his property and including the local water associations as partners in this project. It is understood that a habitat benefit will have to be demonstrated for this project to be effective. Doug commented that as long as the grant results in implementation the changes should be eligible under the capital grant. We will make a few edits and send the request for amendment to Dave Burdick. It was noted that an extension of the grant beyond June, 2011 should also be included.

B. Natural Resources Marketplace

- Report on the Symposium on September 23rd
- Next steps

Henry presented a list of attendees and the program for the symposium. He noted that the presentations were available on the Farm Friends website at http://www.wcfarmfriends.com/go/doctype/1579/73851/
There is a worksession planned for November 15th to follow up the progress made at the symposium.

III. New Business

A. Board membership – elections

Term is expiring for Marty Maberry. A following notice will be publishedin the Lynden Tribune legal ads.

PUBLIC NOTICE – Bertrand and North Lynden Watershed Improvement Districts

Residents within the Bertrand and North Lynden Watershed Improvement Districts have an opportunity to:
1) Nominate candidates for election to the Board of the District – one position in Bertrand, two in North Lynden – candidates must file with the secretary of the district a declaration in writing of their candidacy, or a petition of nomination signed by at least ten qualified electors of the district, not later than five o'clock p.m. on the first Monday in November.
2) Inspect the 2011 Assessment Role and represent your interests to the District Board which will serve as a Board of Equalization. Equalization issues in the Bertrand will be heard at 2 pm, November 2, 2010, for North Lynden at 10 am, November 16, 2010, both at the District's office. The Assessment Roles for both Districts are available for inspection from October 11 to November 2.

Nomination forms and the assessment roles are available at the Districts' offices located at:
Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
North Lynden Watershed Improvement District
1796 Front Street, Lynden

B. 2011 APPROVED BUDGET, ESTABLISH 2011 ASSESSMENT RATE

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-1

2011 APPROVED BUDGET
AND SETTING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RATE

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Bertrand Watershed Improvement District (WID) have approved the attached budget for the succeeding year, and

WHEREAS, the Bertrand WID may incur indebtedness prior to a levy, not to exceed fifty cents/acre, and which shall be assessable against the lands in the WID. (RCW 87.03.475) This indebtedness may be used for necessary costs and expenses of organizing, surveys, engineering work, feasibility of a proposed irrigation project, ordinary administrative affairs, and ordinary expenses of operation and maintenance of an irrigation system. The board may issue warrants for the payment of any indebtedness incurred under this section, and amount of all warrants shall be included in the next annual levy for payment of expenses of operation and maintenance

WHEREAS, according to RCW 87.03.475 the board may issue warrants for the payment of any indebtedness incurred under this section, which shall bear interest at a rate or rates determined by the board, and it shall include in its next annual levy for the payment of the expenses of operation and maintenance, the amount of all warrants issued by virtue hereof

WHEREAS, RCW 87.03.475 specifies that the maximum indebtedness hereby authorized by the WID not exceed one dollar per acre of the total irrigable area within the district

WHEREAS, the Bertrand WID has incurred expenses used for necessary costs and expenses of organizing, surveys, engineering work, feasibility of a proposed irrigation project, ordinary administrative affairs, and ordinary expenses of operation and maintenance of an irrigation system.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Bertrand Watershed Improvement District direct a special assessment for 2011 in the amount of **$.50** per acre for all parcels exceeding 3 acres within the boundaries of the District, and that said assessment, shall be imposed pursuant to the system of assessment established by the County.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2010

2011 Budget

Income	
2011 Assessments	$ 5,760
Project Grants, Interlocals	$ 200,000
	$ 205,760
Expenses	
Directors Insurance	$ 2,500
Board Meetings & Education	$ 2,400
Projects	$ 200,000
Administration	$ 860
	$ 205,760

Steve moved approval, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously.

C. ESTABLISH 2011 ASSESSMENT ROLE

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-2
ESTABLISH 2011 ASSESSMENT ROLE

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Bertrand Watershed Improvement District (WID) has approved the attached assessment role for the succeeding year, and

WHEREAS, the Bertrand WID has prepared an Assessment Role according to RCW 87.03.260 and RCW 87.03.270

WHEREAS, the Bertrand WID has maintained a parcel list and reviewed and edited the list according to the criteria and boundaries established in the organization of the Irrigation District

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Bertrand Watershed Improvement District submit the attached list of parcels as the 2011 Assessment Role

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2010

Steve moved approval, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology.

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

November 2, 2010

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____

Bertrand Watershed Improvement District
Minutes for:
November 2, 2010 Meeting, 2 pm - 3 pm
Ag Central 1796 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264

__x__ Vern VandeGarde	_____ Steve Groen	__x__ Marty Maberry
__o__ Pete Vlas	__x__ Greg Ebe	
__x__ Henry Bierlink	__x__ Dale Buys	_____ Larry De Haan
__x__ Buck Smith	_____ Beth Chisolm	_____ Steve Seymour
__x__ Doug Allen	_____ Sue Blake	_____ Tom Anderson
_____ Mary Dumas	_____ Joanne Greenberg	_____ Steve Jilk
__x__ Bill Verwolf	_____ Tom Buroker	_____ Karen Steensma
_____ Karen Welch	_____ Holly Hinman	_____ John Gillies

x = present o = absent with notice

The Board convened as the Board of Equalization. No requests were presented. Vern adjourned the Board of Equalization.

I. Consent Agenda

(all the following are approved in a single motion if there is a consensus to do so. If a board member cannot consent they can remove the questionable item(s) from the Consent Agenda and discuss it under Old Business).

a. Review and Approval of October 5, 2010 Minutes
b. Financial Report
c. Payment of Bills

		Original Amount	This Month	Total	Balance Available
2009 PUD Interlocal	FY 2011	$58,500.00	$5,451.59	$29,811.81	$23,757.19
2009 Capital Grant		$283,570.00	$0.00	$19,762.66	$263,807.34
Fund Balance @ 11/2			$10,015.49		
Accounts Receivable			9,544.72		
Invoices Submitted for reimbursement			$5,451.59		
	TOTAL				
	Available				$25,011.80
Outstanding bills:					$6,439.49
	Vern Vande Garde			140.00	
	Lynden Tribune			101.59	
	Whatcom Farm Friends		October	5,080.00	
	Reichhardt & Ebe			1,117.90	
Accounts Payable					$11,067.71
End of Month Balance					$7,504.60

Marty moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Greg seconded, motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Capital Budget – Augmentation Project

a. Amendment request – still pending as some concerns over hydrologic calculations in the De Haan report are finalized.

b. Meeting with Buck Smith (Ecology permit writer)

Buck and Doug provided an overview of what could be done currently in water right transfers.

RCW 90.03.380 states: "Water rights may be transferred to another or to others and become appurtenant to any other land or place of use without loss of priority of right theretofore established if such change can be made without detriment or injury to existing rights. The point of diversion of water for beneficial use or the purpose of use may be changed, if such change can be made without detriment or injury to existing rights. A change in the place of use, point of diversion, and/or purpose of use of a water right to enable irrigation of additional acreage or the addition of new uses may be permitted if such change results in no increase in the annual consumptive quantity of water used under the water right. . . .

and 90.44.100 states: . . . The construction of a replacement or new additional well or wells at the location of the original well or wells shall be allowed without application to the department for an amendment. However, the following apply to such a replacement or new additional well: (a) The well shall tap the same body of public groundwater as the original well or wells; (b) if a replacement well is constructed, the use of the original well or wells shall be discontinued and the original well or wells shall be properly decommissioned as required under chapter 18.104 RCW; (c) if a new additional well is constructed, the original well or wells may continue to be used, but the combined total withdrawal from the original and additional well or wells shall not enlarge the right conveyed by the original water use permit or certificate; (d) the construction and use of the well shall not interfere with or impair water rights with an earlier date of priority than the water right or rights for the original well or wells; (e) the replacement or additional well shall be located no closer than the original well to a well it might interfere with; (f) the department may specify an approved manner of construction of the well; and (g) the department shall require a showing of compliance with the conditions of this subsection (3)

These statutes allow for some changes within the original quarter/quarter section described in the water right. Transfers from surface to groundwater were not as clear but the Department is clearly open to them and will work within the laws as best they can to accomplish them. The criteria they need to meet are: 1) same source? 2) Impairment of other rights? 3) Is water available? 4) Is it in the Public's Interest?

Buck reported on a change in water law that allows for a accelerated water right approval process. Applicants can pay for the cost of gathering the data needed to process a water right by contracting with 7 approved private contractors. This process has usually taken between 6-9 months and has cost an average of $10k.

B. Natural Resources Marketplace

Henry noted the group working on this project was hosting a Worksession on November 16th. The goal of this session will be to further discussion over what an environmental baseline and goals should be and to seek the best pilot areas to develop this concept further.

III. New Business

A. Board membership

Marty was the only nomination submitted for Position #5 on the Board. Greg moved to accept his election to the board, Vern seconded, motion passed unanimously.

C. Double Ditch Meeting

Henry and Vern reported on a planned meeting regarding Double Ditch drainage maintenance on November 8th . Rather than wait until next fall the NLWID Board is

hosting a discussion with a hope of determining a new plan that would meet WDFW and landowners approval.

D. Grant Amendment

Henry noted that with the stalemate in the water negotiations we were not likely to expend Task 2 in the 2009 Proviso. Greg moved to request a transfer of $6,500 from Task 2 to Task 3 - Public Education and Involvement. Marty seconded, motion carried unanimously.

IV. In-Stream Flow Negotiations

Discussion regarding the negotiations with the Tribes and Ecology

- Establishing Flow regimes
- Progress on MOU with Ecology, Tribes
- Contracts with landowners

Doug described the process as "grinding" forward. There was some discussion about how and when the agreement will be formalized. Bill assumed a federal consent decree would be sought immediately. Henry was under the impression that we may need to complete the entire basin before such a decree would be sought.

V. Adjournment/Next Meeting

December 7, 2010 - Tentative
January 4, 2011

Respectfully submitted by Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Farm Friends

Approved by _____