

Tenmile Clean Water Project – Minutes, Dec 12, 2018

Attendees: Bob McWhorter, Hank Kastner, Naomi Murphy, Andy Ross, Alan Chapman, Marge Laidlaw, Gabriella Mednick, Aneka Sweeney

Note: Comments annotated to this meeting agenda information are shown in red.

Meeting packet attachments:

1. This Agenda
2. Nov 14 membership Meeting Minutes (and financial report.)

AGENDA

- Greetings & introductions
- Review & Approve Agenda

Consent Agenda Approvals – approved.

1. Previous Meeting Minutes (see meeting packet; **note:** copies not provided for meeting.)
2. Financial Report: see notes for details.

Tenmile Clean Water Project Monthly Finance Report

Settled for: November 2018

	Budget (12 mo.)	Expended Latest Mo	Projected Spending	Total Spent or Committed	Grant Fund Assets	Notes
Coordinator	3000/mo.	0.00	0.00	29,727.23	3,272.77	
Sample Analysis	670/mo.	625.00	0.00	3,015.00	4,985.00	
Outreach (gross)	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,288.81	1,711.19	1.
Measurement (gross)	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	1,900.00	
Discretionary (gross)	3,304.00	0.00	0.00	3,015.00	289.00	
Grant Admin Overhead	2,600.00			2,615.20	(15.20)	
WCD Service Agreement		0.00	0.00	6,430.69	16,569.31	2.
TOTALS		625.00	0.00	46,591.93	28,712.07	

Notes:

1. New balance reflects 'close-out' of website project, \$211 under-budget.
2. No report from WCD for the month.

Announcements

- **Next Steering Committee meeting;** There is no meeting planned for December unless decided otherwise in this meeting. – **None planned**
- **Laurel Watershed Improvement District** – *No meeting in December*; board meetings are 10am every second Monday each month, 204 Hawley Street, Lynden. **The next meeting will be Jan 14, 2019, which falls after our meeting for that month.**
- **WCD Farm Speaker Series** – Manure Nutrient Management Training; Thu, Jan 17th, 10am-2pm, Mt Baker Rotary, 1751 Front St., Lynden. See details here: <http://www.whatcomcd.org/node/256>
- **WCD Small Farm Expo** – March 9, 2019; NW Washington Fairgrounds
- Others?

Reports

- **Steering Committee** – there was no meeting in November.

- **Water Quality** – verbal data report; we collected more special samples this month so this will include a summary of what we learned. Ambient samples for December were collected only a couple days before the meeting and results were not available. Samples collected earlier on 11/28/18 (a combination of typical sites and special sites) showed mixed results, generally in the 88-260 range, with Silver Springs again high at 320 along with high numbers at several private sites on Deer Creek consistent with recent history. All of this indicates continued residual runoff from multiple sources across the landscape, a pattern that is also still seen at other sites across the Nooksack mainstem recently.
- **Website updates** – <https://tenmilecleanwater.org/> All three points were briefly discussed with no concerns.
 - We will pay \$48 to WordPress this month for another year of web hosting; this special early rate will save us \$18, as rates are increasing next year.
 - There have been three blog posts since last meeting. Have you signed up for email notices yet?
 - Hank will briefly demonstrate what is available; nothing significant yet to report.
- **Laurel WID** – no meeting this month. As reported in last meeting's minutes, in January the WID is expected to discuss & consider a letter to the City of Ferndale inquiring about expanding city sewer service into the dense residential areas still on septic systems, in the lower Deer Creek watershed. WCD is seeking maps to aid us in this discussion. We viewed one map from the City of Ferndale's website indicating that sewer service now exists within city limits right up to the boundary of residences south of West Axton Rd, along Deer Creek. There is interest in pursuing this with the WID, or independently if necessary.

Business:

1. **Water samples & results:** discussion of future planning based on previous results. No added discussion.
2. **2019 planning discussion:** each item will be discussed for understanding, and considered for continued work.
 - Should we agree to transfer our remaining **grant funds to WCD** next year, exclusively for SourceID sample analysis? We do not have a Plan-B and NSEA's fiscal sponsorship role is coming to an end. It was agreed to keep pursuing this change. A draft contract will be brought back to a membership meeting for approval.
 - Proposal: plan a **work party** To clarify: WCD has joined as a partner for the NSEA Earth Day work party **April 20th at 9am**, to plant the area around Tenmile Creek at East Hemmi road, site of planned County work to replace the road culvert there. We will promote the event on our website and in the proposed newsletter (below) as an opportunity to build neighborhood involvement in the watershed.
 - Discuss WCD plans to launch a **postal-mail newsletter** for TCWP in March. We will have:
 - A list of suggested content to consider.
 - Examples of design style.
 - Decisions to make about how broad the address list should be.
 - A decision to make about whether to include a return-mail form for people to join a TCWP mail list. We tabled this idea for lack of interest & lack of a mailing address. Information that was provided for meeting discussion has been appended on p.3 below. Comments: there was general support for the concept, and discussion especially about the possibilities for a selected audience for mailing; but the newsletter will also be available on our website, and can be printed in hard copies to use for neighborhood distribution and discussions with residents – all dependent on how much we choose to use it. We will discuss the newsletter further in Jan & Feb meetings as WCD fine tunes the materials.

Information about proposed TCWP newsletter

Communications by others – overview

- **WID – Ag Water Board** newsletter; mailed late November; included WCD content on cost share program, free tarps
- **Public works, PIC** newsletter; mailed in Dec to focus areas only (Anderson, Lummi Bay, Fishtrap, and Drayton, not Tenmile); included WCD content on rebate program, farmer testimonials (i.e. manure spreader), farm speaker series schedule
- **County Planning & Development Svcs** newsletter; mailed in Dec to every parcel zoned Ag, forestry & rural; included WCD content on rebate program, Small Farm Expo
- **WCD** newsletter; Planned mail date: Week of Jan 14th - to WCD mail list + Ag in Tenmile; Content: Who is the CD/ program highlights, notes from the farm, farm speaker series calendar, plant sale, SFE, HIP, DNA project, Manure matters campaign, District updates

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Examples only: TCWP Newsletter content ideas

- **Who we are / website-**
- **Water quality summary**
- · Highlight drainage project with WID 10 mile
- · Results from the Tenmile Survey – in what detail? Put it on the website.
- · CREP or farm plan highlight – examples of finished projects and/or planting guide
- · Small farm grant and rebate graphic – promoting funds available
- · **Septic** reminder + rebate program and class advertisement & updated septic inspection status
- · Advertisement by **Laurel Farm and Garden**
- · Robin Probst (sound horsekeeping) – example of a project too
- · Therapeutic riding center (sound horsekeeping) – good steward partner
- · **Appel Award, Vin Wright Award**
- · **Thank you and farewell to Dorie and John**, Legacy of Stewardship
- · Return mailer with interest in tenmile clean water project – **costs \$\$**
- · Calendar of Events:
 - Small farm expo **March 9th**
 - Native Plant Sale **March 23rd**
 - Septic Workshop TBD – for TCWP
 - Farm Speaker Series: Composting on your farm **April 18th**
 - Earth Stream Planting **April 20th – NSEA event**
 - Farm Speaker Series: Pastured Sheep Farming **May 17th**

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Examples only: how the newsletter mailing list could be created from different demographic selections; need to weigh benefits of wide distribution vs added cost.

Total number of parcels in the watershed = 3,959
Number from above but only **>1 acre** = 2,697
Number from above but only **>2 acre** = 2,213
Total number minus those zoned either commercial or industrial = 3,760

Those not zoned commercial or industrial that are **within 500 ft of a waterway** = 2,970
Number from above but only **> 1 acre** = 1,721
Number from above but only **> 2 acre** = 1,493