

Grays Harbor VSP Work Group Meeting

6:30 P.M. August 15, 2019
County Commissioners Meeting Room
Montesano, WA

Attendees:

Work Group Members: Kyle Deerkop, (vice chair), Terry Moore, Darrell Haglund, Terry Willis (chair), Logan Zepp, Gary Waltenburg, Ed Lagergren

Grays Harbor Conservation District Staff: Natalie Osowski

Grays Harbor County Staff: Alice Shawyer

Work Group Members Absent: Owen Shaffner (excused), Jay Gordon (excused)

Minutes:

The Grays Harbor County Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) Work Group Meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chair Terry Willis.

Public Comments: There were no public comments

Changes to the agenda: There were no changes to the agenda.

Old Business:

- The Work Group reviewed the minutes from the July 11, 2019 VSP Work Group meeting. Darrell Haglund made a motion to approve the July 11, 2019 VSP Work Group meeting minutes. A second was made by Gary Waltenburg. The motion passed by consensus.
- Natalie Osowski gave the Technical Service Provider report to the Work Group by updating the group on recent outreach events. The Grays Harbor Conservation District shared an informational booth with the Grays Harbor/Pacific Farm Bureau at the Grays Harbor County Fair from July 7-11 2019. Some ideas for next year's fair was moving the booth to the agricultural building and showcasing rental equipment.
- Natalie has scheduled an agricultural education event called the "Twin Harbors Ag Summit" happening on October 22, 2019 from 6-8 PM at the Sharon Grange. The goal of this event is to provide agricultural landowners with information about programs offered and projects occurring in Grays Harbor and Pacific counties. Natalie has invited the following entities to present at the event: Grays Harbor Conservation District, Pacific Conservation District, the Northwest Agriculture Business Center, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Washington State University Extension, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Farm Service Agency.
- Two Individual Stewardship Plan checklists were completed during the previous month, and one landowner is interested in becoming a "Pioneer Participant".

New Business:

- 2017-2019 Biennium Report Draft
 - The work group reviewed and discussed the 2017-2019 Biennium Report Draft. The biennium report is a requirement of the VSP and the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) has given requirements for the report. Natalie Osowski and Anthony Waldrop drafted a report based on those requirements. There was discussion about how the report used a similar template to the Work Plan as there was no template given by the WSCC. There was a suggestion to include an “Executive Summary” at the beginning of the report to outline where each WSCC requirement could be found in the report.
 - Terry Moore made a motion to approve the 2017-2019 Biennium Report Draft with the addition of an “Executive Summary”. A second was made by Logan Zepp. The motion passed by consensus.
 - **Action Item:** Natalie will edit the 2017-2019 Biennium Report Draft to reflect the suggestions of the work group and submit the report to the WSCC by August 30.
- Potential Cost Share Projects
 - The Work Group was presented with one cost share project candidate with landowner information redacted. The project candidate was numbered 10815 and was discussed by the members on whether the project meets the requirements of the Voluntary Stewardship Program. There was a suggestion for future potential cost share projects to include photos of the site and the breakdown of the cost of the project.
 - Darrell Haglund made a motion to approve the potential cost share project numbered 10815. A second was made by Logan Zepp. The motion passed by consensus. The final cost share project contract will be signed by Terry Willis, the authorized signatory of the cost share contracts.
 - There was a suggestion to purchase a gas-powered fence post driver and possibly a 3-point hitch fence post driver available for equipment rental.
 - **Action Item:** Natalie will research gas-powered fence post drivers and a 3-point hitch system and bring quotes to the next work group meeting.
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- Cost Share Project Scoring/Ranking System
 - Natalie Osowski presented the work group with a Cost Share Project Scoring Criteria Worksheet. This worksheet was created in the event that the VSP has more potential cost share projects than funding available. The worksheet was drafted after a Grays Harbor Conservation District 2015-2017 Cost Share Project Scoring Criteria Worksheet. The work group discussed the potential need for a cost share project scoring sheet. There was a suggestion to include a “Previous Practice” scoring section to the worksheet. The work group directed Natalie to make the appropriate changes to the worksheet and bring it back to the work group.

- **Action Item:** Natalie will edit the Cost Share Project Scoring Criteria Worksheet to reflect the suggestions of the work group and bring the edited worksheet to the next work group meeting.

- Outreach and Participation Implementation Actions for the 2019-2021 Biennium
 - The work group discussed Outreach and Implementation Actions for the 2019-2021 Biennium. Natalie Osowski gave a review of the 2017-2019 actions found in the Work Plan. These actions included: Recruit Pioneer Participants, Establish Website, Preparation and Distribution of Handouts, Direct Marketing Campaign, Individual Stewardship Plans, On-going Consultation, Organize a VSP Event, Site Visits and Other Contact, and Monitor Outreach and Participation Activities Quarterly. The work group suggested keeping the same nine actions but changing the “Establish Website” action to “Enhance Website” and adding “Establish Equipment Rental Program”.
 - Logan Zepp made a motion to approve the Outreach and Implementation Actions for the 2019-2021 Biennium. A second was made by Terry Moore. The motion passed by consensus.

- Future Meeting Dates and Topics
 - The next meetings were scheduled for September 12, 2019 at 6:30 PM, and October 10, 2019 at 6:30 PM. The meetings will be held in the County Commissioners Room in Montesano, WA.

- Manure Spreader Update
 - Natalie Osowski gave an update about purchasing a manure spreader to be available for rent. She suggested to take the winter months to research and find out what type of spreader would be most useful for Grays Harbor County landowners and purchase a manure spreader in the spring.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM. Next meeting will be September 12, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the County Commissioner’s Room in Montesano, WA.

Summary of Motions:

1. Darrell Haglund made a motion to approve the July 11, 2019 VSP Work Group meeting minutes. A second was made by Gary Waltenburg. The motion passed by consensus.
2. Terry Moore made a motion to approve the 2017-2019 Biennium Report Draft with the addition of an “Executive Summary”. A second was made by Logan Zepp. The motion passed by consensus.
3. Darrell Haglund made a motion to approve the potential cost share project numbered 10815. A second was made by Logan Zepp. The motion passed by consensus.
4. Logan Zepp made a motion to approve the Outreach and Implementation Actions for the 2019-2021 Biennium. A second was made by Terry Moore. The motion passed by consensus.