

VSP Work Group Meeting

6:30 P.M. February 7, 2019

County Commissioners Meeting Room

Montesano, WA

Attendees:

Work Group Members: Jay Gordon, Logan Zepp, Owen Shaffner, Ed Lagergren, Gary Waltenburg, Kyle Deerkop (vice-chair), Terry Willis (chair)

Grays Harbor Conservation District Staff: Anthony Waldrop

Grays Harbor County Staff: Jane Hewitt, Alice Shawyer

Public: N/A

Work Group Members Absent: Terry Moore (excused), Darrell Haglund (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 January 3, 2019 VSP Work Group meeting. Kyle Deerkop made a motion to approve the January 3, 2019 VSP Work Group meeting minutes. A second was made by Gary Waltenburg. The motion passed by consensus.
- Anthony Waldrop gave the Technical Service Provider report to the Work Group by updating the group on cost-share developments, the hiring of a VSP Specialist, and aerial imagery analysis. See the January TSP report for more details.
 - Jane Hewitt mentioned that the contract addendum for Grays Harbor CD implementation costs for the remainder of the biennium is going through the county system.

New Business:

- New Work Group Members
 - The Work Group discussed adding Logan Zepp and Jay Gordon to the Work Group. Owen Shaffner made a motion to add Logan Zepp and Jay Gordon to the Work Group. A second was made by Kyle Deerkop. The motion passed by consensus.
 - **Action item:** Anthony will send Jay and Logan previous Work Group meeting minutes and the VSP budget.
- Work Group By-laws

- The Work Group reviewed the draft Grays Harbor County Voluntary Stewardship Program Work Group Ground Rules. A discussion was held about the intricacies of a consensus style system of decision-making. Owen Shaffner made a motion to adopt the Grays Harbor County VSP Work Group Ground Rules as written. A second was made by Jay Gordon. The motion passed by consensus.
- Open Public Meeting Training Recap
 - The Work Group discussed Open Public Meeting Act requirements. Kyle, Jay, and Logan reported completing the training video.
- NRCS Reports at Future Meetings
 - The Technical Service Provider shared the possibility of an NRCS representative coming to future Work Group meetings to share how NRCS programs intersect with the VSP. The Work Group supported inviting a local NRCS representative.
 - **Action item:** Anthony will invite Noah Bates from the local NRCS office to the next Work Group meeting.
- Ag Viability Updates
 - Jay Gordon shared about agricultural viability developments happening in Southwest Washington. Potential developments include an ag business park, craft district, grain storage and handling facility, and a craft brewing and distilling center. A discussion was held about how the Work Group can be involved in and support these developments. Kyle Deerkop made a motion for the Work Group to be added to the “Letter of Understanding Regarding Collaboration on Regional Agricultural Development in South Puget Sound,” under the condition that ‘South Puget Sound’ be changed to ‘Southwest Washington’. A second was made by Gary Waltenburg. The motion passed by consensus.
 - The Work Group expressed wanting to spend equal time on conservation efforts and ag viability efforts.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm. Next meeting is Thursday March 14 at 6:30pm at the County Commissioner’s Room in Montesano, WA.

Summary of Motions:

1. Kyle Deerkop made a motion to approve the January 3, 2019 VSP Work Group meeting minutes. A second was made by Gary Waltenburg. The motion passed by consensus.
2. Owen Shaffner made a motion to add Logan Zepp and Jay Gordon to the Work Group. A second was made by Kyle Deerkop. The motion passed by consensus.
3. Owen Shaffner made a motion to adopt the Grays Harbor County VSP Work Group Ground Rules as written. A second was made by Jay Gordon. The motion passed by consensus.
4. Kyle Deerkop made a motion for the Work Group to be added to the “Letter of Understanding Regarding Collaboration on Regional Agricultural Development in South Puget Sound,” under the condition that ‘South Puget Sound’ be changed to ‘Southwest Washington’. A second was made by Gary Waltenburg. The motion passed by consensus.