

Grays Harbor VSP Work Group Meeting

6:30 P.M. March 12th, 2020
County Commissioners Meeting Room
Montesano, WA

Attendees:

Work Group Members: Terry Moore, Terry Willis (chair), Darrell Haglund, Owen Shaffner, Ed Lagergren, Logan Zepp

Grays Harbor Conservation District Staff: Natalie Osowski

VSP Pioneer Participants: Heather Smith, Zak Smith

Washington State Conservation Commission: Bill Eller (by phone)

Work Group Members Absent: Jay Gordon (not excused), Kyle Deerkop (vice chair, excused), Gary Waltenburg (not 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 and Announcements: No public comment or announcements

Changes to the agenda: New Business item #4 "Pioneer Participant" was moved to business item #2. New Business item #3 "Washington State Conservation Commission Update-Bill Eller" was added to the agenda. Old business will be conducted after the "Pioneer Participant" and "Washington State Conservation Commission Update-Bill Eller" agenda items. Owen Shaffner moved to approve the changes to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Logan Zepp. The motion passed by consensus.

Old Business:

- Reading & Approval of Minutes
 - The Work Group reviewed the minutes from the February 13, 2020 VSP Work Group meeting. Terry Moore moved to approve the February 13, 2020 VSP Work Group meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Owen Shaffner. The motion passed by consensus.
- Technical Service Provider Report
 - Natalie Osowski gave the Technical Service Provider report to the Work Group by updating the group on recent meetings and outreach events. Natalie is hoping to have a No-Till Drill field demonstration at the end of March.
 - Two ISP checklists were completed for a total of 23 ISP checklists completed.
 - Natalie scheduled a 5-Year Report meeting with the Washington State Conservation Commission Natural Resource Specialist, Levi Keesecker. Levi's position provides assistance to the work group with monitoring design and analysis, conducting spatial analyses for critical area functions that span more

than one county, and developing a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) guidance document for VSP monitoring. This meeting is scheduled for March 24th.

New Business:

- Pioneer Participant
 - VSP Pioneer Participants Heather and Zak Smith of the Lincoln watershed visited the work group. Heather and Zak spoke of their farm and answered questions from the work group. Pioneer Participants are respected leaders in the community who are prone to be early adopters of innovative practices and willing to share their VSP experiences publicly with others.
- Washington State Conservation Commission Update-Bill Eller
 - Bill Eller, VSP Coordinator for the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) gave an update about the VSP State Technical Panel and Statewide Advisory Committee upcoming meetings. The Technical Panel reviews draft work plans submitted by the VSP Workgroup and makes recommendations to the State Conservation Commission Executive Director on whether to approve or reject the plan and reports. The Statewide Advisory Committee advises the Washington State Conservation Commission and other agencies involved in the development and operation of the VSP. The next Statewide Advisory Committee meeting is April 30th at 9AM. The next Technical Panel is meeting on May 27th, 2020 at 9AM and the county work groups are encouraged to comment on the issue of defining “agricultural activities”. The Technical Panel has received letters of concern from Yakima and Thurston counties regarding issues defining “agricultural activities”. Bill has been contacting other work groups to see if this is an issue in other counties as well.
- Budget Report
 - The work group reviewed and discussed the budget report. This report showed the funds that have been spent through the month of February. Logan Zepp moved to approve the Budget Report for the month of March. The motion was seconded by Terry Moore. The motion passed by consensus.
- Cost Share Project Updates
 - The Work Group was presented with two cost share projects involving a Roof Runoff Structure. Landowner information was redacted from the documents being reviewed. The first project was numbered 17621 and was discussed by the members on whether the project meets the requirements of the Voluntary Stewardship Program.
 - Darrell Haglund moved to approve the cost share project numbered 17621. A second was made by Terry Moore. 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.

- The second project was numbered 6508 and was also a Roof Runoff Structure. The project was discussed by the members on whether the project meets the requirements of the Voluntary Stewardship Program. The work group discussed the possibility of the landowner paying the difference for the upgraded snow gutters.
 - Owen Shaffner moved to approve the cost share project numbered 6508 with the exception that the landowner pays for the upgraded snow gutters. 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.
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- Succession Planning Workshop Scholarships Update
 - Natalie Osowski gave an update regarding the \$450 in scholarships to the “Ties to the Land” Succession Planning event being held on March 27th. The Washington State Conservation Commission did not approve the spending of \$450 for scholarships.
 - Future Meeting Dates and Topics
 - The next meeting was scheduled for April 9th, 2020 at 6:30 PM at the County Commissioners Room in Montesano, WA.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM. Next meeting will be April 9, 2020 at 6:30 PM at the County Commissioner’s Room in Montesano, WA.

Summary of Motions:

1. Owen Shaffner moved to approve the changes to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Logan Zepp. The motion passed by consensus.
2. Terry Moore moved to approve the February 13, 2020 VSP Work Group meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Owen Shaffner. The motion passed by consensus.
3. Logan Zepp moved to approve the Budget Report for the month of March. The motion was seconded by Terry Moore. The motion passed by consensus.
4. Darrell Haglund moved to approve the cost share project numbered 17621. A second was made by Terry Moore. The motion passed by consensus.
5. Owen Shaffner moved to approve the cost share project numbered 6508 with the exception that the landowner pays for the upgraded snow gutters. A second was made by Logan Zepp. The motion passed by consensus.