

Walla Walla County VSP Dec. '17 Work Group Meeting Minutes

Date: Dec. 5, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Conservation

District Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Brian Burns, Tri-State Steelheaders Brian Maiden, Ag. Community David Haire, CTUIR Robert Riley, Ag. Community Judith Johnsons, Kooskooskie Commons Jason Bulay, Blue Mtn. Land Trust

Absent: Mark Klicker, Ag. Community; Jonathan Hellberg/Wilson, Ag. Community

Also present:

Tom Schirm, WDFW; John Wells, Anderson-Perry Renee Hadley, Lisa Stearns, Audrey Ahmann, Joanna Cowles of WWCCD

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairman David Haire

Minutes: The minutes were reviewed. Judith Johnson moved and Robert Riley seconded to approve the October minutes as presented, motion passed.¹

1) Discussion of the state review of the WW Work Plan: Hadley reviewed the responses of the state technical panel to the Work Plan. The panel would not approve the plan without changing the participation goals to add a focused outreach section as opposed to relying on walk-ins. This led to (on page 55) adding a section specifying parcels and landowners for focused outreach. Hadley explained that those outside the focused areas will be eligible. Only landowners with parcels over 100 acres will be receiving outreach letters. It was suggested that recipients be informed of how they were selected. Hadley was asked if we could include people with several holdings that total more than 100 acres; she replied we certainly could although the reviewers wanted to especially see participation from those with larger parcels.

Johnson asked how the County Community Development process and the Comprehensive Plan update will affect VSP. Hadley explained it will identify critical areas. The County might add a caveat about VSP in reference to how these are protected on ag. lands.

- 2) **Next Step**: The group had several suggestions for the letter drafted as the first step in targeted outreach. Jason Bulay suggested adding a VSP flyer with more detail about the program. After this and other suggestions were noted, Jason Bulay moved and Brian Burns seconded to approve the letter as amended, motion passed. The letters will be sent after the holidays.
- 3) **Schedule for Future meetings**: After some discussion, David Hair suggested an annual meeting with the first one scheduled for March 2019 and this was accepted by all. Judith

¹ There was no November meeting.

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Johnson requested the group be kept informed via a quarterly report, which will be sent to all Work Group members.

Public Comments: The Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership is looking for members. The TSS Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday at 6:30.

With no further business on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Audrey Ahmann

WWCCD

David Hair 🚄

Vice-Chairman

Next meeting: March 2019