

Agenda
Work Group
Spokane County Voluntary Stewardship Program
September 17th, 2018
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Work Group Members Present: Casey Flanagan, Doug Greenlund, Ty Meyer, Kevin Paulson, Crystal Oliver, Robyn Meenach, Judy Crowder, Amanda Parish

Staff: Lindsay Chutas, Seth Flanders, Walt Edelen

Facilitator: Andy Dunau

Welcome, Minutes and Announcements: Andy Dunau welcomed participants to the meeting and introductions were made around the room. Draft August minutes were discussed. Robyn made a motion to accept the minutes and Casey seconded. The motion passed.

SCD held a public meeting on Thursday September 13th to present the draft work plan and receive comments. The Citizens Alliance for Property Rights (CAPR) submitted a letter stating their concerns with the constitutionality of VSP, the need for agricultural benchmarks in order for ag viability to be on “equal footing” with critical areas, and concerns with monitoring that may violate citizens rights. CAPR also commended the work group for not pursuing enforcement strategies as a part of implementation. CAPR and other public meeting input were folded into work plan review discussions.

On September 17th, Walt gave a briefing to to the Spokane County Commissioners.

Work Plan Review: Andy passed out the executive summary for workgroup review and walked the work group through revisions made since the August meeting. By consensus, the group completed the editing process.

Judy requested that that GIS and aerial photography be added to the definitions section, including assurance that these tools will only be used by VSP at the watershed scale. Lindsay will write it, Walt will review it, and Andy will put it in the plan.

SCD staff will write captions for each picture in the workplan.

Judy also made a motion to add a link to the workplan that would go to a PDF of the original legislation that would be housed on a SCD server. Kevin seconded. The motion did not pass for lack of a majority. Aye: Judy, Kevin, Casey, Crystal. Nay: Ty, Doug, Amanda, Robyn.

Work Plan Submittal: Ty Meyer made a motion to submit the draft work plan to the Washington State Conservation Commission for VSP Technical Panel review. Robyn Meenach seconded. The motion passed with all present in favor.

Action Items and Closing:

Walt and Andy explained that final revisions and formatting of the work plan would be made and submitted to the SCC by the end of the month. SCD staff will make a presentation to the state technical team on October 26th.

Feedback and written comments from the technical team will be shared with the work group. Based on these comments and possible suggestions for revision, a determination will be made regarding whether the work group needs to reconvene in November.

Assuming approval of the work plan in the November/December timeframe, an application to join the work group implementation team will be distributed. Those members of the current work group whose terms have ended may reapply to join the implementation work group. Those members whose terms are currently active may continue with the implementation team automatically.

The goal is to convene the first implementation team work group session in January. In the meantime, Andy will work with staff to develop a draft scope of work for implementation. This will be based on draft work plan deliverables and reviewed at the first implementation team meeting.

Walt thanked all members of the work group and staff for their hard work in devoting two years of effort to making VSP come to life!