



Okanogan County VSP Meeting Minutes

1 A regular meeting of the Okanogan County VSP Workgroup was held on July 27, 2023 at 5:00
2 p.m. via web: Microsoft Teams Meeting and phone conference.

3 **VOULUNTARY STEWARDSHIP MEMBERS:** Jay Kehne, Dan Russell, Dale Smith, Dick Ewing,
4 Justin Stanley, Nicole Kuchenbuch, Rick Delap

5 **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Rocky Robbins, Planner III

6
7 **Approve Agenda:** Dan moved to approve, Rick seconded, all approved

8 **Approve Minutes:** Nicole moved to approve, Jay seconded, all approved.
9

10 **Partner/Agency Updates:** Justin updated the group about the new contract and new funding.
11 He explained where the funds will be distributed and the programs that are available. The
12 group discussed possible other programs that could benefit Okanogan County.
13

14 **VSP Recaps:** Just highlighted various completed projects from the last year.
15

16 **Upcoming projects:** Just detailed upcoming project. The Wehmeyer project will fence out
17 cattle from a wetland and the Okanogan River with 3,344 feet of fencing, 600-750 ft of pipeline
18 and a watering facility. The total cost is \$30,753.45 with a 75% cost share of \$23,065.08. The
19 group discussed the details and requirements of the project. Nicole moved to authorize Justin
20 to rewrite the project to included trees and shrubs and resubmit to the Riparian Grant Program
21 and if that doesn't come through, fund the project from the VSP funds. Jay seconded, all
22 approved.
23

24 **Monitoring Plan:** The new biennium contract requires VSP counties to make a monitoring plan
25 by June 30th, 2024. The monitoring plan will lay out all the protocols and steps for competing
26 monitoring for VSP and will increase the budget for developing the plan. Justin explained the
27 process and the document that was provided to help with the plan. Craig explained some of the
28 restrictions that may cause difficulties in creating the monitoring plan. The group discussed the
29 possible ramifications of continual, annual monitoring and reporting.
30

31 **2-year report approval:** The report is due 8/30/23. The CD is currently working on the 2023-
32 2025 two-year report and are hoping to have the first draft by the end of next week. Justin is
33 hoping that two work group people are willing to come and help and provide guidance. The
34 group discussed the benefits of just holding an extra meeting to approve the report so that
35 everyone can be involved. The group will meet at 2pm on Monday, August 14th. Dan moved to
36 allow the approval to be made by two members of the group Nicole seconded all approved.
37

38 **Budget/Approval:** The CD would like the VSP group to approve the CD staff to use VSP funds
39 to go to training that the planner and the manager believe is appropriate without the group

40 needing to meet since it has been getting more difficult to get the appropriate training. Dan
41 moved to approve the conservation district to go to training related to VSP implementation
42 subject to the approval of the Director Nicole seconded all approved.

43

44 Justin explained the 2023-2025 budget. Jay moved to accept the budget as proposed, Rick
45 seconded, all approved.

46

47 **Next meeting** October 26, 2023 at 5 pm

48

49 **Adjourn** Nicole moved to adjourn all approved 6:12pm