



OKANOGAN COUNTY
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

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Okanogan County VSP Meeting Minutes

1 A regular meeting of the Okanogan County VSP Workgroup was held on October 24th, 2019 at
2 6:30 p.m. in the Natural Resource Conference Room, 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan,
3 Washington.

4 **OKANOGAN COUNTY STAFF:** Natural Resource Planner Angie Hubbard and Administrative
5 Secretary Cortney Ingle

6 **VOULUNTARY STEWARDSHIP MEMBERS:** Dick Ewing, Bill Tackman, Jerry Barnes, and
7 Maurice.

8 **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Amy Martin
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10 **Approve Agenda:** Bill moves to accept the Agenda as written, Jerry seconds, agenda
11 approved as written.
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13 **Approve Minutes:** Bill moves to approve the minutes as written, Jerry seconds, minutes
14 approved as written.
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16 **Review of 2 year reporting & State Tech Panel Updates:** Amy informed the group that
17 discussion is happening on the 5 year review. And that there are five agencies on the tech
18 panel. Group discussed the high-resolution change detection. Amy let the group know that she
19 will be keeping everybody up to date.

- 20 • Amy stated that they are working on a couple cost share projects that were discussed
21 and approved at the last meeting.
- 22 • Amy let the group know that a couple people in the agency have moved on and that
23 there is a new wildlife planner that will start the beginning of November. They are still
24 working on getting a new farmland planner. She shared that the range planning, crop
25 cover, no till, and prescribed grazing cost share projects will be a little tougher to get
26 going with the staff.
- 27 • Dick talked about what pathways there are for interested people that would like to
28 contact the agencies for the projects/practices.
- 29 • Dick asked if any work has been done on the opportunities of water leasing. Amy states
30 that there was a recommendation made.
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32 **Projects:** Group discussed pond monitoring for drought. There are two new ag study areas for
33 WSU in our area. Amy showed the group where the new site is located up Havillah. The group
34 discussed other areas such as the Golden Doe for another study area. Amy pointed out that a
35 new study area has to be an area with no influences such as roads, irrigation, etc. She followed
36 that with saying that the land owner has to agree to clean off the little tower to keep snow and
37 other debris from building up on it.

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- Amy informed the group that she will check with Alissa about the Golden Doe area and that any new towers would have to be installed before it freezes this year.
 - Amy stated that three ponds are getting new water level monitors. One is on Mark Timmermans property up Havillah, another one is up by Cameron Lakes area, and one in the Sinlahekin. All are on private land and the land owners have agrees to monitor them. Amy stated that it takes about a day to get the system installed in a pond.
 - The group discussed other uninfluenced lakes and ponds that could be studied. One being Bonners lake and another being Cougar Creek.
 - Rachel helped remove 675 feet of fence to open up the land for grazing. VSP funds were used for the dump fee and the staff time.

49 **New Work Group Members:** Dick asked if Rachel would be available. Amy stated that she will
50 be ranching in the palisades. Amy is going to try to get on the agenda for the Horticulture
51 Association and the Cattleman’s agenda to try to get new members.

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54 **Next Meeting:** (Group agreed on meeting quarterly)

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57 **Adjourn:** Dick moves to adjourn, Jerry seconds, meeting adjourned.

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59 **Summary of Motions**

60 Bill moves to accept the Agenda as written, Jerry seconds, agenda approved as written.

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62 Bill moves to approve the minutes as written, Jerry seconds, minutes approved as written.

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64 Dick moves to adjourn, Jerry seconds, meeting adjourned.

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66 Cortney Ingle
67 Admin Secretary
68 Okanogan County Office of Planning & Development