



OKANOGAN COUNTY
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

123 - 5th Ave. N. Suite 130 - Okanogan, WA 98840

(509) 422-7160 • FAX: (509) 422-7349 • TTY/Voice Use 800-833-6388

email: planning@co.okanogan.wa.us

Okanogan County VSP Meeting Minutes

1 A regular meeting of the Okanogan County VSP Workgroup was held on February 13th, 2018 at
2 6:30 p.m. in the Natural Resource Conference Room, 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan,
3 Washington.

4 **OKANOGAN COUNTY STAFF:** Director of Planning Perry Huston, Natural Resource Planner
5 Angie Hubbard, Administrative Secretary Cortney Ingle

6 **VOULUNTARY STEWARDSHIP MEMBERS:** Jerry Barnes, Dick Ewing, Les Kinney, Nicole
7 Kuchenbuch, George Thornton

8 **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Amy Martin, Mindy Widell, Lynda Hoffman (via phone)

9
10 **Approve Agenda:** George moved to accept the agenda, Nicole seconded, agenda approved.

11
12 **Approve Minutes:** George moved to approve the minutes from the September 13th, 2018
13 meeting, Jerry seconded, minutes approved.

14
15 **Implementation Update – Okanogan CD:** Amy presented her Okanogan VSP Implementation
16 Update power point. The first annual report is due August 30th. Following that by three years will
17 be the 5 year report. Moving on to another slide of the presentation, Amy stated the Four
18 Functions of Critical areas which are: Water Quality, Hydrology, Wildlife, and Soil. Jerry brought
19 up that the BPA wanted to have a program, 8-10 years ago, that would have helped
20 farmers/ranchers with irrigation supplies and costs. Jerry followed that by stating that it would be
21 nice to have an off-stream equipment demonstration. Group discussed different types of pumps,
22 those that run off of electricity and those that don't, as well as their efficiency. Les explained his
23 experience with hardened water spots. Amy then spoke about the budget that is through the
24 PUD and how the Okanogan CD is working on utilizing that budget to prove it useful so that they
25 do not get it taken away. Group discussed options and ideas on how to replant or grow native
26 plants after they have been burning out by wildfires. Group then talked about soil programs to
27 help with irrigation efficiencies and the technical assistance that goes with those programs. Amy
28 stated that dry land cover crops are being studied as well. Amy noted upcoming workshops and
29 demonstrations will include livestock watering and pesticide application on Federal Land (forest
30 service areas). Group discussed what one has to do to get a commercial pesticide application
31 license. Jerry and Les gave examples of credits that must be earned and in what time period in
32 order to do this. Amy then pulled up the website www.whitmancountyvsp.mapspeed.org and
33 explained the new mapping tools available to the public. Whitman County has created this for
34 producers to see what is near them and to submit checklists.

35
36 **Review Outreach outline and discuss:**

37
38 **Financial Update:** Perry reported that the current balance is \$58,747.97

39 Group discussed different funding options for projects including cost share ideas. Amy
40 mentioned that she believes Whitman County spent around \$10,000 on their new mapping tool.

41

42

43 **Next Meeting:** May 9th, 2019 at 6:30 PM

44 Group discussed meeting the second Thursday of the coming months.

45

46

47 **Adjourn:** Nicole moves to adjourn the meeting, Dick seconded, meeting adjourned.

48

49

50 Cortney Ingle

51 Admin Secretary