



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 July 25th, 2019 at 6:30
2 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, Les Kinney, Bill Tackman, and
7 Rachel McClure filling in for Jerry Barnes.

8 **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Amy Martin and Hannah Coe
9

10 **Approve Agenda:** Bill moves to accept the Agenda as written, Les seconds, motion carries.
11

12 **Approve Minutes:** Rachel moves to accept the minutes with the correction of the spelling of
13 "Mindy's" last name to "Untalan", Les seconds, motion carries.
14

15 **State/Local Program Updates:** Amy announced that each county was allocated \$240,000 for
16 the next two years. Two year status reports on what has been being done are due on August
17 30th, 2019. Amy mentioned a High Resolution Change Detection with the VSP state budget but
18 groups choose to pursue it or not. Rachel stated that she attended a presentation on livestock
19 watering.
20
21

22 **Discussion and Approvals:**

- 23 • Group discussed different types of projects and monitoring the environmental changes
24 that accrued over 5 years. Les asked who will be monitoring the current conditions and
25 checking the conditions in 5 years. Amy stated that the conservation district will be
26 monitoring the VSP projects. Les voiced his concern about the accuracy of the types of
27 monitoring that he witnessed through the Forest Service.
- 28 • Amy presented a budget chart on her slide show. A good portion of the money is set
29 aside for staff time. There is also a budget for "Supplies & Equipment" that can be used
30 to purchase things such as lunches, etc. for meetings and/or presentations/workshops.
31 As well as the cost share budget to help farmers and ranchers with projects. The group
32 discussed how they need to decide how the cost shares would be administered (i.e. how
33 much goes too each applicant, how to divide it between projects, etc.). Amy presented a
34 Contract for Cost Share Funds that the Conservation District uses. The funds through
35 cost share can go to the land owner or the manager of the land but would need a land
36 owner's signature either way. Bill moves to authorize the Conservation District to
37 manage the cost share program with presented updates to the VSP group, Les seconds,
38 motion carries. Amy then presented proposed cost share scenarios in her slide show.

- 39
- 40 • The group then discussed “Native Plants” on the evaluation criteria. After discussion
41 Amy stated that the wordage would be changed. Les moved to accept the practiced and
42 evaluation criteria with the change of wordage, Rachel seconds, practiced and
43 evaluation criteria accepted with said changes.
 - 44 • During a discussion about the costs of building fences Les stated that he feels the total
45 maximum amount for one person should be the whole \$10,000 budget for “interior
46 fencing” instead of dividing the \$10,000 between two applicants. Rachel moves that no
47 on applicant will receive more than \$10,000 one biennial, Les seconds, motion carries.
48 Amy stated that she does encourage applicants to fill out a VSP checklist; however, it is
49 not a requirement.

50 **Work Group Member Recruitment:** These are for positions that have vacancies or need an
51 alternate. The group discussed reaching out to a number of people such as: Dick Lorz with
52 Horticulture, Case Smith (Commissioner Hover’s District), Victor Maldonado (Commissioner
53 Detro’s District), Austin Olma, Chuck Goldmark (Commissioner Branch District) possible
54 alternate.
55

56
57 **Next Meeting:** October 24th, 2019 (Group agreed on meeting quarterly)
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60 **Adjourn:** 8:25 PM Bill moves to Adjourn, Rachel seconds, meeting adjourned.
61

62 Summary of Motions

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64 Bill moves to accept the Agenda as written, Les seconds, motion carries.
65

66 Rachel moves to accept the minutes with the correction of the spelling of “Mindy’s” last name to
67 “Untalan”, Les seconds, motion carries.
68

69 Bill moves to authorize the Conservation District to manage the cost share program with
70 presented updates to the VSP group, Les seconds, motion carries.
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72 Les moved to accept the practiced and evaluation criteria with the change of wordage, Rachel
73 seconds, practiced and evaluation criteria accepted with said changes.
74

75 Rachel moves that no on applicant will receive more than \$10,000 one biennial, Les seconds,
76 motion carries.
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79 Cortney Ingle
80 Admin Secretary
81 Okanogan County Office of Planning & Development