

**FRANKLIN COUNTY VSP
WORKGROUP MEETING MINUTES**

AUGUST 25, 2016

**Franklin Public Utility District Auditorium
1411 W. Clark Street, Pasco WA**

ATTENDED BY

James Alford (Farm Bureau), Kent McMullen (FC NRAC), Dave Solem (SCBID), Ryan Cloud (DNR), Rick Miller (FC Commissioner), Robin Priddy (Benton Clean Air Agency), Kathy Criddle (LCBAS), Debbie Berkowitz (LCBAS), Valerie Carlson (LCBAS), Mark Weiseler (FCD), Mark Nielson (FCD), Heather Wendt (FCD), Ben Floyd (Anchor QEA).

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Mark Nielson, FCD District Manager, thanked everyone for attending. The conservation district is here to act as a technical resource for the workgroup. We have hired Anchor QEA to facilitate the workgroup meetings and to develop the work plan under the direction of this group.

FRANKLIN COUNTY VSP STATUS

Mark Nielson reviewed the workgroup organization and appointment process. It was not clear if the County Commissioners would be formally appointing workgroup members. Rick Miller will ask the County Commissioners at their next meeting if they plan to make formal appointments.

Ben Floyd reported that Franklin County started the VSP process a little later than some of the counties however it is anticipated that we will still meet the mandated deadlines and have a final product approved by June 2017. With that said the workgroup will be very busy this winter. A Work Plan Timeline was provided to the group and can also be found on the FC VSP website.

DRAFT GROUND RULES

Ben Floyd reviewed the draft ground rules with the group. The goal is for the work group to reach consensus on work plan elements. The workgroup can appoint a Chair if they would like. VSP Workgroups are subject to the Open Public Meetings Act. Therefore all workgroup members should take the training provided by the Attorney General's Office. We will send out a link to all members so they can watch the required training video. If a workgroup member would like to designate an alternate to participate in their absence the alternate needs to be designated up front and in writing to the conservation district. The group was asked to review the draft ground rules and to have comments to Heather Wendt by September 15th so the document can be approved at the next meeting. LCBAS will need to determine who will be sitting at the table as a Work Group member. All meetings are open to the public and so anyone who is interested can attend the meetings.

VSP OVERVIEW AND HISTORY

Ben Floyd presented a power point presentation that provided background information on VSP, VSP principles, establishing baseline conditions for critical areas, establishing agricultural baselines, and VSP work plan elements. A tour of critical areas was requested and the consensus of the group was that it would be beneficial to view where critical areas interface with agricultural lands as a point of reference. FCD staff will work on putting together a tour this fall. The issue of agricultural viability was discussed in relation to urban sprawl and wind erosion. Those may be elements that we can discuss in the plan. In addition, identification of programmatic barriers to conservation and innovation would also be helpful as we develop an implementation strategy.

Public Comment / Other:

ADJOURN:

The meeting concluded at 3:10pm