

**Pend Oreille VSP Work Group Meeting
02/08/2019 Meeting Summary**

Attendees:

David Marcell – Pend Oreille County Conservation District
Lisa Alkire – Weed Board
Mike Jensen – WSU Extension
Larry Cordes - Producer
Sharon Sorby – Pend Oreille Weed Board
Jeff Lawlor – WDFDW
Mike Lithgow – Kalispel Natural Resources
Andy Huddleston – Community Development
Ben Floyd – White Bluffs Consulting
Michelle Masuen – Producer

TIME: 10:00AM- 10:51

Reviewed Notes from Prior Group Meeting

Implementation Highlights

Agreements and Contracts

- Pend Oreille County Weed Board/ IT
 - Lisa Alkire has been hired one day a week to take care of our education outreach
- Ferry and Lincoln Conservation Districts
 - Hired a bookkeeper

Outreach to date

- Articles, post cards, newsletter, other.

Article was produced in the miner January 30th

Lisa is working on producing postcards. We had 1000 ore more total landowners. But there are 288 farms that are larger than 10 acres. So we will send the postcards to them first.

Ben - if we google 2012 farm data in POC there were about 288 farms that had about 1000\$ or more in annual production.

Larry Cordes - People who aren't even farming receive that survey. It's probably more accurate to go off of the county list we have.

David - Each time we send out postcards or put an article in the paper it's expensive but worth the contact. The plan is to do another article in the miner that states we are ready and then do another round of postcards after that.

Tracking/ Reporting

- GIS Specialist Job Opportunity

Job description has been posted and interview confirmed the next week.

David has budgeted \$10,000 between now and the end of June for GIS Specialist. They are a Lincoln county employee we will get an invoice from their time.

Next Steps

Budget Review

- FY 17-19' Admin and Available Cost Share

David- well on track for getting money out the door. We were contracted \$56,000 and we have \$42,000 left. Budget has worked out, but if we were going to do this next year, we need to put that together now. David will meet with commissioners and Greg Snow as soon as possible.

Want to start a pilot project, If David would to start permit today, he'd be pushing it.

Ben- Are there projects you could get 6 going that are close rather than 3 completed

David – We could start permitting process, so they are sitting there waiting to be funded.

David – Went to NRCS office to find out about folks who are waiting to be funded.

Jeff- Is there a type of dedication for the budget or is it dependable on the budget we get?

David – Prefers to have it as a task in the budget. We're waiting to hear for the budget numbers for implementation. We want to know the budget we have so that when we talk to landowners, we know we could fund the project rather than let them know we have to apply for a grant and wait etc.

Mike – Do we have a process set up on how we rank and approve projects?

David – No, it's a good idea to.

Mike – We want to set one up so that it is a consistent process moving forward.

David – I will find out what other people are doing as far as applications/ evaluation process and bring it to our next meeting.

Larry – Each project should also be judged on how we get the biggest bang for our buck too.

David -Had a question about private/public land to Ben. If its Ag land that is being leased out does it apply?

Ben – Yes.

David-Did you get the newsletter from the commission? David will forward it to Ben.

Sharon- Highly recommends writing a policy that says how we would run the program. Require landowners to prove success, applications, etc. Give it to Greg to take to the commissioners to get it approved.

Outreach Plan Continued

- March 9th, 2019 Weed Board/ POCD Workshop

David has annual CD meeting on the workshop the weed board puts together and will hopefully have elections for POCD meeting.

- Farmers Markets/ County Fair/ Ag Group Meetings

Lisa is creating contact list to get these on our radar.

Build GIS system for conservation practices implementation tracking

- Training w/ Franklin Conservation District Staff
- Interview / hire GIS specialist

Work Group Meetings

- 2nd quarter 2019 Work Group meeting coordination

We talked about quarterly meetings but it's not set in stone.

Talking about having another meeting in March. Lisa will send out doodle poll.

General Communication

Sharon – we should put the group will operate under the POCD governing authority since it would keep things the simplest.

David –We will get some formality and policy written up for the group moving forward

Andy Huddleston will connect with Dolly Hunt and County Commissioners on VSP Work Group Authorities and Policies.

Lisa will post flyers to PO, Community Development, Camas Center- send to Mike, WSU Extension, assessor's office and auditor's office.

Lisa send out Newsletter to Work Group.

Media Distribution – news releases to the POCWB list.