

Adams County VSP WG Meeting April 17, 2025

ECBID Board Room; Zoom

10:00 Am-12:00 PM

Attendees: Jake Wollman Jr., Dave Leatherman, Cara Hulce (Adams CD), Grant Miller

CBCD Staff: Dinah Rouleau, Kaley Wisher, Wade Haughton, Britton Baker, Harold Crose, Deanna Elliott, Chauna Carlson

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by K. Wisher at 10:07 AM.

Public Comment: None

Approval of January 2025, Quarterly Adams VSP Meeting Minutes: Correction – None

Point of Information: David Leatherman, A request for additions and corrections should take place before request for minutes' approval.

Motion by G. Miller to accept the Quarterly Adams VSP Meeting Minutes, as presented, seconded by D. Leatherman, motion carries.

Individual Stewardship Plans (ISP) – B. Baker: Currently 1 plan in development to be completed before next quarter. 1 new plan not begun.

Implementation Budget - The budget was updated to reflect through April 14th, 2025.

Technical assistance for VSP and Washington State Conservation Commission is the targeted support of the conservation district to development and support conservation concerns or needs within the boundaries of the district. D. Rouleau provided the update with supporting comments from D. Elliott.

J. Wollman Jr: Motion: Reallocate \$2,000.00 from cost share outcome #4 to outcome #6 to print Inland Pacific Northwest Pasture Calendar PNW708 publication from WSU.

C. Hulce 2nd – Motion carries

H. Crose: Motion: Reallocate remaining \$8,000.00 from cost share outcome #4 to outcome #1 Salaries Benefits technical assistance.

G. Miller 2nd – Motion carries

VSP 5-year reporting – D. Elliott: Adams County VSP's 5-year report is due April 2026.

Adams VSP team recently provided status report presentations to SCC VSP Coordinator Mike Poteet and Adams County Planning Director Andie Lorenz on March 24th. VSP team presented status report for Adams County VSP implementation to WSCC Statewide Advisory Committee and Technical Panel on April 9th 2025. Adams VSP team continues to prepare for completing and submitting the 5-year report before the April 2026 deadline.

CBCD Cost Share Update – W. Haughton provided an update on end of biennium cost share for Adams County VSP: 3 funded projects impacting 1,624 acres. \$216,000 awarded.

Groundwater Monitoring – B. Baker provided an update on monitoring plan implementation. Currently monitoring (8) wells for groundwater level. Frequency is (1x/month) until the end of June 2025 (funding through WSU). Beginning July 2025 with VSP funding frequency will be 2 – 3x/year for water level and 1-2x/year for nitrate screening.

Shrub-Steppe Monitoring: K. Wisher provided a Shrub-Steppe mitigation update.

OGWRP Update – H. Crose provided an update on OGWRP

EL 86.4 funded by RCPP and WaterSMART delivered water to operators connected to the lateral on April 1st 2025. A celebration for the completed project will be held on May 5th, 2025. For details, please contact the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District.

84.7 and 80.7 systems are at 100% design waiting approval.

WDFW Wind & Solar Guidelines: K. Wisher provided an update.

Adams VSP Outreach: W. Haughton provided updates on the PNW Inland Pasture Training WSU extension event (March 19th) and the WSU MEAT up Summit (April 5th), K. Wisher provided an update on the Othello Sandhill Crane Festival (March 21-23) and the Washington Wildlife Society Annual Conference (March 26th), D. Rouleau provided an update on the Eco Gardening Symposium (April 5th) and two upcoming events:

May 3rd, 2025 – The Ripple Effect “Riparian Summit” in Royal City Washington. This is a free event that is not just wetland focused. This is a landowner and agricultural operator event focused on funding opportunities. To learn more, visit the Columbia Basin Conservation District website or email Dinah Rouleau to RSVP (Dinah-rouleau@columbiabasincd.org).

June 3rd, 2025 – The Ripple Effect “Crab Creek Summit” at the Wanapum Cultural Center. This is a free event that is focused on the Lower Crab Creek Watershed. To learn more, visit the Columbia Basin Conservation District website or Facebook page.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by K. Wisher at 11:43 AM.

A special session may be held during the Month of June 2025 to address business related to the new VSP biennium.

Next Quarterly Meeting will be July 17, 2025, and will be a hybrid meeting at ECBID’s boardroom