

DRAFT

Minutes from the Shared Governance Subcommittee Meeting

CRAB CREEK WATERSHED PLANNING UNIT

Conference Room, USDA Service Center

Davenport, WA

February 5th, 2010 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: (8)

Sue Lani Madsen, Landowner

Dean White, Landowner, Lincoln County CD

Chester Templin, Landowner

Don Phillips, Landowner

David Lundgren, Lincoln County CD

Carol Paul, Landowner, LC Farm Bureau

Scott Barr, Landowner

Dennis Bly, Lincoln County, Landowner

SESSION CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Sue Lani Madsen opened the meeting at 11:00 AM. Dennis Bly called in to participate in the meeting by speaker phone. Sue Lani turned the meeting over to Scott Barr to go over his revised “More on Shared Governance” document and his 15 point summary for this document. The notes from the meeting below cover some of the important viewpoints brought up during the meeting. The product of the meeting is the revised more on shared governance document (revised_shared_governance_02982010.doc).

DISCUSSION AND COMMENT:

Discussion on Shared Governance

Scott announced that he would like the WRIA 43 WRMG (Water Resource Management Group) to make up its mind first on what it wants do with shared governance before sitting down at the table to discuss this with Ecology.

Dennis noted that a continuing point of contention with Ecology is that Ecology sent out the 10 letters to livestock producers without consulting or notifying the WRMG first.

David commented that he would like to see any shared governance agreement with Ecology cover all of Lincoln County and not just the WRIA 43 area in the county.

Dennis noted that the WRMG cannot be a “coordinating government” because its members are not elected by the public.

David asked that the language in the shared governance document be edited so that the WRMG won’t be perceived as telling Ecology what to do. The WRMG needs to do its part to work with the growers and livestock producers in the county.

Sue Lani suggested that Ecology needs to review and assess its own progress on water quality improvement in WRIA 43. With the current impasse between the livestock producers and Ecology in WRIA 43, Ecology is not getting much done with its mission to improve water quality in the watershed. Ecology needs the WRMG to help encourage and facilitate the process of getting livestock producers to implement water quality improvement projects on their land. Ecology needs the WRMG to communicate and work with the local livestock producers.

David reminded the subcommittee members that the Lincoln County Conservation District still has a Level 4 agreement with Ecology to address water quality complaints in Lincoln County. However, this agreement was signed twenty or more years ago, and many of the current Ecology employees in the East Region office were not even aware that this agreement even existed for Lincoln County.

Sue Lani suggested that some of the wording from the preamble in the WRIA 43 watershed plan be used in the shared governance document. For example, the following wording on the objective for watershed planning in WRIA 43 could be used: “The objective of the WRIA 43 Planning Unit was to participate in a process to provide local input and potential shared management of the water resources within the Crab Creek Watershed...”

Scott advised that the WRMG needs to know that it is standing on solid ground with respect to the law as defined in 98.02 and with the watershed plan. Scott noted that Gene St. Godard had volunteered to work with him to upgrade and revise the language for shared governance for more authority. The WRMG will probably want to ask the Washington State Conservation Commission if they could and would be willing to serve as the facilitator for any future negotiations between the WRMG and Ecology.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM. If you have any questions please call the Lincoln County Conservation District at 509 725-4181 ext. 3, or send an email to: dlundgren@wadistrict.net