

# Columbia County Voluntary Stewardship Program Work Group Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2021 ~ Zoom Meeting Platform

## I. Call to Order

Work Group Vice Chair Joy Eckhoff called to order the meeting of the Columbia County VSP Work Group at 5:32 p.m. on August 25, 2021.

## II. Attendance

Attendance: Joy Eckhoff, Roland Schirman, Terry Brugeman, Aneesha Dieu (Conservation District Staff), Val Turner (Conservation District Staff), Dena Martin (County Planning Staff).

## III. Approval of Minutes

*Schirman moved to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2021 meeting; Bruegman seconded; all approved.*

## IV. Discussion/Action Items

- **2-year Report Discussion:** Work group members discussed the draft 2-Year Report. The following suggestions were made:
  - Successes – Under section 6 “Successes” Eckhoff suggested including quotes from growers/producers on how projects impacted their ag operation in a positive way. Dieu suggested highlighting the educational nutrient management cost-share project and will gather pictures and a quote from Hutchens.
  - Schirman – Reference the county-wide voluntary adoption of conservation measures as evidenced by the fact that Columbia County ranks high in the state for no-disturbance tillage practices. Dieu said the County also ranks very high in CRP participation. Dieu will gather data and it will be added to report section 4.4.4 “Individual Stewardship.”
- **2-year Report Approval:**
  - *Bruegman moved approve submission of the 2-year Report to the State Conservation Commission with the discussed edits. Schirman seconded. All approved.*

## V. Comments, concerns, items not listed on the agenda

None.

## VI. Next Meeting

Martin will send out a Doodle Poll in September to gauge work group meeting availability in early October once farming slows and the fair is over.

## VII. Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.*