

1                   **YAKIMA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
 2                   **(GWAC)**

3                   **MEETING SUMMARY**

4                   **Thursday, July 27, 2017 – 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

5                   **Radio KDNE Conference Rooms 1-2**  
 6                   **121 Sunnyside Avenue, Granger, WA 98932**

7  
 8                   *Note: This document is only a summary of issues and actions of this meeting. It is not intended to be*  
 9                   *a transcription of the meeting, but an overview of points raised and responses from Yakima County*  
 10                   *and Groundwater Advisory Committee members. It may not fully represent the ideas discussed or*  
 11                   *opinions given. Examination of this document cannot equal or replace attendance.*

12                   **I. Call to Order:** This meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM by Vern Redifer, Facilitator.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Seat</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Stuart Turner	Agronomist, Turner and Co.,		✓
Chelsea Durfey			✓
Bud Rogers	Lower Valley Community Representative Position 1	✓	
Kathleen Rogers	Lower Valley Community Representative Position 1 (alternate)	✓	
Patricia Newhouse	Lower Valley Community Representative Position 2	✓	
Sue Wedam	Lower Valley Community Representative Position 2 (alternate)	✓	
Doug Simpson	Irrigated Crop Producer	✓	
Jean Mendoza	Friends of Toppenish Creek	✓	
Eric Anderson	Friends of Toppenish Creek (alternate)		✓
Jan Whitefoot	Concerned Citizens of the Yakama Reservation		✓
Jim Dyjak	Concerned Citizens of the Yakama Reservation (alternate)		✓
Steve George	Yakima County Farm Bureau	✓	
Frank Lyall	Yakima County Farm Bureau (alternate)		✓
Jason Sheehan	Yakima Dairy Federation	✓	
Dan DeGroot	Yakima Dairy Federation (alternate)	✓	
Ron Cowin	Roza-Sunnyside Joint Board of Control		✓
	Roza-Sunnyside Joint Board of Control (alternate)		
Laurie Crowe	South Yakima Conservation District	✓	

Rodney Heit	South Yakima Conservation District (Alternate)		✓
John Van Wingerden, III	Port of Sunnyside	✓	
Jay Decker	Port of Sunnyside (alternate)		✓
Rand Elliott	Yakima County Board of Commissioners	✓	
Vern Redifer	Yakima County Board of Commissioners (alternate)	✓	
Ryan Ibach	Yakima Health District		✓
Dr. Troy Peters	WSU Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center		✓
Lucy Edmondson	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency		✓
Nick Peak	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (alternate)		✓
Elizabeth Sanchez	Yakama Nation		✓
Stuart Crane	Yakama Nation (alternate)		✓
Virginia "Ginny" Prest	WA Department of Agriculture	✓	
Gary Bahr	WA Department of Agriculture (alternate)		✓
Andy Cervantes	WA Department of Health	✓	
Sheryl Howe	WA Department of Health (alternate)		✓
David Bowen	WA Department of Ecology	✓	
Sage Park	WA Department of Ecology (alternate)		✓
Lino Guerra	Hispanic Community Representative		✓
Rick Perez	Hispanic Community Representative (alternate)		✓
Jessica Black	Heritage University		✓
Matt Bachmann	USGS		✓

13    **II. Welcome, Meeting Overview and Introductions:** Vern welcomed everyone and reviewed  
 14    the agenda – there were no additions. Everyone present introduced themselves. The  
 15    group paused for a moment of silence in preparation for the meeting.  
 16  
 17    **III. Continued Review and Discussion of Results of Survey Monkey on Alternative Land and  
 18    Water Use Management Strategies for Reaching Program Goals and Objectives per WAC  
 19    173-100-100(4):** Vern indicated that he had organized the alternatives into categories  
 20    grouping similar alternatives together to help expedite the review. He had also received  
 21    additional alternatives from members which he included in the spreadsheet. These are  
 22    marked as *NEW* in the summary. Vern reminded everyone of the color coding system the  
 23    group had devised at its last meeting: green meant keep the alternative; red meant delete,  
 24    and blue meant additional discussion was required. Later on the group added yellow which  
 25    meant keep the alternative but consolidate it with others. A member had compiled a list of

26       questions that would be important to ask once the group began discussing which  
27       alternatives to ultimately keep. The questions were as follows: 1) who will implement it; 2)  
28       who's the target; 3) is someone already doing this; 4) is there sufficient funding; and 5) is it  
29       economically viable?

30  
31       **The group agreed to keep these alternatives on the list for further review. (Green)**

32  
33       **No. 158:** Recommend that dairies and CAFOs use those Best Management Practices  
34       contained within Attachment B to the Livestock/CAFO Work Group's Report to the GWAC.

35       **No. 155:** Determine who implements the BMP and who monitors it and the time frame in  
36       which to measure/monitor it – problem with available expertise, timing, installation cost.

37       **No. 170:** Install liners in liquid waste storage lagoons.

38       **No. 174:** Improve composting regulations.

39       **No. 139:** Request that the Department of Ecology develop a plan for finding and  
40       decommissioning abandoned wells in the next 12 months, using the LYVGWMA as a pilot  
41       project. *The group agreed to add "revise as needed" to this alternative.*

42       **No. 137:** *The group agreed to split this alternative into two as follows:* #1 Educate the  
43       public regarding the importance of the integrity of wells, particularly those without a well  
44       log; and, #2 fund and encourage well inspections by the Yakima Health District or  
45       professional well engineers.

46       **No. 140:** Permit the repair or decommissioning of wells by general contractors, rather than  
47       exclusively by well-drillers, so as to diminish costs of decommissioning.

48       **No. 248: NEW:** Require WSDA to establish a monitoring system for compliance with NRCS  
49       Standard 317 Composting Facility on Washington dairies and to penalize operations that do  
50       not comply with this standard. *The group added: "For new compost facilities, phase in for*  
51       *existing."*

52       **No. 254: NEW:** Encourage prompt incorporation of manures and fertilizers after  
53       application to cropland. *The group added "where appropriate" to the end of this sentence.*

54       **No. 255: NEW:** Discourage broadcast application of manures to cropland.

55       **No. 256: NEW:** Encourage application of manures and fertilizers by surface banding.

56       **No. 17:** Cooperate with the WCC and WSDA in their efforts to document regulatory  
57       compliance for dairies within the GWMA that are completing and implementing Dairy  
58       Nutrient Management Plans (DNMP). Explore the possibility of disclosing non-proprietary  
59       data produced through the DNMP process.

60

61      **No. 166:** Require more complete disclosure of Dairy Nutrient Management Plans. *The group agreed to remove the first word “require” and insert the word “seek” in its place.*  
62  
63      **No. 19:** Quantify the nutrient value and rate of release of nitrate from livestock waste under various Lower Yakima Valley conditions to become part of the nutrient management guidelines.  
64  
65      **No. 182:** Amend Dairy Nutrient Management Act to extend WSDA’s authority to land application acreage (off dairies) with which dairy facilities contract pursuant to nutrient management plans. *Delete words: “with which dairy facilities contract pursuant to nutrient management plans.” Add words: “Ginny wants other nutrient sources too.”*  
66  
67  
68  
69  
70      **No. 248: NEW:** WSDA/DNMP will complete Technical No. 23 inspections on all Waste Storage Ponds (lagoons) in the GWMA boundaries.  
71  
72      **No. 218:** Distribute information to farmers on what can happen with applied manure, what should be applied and reasonable, agronomic rates of application. *The group agreed to change the word “manure” to “nitrogen.”*  
73  
74  
75      **No. 171:** Install impervious surfaces beneath silage/feed storage. *Delete the word “feed” and add the word “recommend” at the end of the sentence.*  
76  
77  
78      **The group agreed to keep these on the list and consolidate them with similar alternatives.**  
79      **(Yellow)**  
80  
81      **No. 116:** Search for abandoned wells.  
82      **No. 60:** Offer incentives for property owners to identify and properly abandon wells.  
83      **No. 118:** Compare Google Earth to Yakima County GIS images to determine building changes and thus possible well usage changes. Focus first on hotspot high density areas in GWMA. Ground truth suspected problem wells.  
84  
85  
86      **No. 121:** Provide some form of protection for self-reporting of abandoned or improperly decommissioned wells.  
87  
88      **No. 115:** Provide grant funding for well decommissioning.  
89      **No. 119:** Educate realtors and banking industry about disclosure of abandoned wells in property transfers.  
90  
91      **No. 120:** Educate public regarding liability of an ill-secured well.  
92      **No. 252: NEW:** Require WSDA to establish an air monitoring system for compliance with NRCS Standard 590 Nutrient Management and NRCS Standard 317 Composting Facility on Washington dairy farms and to penalize operations that do not comply with these standards. *The group agreed to add this one to Alternative No. 251.*  
93  
94  
95

96      **No. 231:** Require soil sampling results and area fertilized from exported dairy manure as a  
97      precondition of exportation of dairy nutrients off dairy properties. *The group added the*  
98      *note: "See No. 182."*

99      **No. 229:** Develop an approach for data collection of volume and location of manure  
100     application off dairy sites. *The group added the note: "See No. 182."*

101

102     **The group agreed these alternatives should be removed from the list. (Red)**

103

104     **No. 156:** Identify and publish a list of poor management practices. Recommend that they  
105     be terminated or avoided.

106     **No. 181:** Create a state CAFO Siting Team, composed of representatives of relevant state  
107     agencies with support from USGS, to which the county commission could refer proposed  
108     CAFO sitings or expansions. The CAFO Siting Team would provide a recommended site  
109     suitability determination, based upon a predetermined scoring system, including  
110     description of environmental risk factors and mitigation strategies.

111     **No. 176:** Remove wastes from barnyards and other areas of animal concentrations and  
112     frequently convey them to waste storage or treatment facilities.

113     **No. 178:** Entrain water (as rain or snow-melt) collected from roofs away from animal pen or  
114     manure collection facilities.

115     **No. 179:** Drain low areas where ponds accumulate to collect and manage waste waters.

116     **No. 173:** Compost more manure.

117     **No. 59:** Advise the public that GWMA is looking for abandoned wells. Wellhead protection  
118     education.

119     **No. 73:** Advise the public that GWMA is looking for abandoned wells.

120     **No. 117:** Send a postcard to 10 percent of known property owners on record having a well  
121     asking about knowledge of older wells.

122     **No. 138:** Require that site inspections for possible abandoned wells be performed before  
123     building permits are issued for properties that are proposed to be redeveloped after prior  
124     development of domestic, agricultural or industrial uses.

125     **No. 204:** Identify and decommission abandoned agricultural irrigation wells.

126     **No. 123:** Amend RCW 18.104.055 to dedicate a portion of a notice of intent fees to a fund  
127     to be used by Ecology (or Health) for the proper decommissioning of wells in those cases  
128     where DOE (or Health) determines that such publicly-funded action is necessary in the  
129     public interest to protect or enhance the quality of public health (infirmity of the public  
130     health).

131      **No. 122:** Seek legislative change on requirements for well decommissioning, make them  
132      cheaper.

133      **No. 253:** Establish a plan for monitoring emissions of reactive nitrogen to the atmosphere  
134      in the GWMA target area. Combine this with modes such as the USGS SPARROW model and  
135      the National Atmospheric Deposition Program's Ammonia Monitoring Network to provide  
136      ongoing measurement of nitrogen volatilization.

137      **No. 95:** Add staff to WSDA to oversee Dairy Nutrient Management Plans and complaints  
138      regarding manure spills.

139      **No. 101:** Charge dairies for Conservation District preparation of Dairy Nutrient  
140      Management Plans.

141

142      **The group agreed to revisit these alternatives at a later date. (Blue)**

143

144      **No. 249:** *NEW:* Enforce RCW 70.95.020, RCW 70.95.100, RCW 70.95.160, RCW 70.95.165,  
145      RCW 70.95.179, RCW 70.95.180, RCW 70.95.185, RCW 70.95.200, RCW 70.95.205, RCW  
146      70.95.240, RCW 70.95.280, RCW 70.95.285, RCW 70.95.290, RCW 70.95.300, RCW  
147      70.95.305, RCW 70.95.306, RCW 70.95.310, and RCW 70.95.315 (*Note - RCW Chapter 70.95  
148      is titled "Solid Waste Management - Reduction and Recycling"*)

149      **No. 250:** *NEW:* Enforce WAC 173-350-010, WAC 173-350-040, WAC 173-350-200, WAC  
150      173-350-220, WAC 173-350-225, WAC 173-350-230, WAC 173-350-320, WAC 173-350-330,  
151      WAC 173-350-500, WAC 173-350-700, WAC 173-350-710, and WAC 173-350-715. (*Note -  
152      WAC Chapter 173-350 is titled (Solid Waste Handling Standards")*

153      **No. 251:** *NEW:* Require WSDA to establish air monitoring system for compliance with NRCS  
154      Standard 370 Atmospheric Resource Quality Management on Washington farms and to  
155      educate operations that do not comply with this standard.

156      **No. 257:** *NEW:* Enforce RCW 70.94.011, 70.94.040, RCW 70.94.141, RCW 70.94.151, RCW  
157      70.94.152, RCW 70.94.153, RCW 70.94.154, RCW 70.94.161, RCW 70.94.181, RCW  
158      70.94.331, RCW 70.94.380 (*Note - RCW Chapter 70.94 is titled "Washington Clean Air Act"*).

159      **No. 258:** *NEW:* Enforce WAC 173-442-030, WAC 173-442-040, WAC 173-442-050, WAC  
160      173-442-060, WAC 173-442-070, WAC 173-442-160, WAC 173-442-170, WAC 173-442-200,  
161      WAC 173-442-210, and WAC 173-442-220 (*Note - WAC Chapter 173-442 is titled "Clean Air  
162      Rule"*)

163      **No. 93:** Summarize the DNMP reporting and provide information that would disclose the  
164      amount of manure the CAFO's in the GWMA created and where it was distributed.

165      **No. 94:** Review and evaluate the WSDA Dairy Nutrient Management Program inspection  
166      "protocols" to assist in determining if additional resources should be allocated and identify

167 any areas for improvement of the inspections themselves. *The group agreed to keep this in*  
168 *the blue category (it had been discussed at the last meeting).*

169

170 **IV. Committee Business:** The July 13, 2017 meeting summary was approved as presented.

171

172 **V. Public Comment:** There were no public comments. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

173

174 **VI. Next Meeting:** August 10, 2017, Yakima County Road Maintenance Conference Room, 1216  
175 South 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Yakima.

176

177 **VII. Next Steps:** The group will be encouraged to look at the RCWs and WACs contained in  
178 Alternative Nos. 249, 250, 257 and 258 prior to discussion at the group's next meeting.

179

180 **VIII. Meeting Summary** approved by the GWAC on September 21, 2017.