

Meeting Notes
LYV-GWMA Implementation Committee
Thursday, February 8, 2024
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Teams Meeting

- 1:00-1:05: Introductions
- 1:05 – 1:45:
 - Lisa Freund – update on Safe Water Project:
They mailed out 255 packets on January 16th. To date, 18 cards have been returned and 6 are 10 mg/L and above. 11 have opted out of the program. A total of 49 responses to our outreach to date. Shawn said they are prioritizing site visits and nitrate testing as requested by LYV residents. The packet of information will include a well users survey, septic as-built, well log (if available), nitrate test results and photos. This packet will be shared with YCPS too.
 - Holly Myers – governor’s budget and temporary positions:
\$ 2 million dollars in the governor’s budget includes FTE in DOH. Position could be housed at YCPS as they have the physical space. Person would be hands-on and provide project management support, database QA/QC and door-to-door training. Housing the person in Yakima County would give DOH a clear understanding of the work as we expand into Benton County.
- 1:45- 2:10: Sheryl Howe
 - Open House discussion – Open House format with introductions and directions to attendees to visit with each agency to learn about action items and provide feedback. Eliel has spoken with entities in the LYV engaged on some actions and recommends inviting them too. Sheryl will send out a poll for 6 days in the last two weeks of May to see what day can work best. We would like to have a date scheduled to share with EPA at our March meeting.
 - Communications subgroup update – the group will meet Monday, February 12th to discuss products to share with the community so they are aware of all the work we are doing. Possibly put out a quarterly newsletter using gov delivery and posting to our website. Any products the group develops will be shared with the Implementation Committee before publishing to be sure we are not duplicating efforts.
- 2:10– 2:55: Group Roundtable - Agency share on activities they are working on.
 - South Yakima Conservation District – hiring a new staff person who will start in May. They have sent the deep soil sampling QAPP to Kyrre and have applied to the WA State Conservation Commission for two irrigation efficiency grants and have a Sustainable Farms and Fields grant due in this spring. Have reached out to two landowners to help with manure management.

- Yakima County Public Services – hope to get the Culligan contract in place in the next 3-4 weeks for maintenance on the RO units. They are developing the list of folks where they may need to go door-to-door and have about 100 residences on the list now.
 - Yakima Health District – see above for their update.
 - Washington State Department of Agriculture – Obadiah continues his daily inspections on proper manure management. Continues to observe work in the LYV to help them understand what is going on in the area. Ongoing collaboration with WSU to support irrigation management efficiency and develop a decision support tool. Also continues to support the dairy producers with nutrient management. Kyrre mentioned updating the nitrogen availability modeling; Gary said the model was designed to be used and could be updated in the future.
 - Washington State Department of Ecology – spring sampling of the monitoring network will be done in April/May/June. They will be using a nitrate field probe and checking it against the lab results for accuracy. Continue working with WSU on the Prosser site and hope to start sampling that site in the coming months. Eli has shared the video with Mid Valley Television for their “Water Wednesday” segment. The station is looking for other water stories to share on this weekly program. Eli is starting to work with the community to look for abandoned wells.
 - Washington State Department of Health – working to finalize documents with the EPA so the EJ grant can be formally awarded.
- Next meeting: Thursday, March 14, 1:00-3:00
 - EPA Quarterly meeting in Union Gap, Tuesday, March 12, 9:00 - noon