

SCC – CDs Round Table Notes

September 11, 2025

Facilitated by Mike Baden | Notes by Josh Giuntoli
Next Roundtable Meeting: October 9, 2025 – 9:30am

Welcome and Introduction – Call for CD Topics?

- None submitted

SCC Leadership Remarks – James Thompson

- **Biennium closeout** – consuming of staff at SCC – not over yet, working through the last mile. New milestones for volume. Recognizing the challenges internally to create an electronic workflow. Activity in our programs at levels we've not seen recently.
- **Challenges** working through the large amount of requests across SCC programs.
- **RGP** – has been overwhelming in processing return funds, vouchers, and making new awards. Most of the way through – some outstanding awards to make – goal to get through by September 19
- **Staffing** positions are getting filled at SCC.
 - **Jessica Wilson** – Chief Engagement Officer
 - **Brooke Bettes** – Administrative Assistant – starting September 16
 - **Finance Team** – Contracts position to get filled which will add capacity to finance team.

Questions/Comments

- NRCS forestry program – provided funding to DNR. WACD had reached out to NRCS about funding for CD foresters. NRCS had a standing agreement with DNR.
- *Has the Task Order Agreement been signed by WSCC & NRCS?* – Close, coming soon. There will be a task order training in early November with SCC/NRCS/CDs.

Decision Packages/Policy Topics – Kate Delevan

- Decision Packages (DPs) – SCC trialed a new process to engage CDs early and get reviewed. Generally like the new process – reach out to Kate Delevan if additional feedback. Will be working towards new biennium requests – meeting spring(ish) 2026.
- Three packages to be submitted by September 15 in priority order below:
 1. FH \$2.5m
 2. CTA \$2.25m
 3. Data Modernization – \$3.2m
- Opportunity to engage the Governor/Legislature in support of packages. WACD will be putting a template letter out to CDs for DP support.

SCC Program Updates – SCC Staff

Sustainable Farms and Fields (SFF) & Alternative Manure Management (AMM)

- SFF - \$4.5m in request for \$1.2m – very competitive this cycle. Awards have gone out, applicants not funded have been contacted.
- AMM – first pull of applications was early September. \$2.7m in request for \$2.8m – getting reviewed now. Goal will be to award those in October – next pull beginning of November.

Voluntary Stewardship Program

- Reminder – round 2 competitive open now, closes September 15 – be sure marked ready for funding in CPDS.
- 2-year reporting - working with counties
- 5-year reporting template, working on reviewer application tool.

VSP Questions/Comments

- Feedback on Round 1 – noticed cherry picked practices for landowner proposals. Issues that some practices are linked together. I.E. WSF needs gutters/downspouts. Losing out on capturing BMP counts if only one practice is submitted that includes other necessary
- Waiting on A19 forms – VSP budgets – SG will follow up with VSP contract staff.
 - **Follow up:** Fiscal staff is actively working on getting things back out. In the mean time you can use the blank A-19 found [here](#). Hoping to get those out today or tomorrow.

NRI Addendums

- Still have time – keep working with Regional Manager. We have been pulling weekly. Generally pull on Monday's and review on Tuesdays.

Elections Training

- September 25, 9:30. Required training for election supervisors. Will be recorded. Reach out to regional manager for information.

RPPP Comment

- *RPPP reviews disappointing – unfunded project feedback was CD didn't have a previous award. Would have been helpful to know if only applications from previous awards is the process, please communicate.*
- Program Manager – The RPPP guideline criteria require that maintenance of existing plants are prioritized. There was more funding, but there were also more established district holding sites than previous years that needed to be maintained. This was the first year that the program received such a high request for funding and program manager is planning on reworking the criteria for FY27 so that more folks can be supported.

Irrigation Efficiencies

- Review team just looked at last round of apps – September 11 will have award messages sent to finance to award out. Additionally, emails will go out for status. Received \$14m in request for \$7m.
- Comment - *Didn't hear when it was opening – didn't jump to get an app in, now hearing \$14m in request.* Program manager owned the communication lapse.
- Question - *Is there a plan to fund TA in addition to CS requests?* As funds become available.

WACD Update

- Board meeting Monday, September 15 - Reviewing strategic plan draft. Thank you to partners who participated in the strategic planning process.
- Finalizing post card campaign – CTA and FH – will be used to get information from landowners to get information to help inform legislature/legislator.
- WACD conference – sponsorships – be thinking about those vendors you've worked with in the past that might be good to contact and get more exposure to other CDs.
- WACD conference information coming next week. Will be back in Spokane. Confirmed there will be a tour of Four Lakes wheat facility. Monday, December 1 tour. The Four Lakes wheat facility in Spokane terminal and shuttle facility, located near the Four Lakes exit off I-90. Construction on the large grain elevator was completed around early 2016 to facilitate the efficient shipping of Northwest crops to global markets via upgraded rail line.
- Area meetings reminder
 - Northwest Area Meeting on October 15, 2025 – King CD
 - Southwest Area Meeting on October 16, 2025 - Wahkiakum CD
 - Northeast Area Meeting on October 22, 2025 - Stevens County CD
 - North Central Area Meeting on October 23, 2025 - Foster Creek CD
 - South Central Area Meeting on October 28, 2025 - Eastern Klickitat CD
 - Southeast Area Meeting on October 29, 2025 – Columbia CD

Center for Technical Development (CTD) Update

- Plug for training needs inventory.
 - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FY26-CTD-TrainingNeedsInventory>
- Riparian planning considerations course just wrapped up.

Next Round Table Meeting – October 9