

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Grant County, Washington

**RESOLUTION OPTING IN TO THE
VOLUNTARY STEWARDSHIP
PROGRAM**

RESOLUTION No. 12-008-CC

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature, through ESHB 1886, created a Voluntary Stewardship Program ("VSP") for protection of critical areas in areas of agricultural activities; and

WHEREAS, ESHB 1886, as codified in RCW 36.70A.710, states that "As an alternative to protecting critical areas in areas used for agricultural activities through development regulations adopted under RCW 36.70A.060, the legislative authority of a county may elect to protect such critical areas through the program."; and

WHEREAS, in order to participate in the VSP, the legislative authority of a county must elect to participate by January 22, 2012; and

WHEREAS, prior to electing to participate in the VSP, a county is required to (a) confer with tribes, and environmental and agricultural interests; and (b) provide notice following the public participation and notice provisions of RCW 36.70A.035 to property owners and other affected and interested individuals, tribes, government agencies, businesses, school districts, and organizations; and

WHEREAS, Grant County conducted a public meeting on January 17, 2012 to accept testimony and consider which approach to elect to protect critical areas in areas of agricultural activities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grant County Board of County Commissioners hereby:

1. Elects to have Grant County participate in the "Voluntary Stewardship Program" pursuant to RCW 36.70A.710(1);
2. Identifies Esquatzel Coulee (WRIA 36), Lower Crab (WRIA 41), Grand Coulee (WRIA 42), Upper Crab-Wilson (WRIA 43), Moses Coulee (WRIA 44), Lower Lake Roosevelt (WRIA 53), for participation in the "Voluntary Stewardship Program;"
3. Nominates the 1 County watershed(s) for consideration by the Washington Conservation Commission as state priority watersheds; and
4. Elects to have Grant County proceed as required by ESHB 1886, as currently codified in RCW 36.70A, to implement the requirements of the "Voluntary Stewardship Program" once the Washington State Legislature provides adequate funding for such activity. Until such time as adequate funding is accepted by Grant County, a watershed plan is prepared and approved, and the Board of County Commissioners takes legislative action to amend

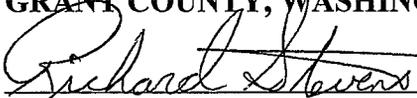
the existing critical areas regulations found in GCC 24.08, the existing regulations will remain in place.

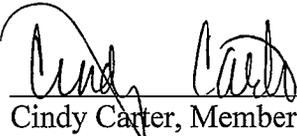
This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted at Ephrata, Washington this 17th day of January 2012.

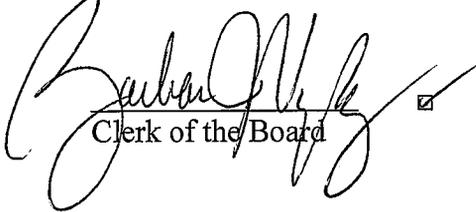
**BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
GRANT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Yea Nay Abstain


Richard Stevens, Chair


Cindy Carter, Member

ATTEST:


Clerk of the Board


Carolann Swartz, Member