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Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Garfield County Administration Building, 108 8th St., Glenwood Springs

Board members present

- City of Rifle:** Keith Lambert
- Town of New Castle:** Greg Russi
- City of Glenwood Springs:** Leo McKinney
- Town of Parachute:** Judith Hayward
- Garfield County:** Tom Jankovsky
- RFTA:** Ted Edmonds
- Town of Carbondale:** John Hoffman
- Garfield Library District:** Jerry Morris

Others attending

- Colorado Mountain College:** Nancy Genova and Lynne Cassidy
- City of Glenwood Springs:** Dave Sturges
- Garfield County:** Jim Rada
- CLEER:** Tom Baker, Alice Laird, Cam Burns
- City of Rifle:** Mike Braaten
- Town of Silt:** Janet Aluise

Members not attending

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Garfield County Health & Human Services Building, Rifle.

Public comments: None.

Board member comments: None.

Consent Agenda: Leo McKinney moved to approve consent agenda with an amended amount (\$44,000) under the accounts payable line item for “utility management services.” Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items:

Resolutions No. 5 & 6, Series of 2012: The board discussed proposed Resolution No. 5 Adoption of CIRSA Bylaws and Intergovernmental Agreement with regards to Errors and Omissions insurance. Tom Baker explained that the insurance had a premium of \$1700 annually and coverage of \$1 million. Resolution 6 was a commitment to CIRSA Loss Control Standards. Greg Russi moved to approve both resolutions. Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Bookkeeping & Banking: Tom Baker presented an agreement for ASAP Bookkeeping Services (\$469.99/mo). Tom Jankovsky noted that \$500 was typical for a small business. Tom Baker noted that accounts payable would be paid electronically. The agreement would allow GCEC representatives to access GCEC’s accounts online. John Hoffman asked about the scope of services from ASAP. He moved to approve a motion to accept the agreement on the condition that GCEC get a thorough understanding of the scope of services. Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The finance committee agreed to have a follow up phone conference with ASAP accounting to get a more thorough understanding of services.

Board Retreat:

The possible board retreat was discussed but tabled after conflicts regarding the date were raised.

Street Lighting Retrofit Discussion:

Alice Laird described the amount spent on energy for street lighting in Glenwood (~\$82,000), New Castle (~\$46,000), and Carbondale (~\$62,000) as an example of the order of magnitude of energy costs associated with street lights. New Castle and Carbondale streetlight costs likely include a maintenance agreement with Xcel so include more than just the energy cost. She said Xcel Energy, which owns much of the street lighting in the area, has been looking into streetlight retrofits and would need to be a key partner on countywide streetlight retrofit; Xcel Energy representatives would like to attend a future GCE meeting to share information on Streetlight retrofit issues and other energy efficiency topics and opportunities with GCE. Greg Russi asked about Rifle’s energy savings as a result of LED street lights that were installed there through the GNECI grant. Mike Braaten said Rifle has experienced a 40–60 percent savings. Alice mentioned that because some GCE partner’s streetlights costs include a bundled approach for streetlight maintenance and replacement, current streetlight costs paid by GCE partners are not exclusively energy costs – retrofit projections would need to take that into account. Board members agreed that a presentation from Xcel would be useful at next meeting.

Solar Roofs Project:

GCEC has been invited to join the Southwest Solar Transformation Initiative. Keith Lambert asked about the name of the project, why more southwest states are not included. Tom Jankovsky asked why the Governor’s Energy Office had joined and Greg Russi asked about the

expertise of the University of Las Vegas, a partner on the project. Staff said they would follow up with more information on the project and the partners for the next meeting.

Better Buildings Financing Programs:

Alice Laird provided an update on the overall Better Buildings finance program. The Garfield Clean Energy Credit Reserve Fund has been set up, and the funding has been deposited at Alpine Bank. Tim Dolan with the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) visited the area in mid February and visited local banks with CLEER staff to encourage banks to move forward on offering the funding program to their customers. Three banks have told CHFA they intend to move forward, but have yet to officially set up the program. CLEER staff is concerned that the loan programs are not yet being offered by banks and asked for direction on how long the program should allow for banks to sign up before working to possibly redirect the funding. Board members felt GCEC should let banks know they need to take action on the opportunity, or the funding will need to be redirected. Keith Lambert moved that the Board set a date (June 30) by which banks must set up the program before GCEC explores other options. John Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Board also asked that extra effort be taken to reach out to the banks to encourage them to take action.

Alice also described progress on the proposed Revolving Loan Fund component of the financing program. Funding Partners, an original partner in the Better Buildings program, now has a system in place that will make it possible to provide an online application process, and has been working with the Eagle County Better Buildings program to set up financing, creating some economies of scale that make the revolving loan fund look possible for the \$200,000 set aside in the Garfield County Better Buildings program. Alice asked that the board approve moving forward on the revolving loan concept by scheduling a worksession with Funding Partners and Garfield Board of County Commissioners. The Board agreed the concept should move forward and directed staff to schedule the topic on a BOCC worksession and report back to GCE.

Other

Greg Russi mentioned a grant recently announced by the Obama Administration that GCEC might want to look into. The grant would be to help Western Colorado become a compressed natural gas refueling “corridor.” Staff said they would follow up on the grant deadline and details and report back once more specifics are announced.

Tom Baker mentioned that RFTA will be doing an official opening of its BRT system on April 13-14. GEO, RFTA, and GCEC staff will hold a workshop April 13 on fleet efficiency and regional CNG coordination/planning.

Tom Baker suggested GCEC sponsor a forum on natural gas (“what’s being done, what can be done,” etc.) and offer detailed information about CNG use. The idea, he said, was to show Garfield County as a leader in CNG adoption and a source of information.

Michael Langhorne, Rifle Regional Economic Development Center (RREDC), will attend the Board’s April Meeting.

John Hoffman asked if the Board could get a presentation on the reduction of energy being used in recycling by Pitkin County.

Meeting ended at 3:01 p.m.

GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATIVE

By: _____
Greg Russi, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Judith Hayward, Secretary

These notes were reviewed and approved by a vote of the Garfield Clean Energy Board of Directors at its meeting held on April 11, 2012.