



Town of Parachute | City of Rifle | Town of New Castle | City of Glenwood Springs | Town of Carbondale | Town of Silt
Garfield County | Garfield County Public Library District | Roaring Fork Transportation Authority | Colorado Mountain College

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 11, 2014, 1:05 to 3:00 p.m.

Rifle Branch Library, 207 East Ave., Rifle

Board members present

Town of Carbondale: GCE Chair Allyn Harvey

City of Glenwood Springs: GCE Vice Chair Leo McKinney

Town of Parachute: GCE Secretary Judith Hayward, Stuart McArthur

Town of New Castle: Bob Gordon

City of Rifle: Keith Lambert

Library District: Jerry Morris

CMC: Rachel Pokrandt (substitute)

Others attending

CLEER: Heather McGregor, Shelley Kaup

GRID Alternatives: Shirley Moore

CMC: Chris Ellis

Rifle Channel 10: Jim Bell, recording the meeting for rebroadcast

The Daily Sentinel: Dennis Webb

Members not present

Garfield County: Treasurer: Tom Jankovsky

CMC: Nancy Genova, Pete Waller

Town of Silt: Rick Aluise

RFTA: Jason White

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 9, 2014, Garfield County Admin Building, Glenwood Springs

Board member and public comment

Heather McGregor introduced Rachel Pokrandt, attending as a substitute for Nancy Genova. Rachel is the Instructional Chair for Colorado Mountain College in Rifle. Rachel shared information about an upcoming two-day training course for facility managers, the Sustainable Facilities Workshop, to be held July 17-18 at CMC in Rifle. Rachel also told the board that CMC is planning to launch an Energy Efficiency Technician certificate program in January 2015.

Consent Agenda - Approval of May 14, 2014 minutes: *Bob Gordon made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Keith Lambert. The motion passed unanimously.*

Finance Report

Accounts Payable, financial report

Leo McKinney made a motion to approve the accounts payable, Stuart McArthur seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Long-Term Funding Discussion

Board members engaged in a discussion about long-term funding options for Garfield Clean Energy. Leo McKinney raised the idea of asking member boards to make a two-year funding commitment. Several board members endorsed the idea, suggesting that it could be handled as a contract with GCE that would still be subject to annual appropriation of funds.

Discussion also touched on the energy savings reinvestment concept. Keith Lambert explained the concept, which calls on member governments to invest a portion of their annual energy savings back into GCE. Jerry Morris asked if there were other billable tasks GCE could do for businesses or the member governments. Jerry advised that GCE should build a balanced budget based on existing contributions, and then use grants to expand programs or start new projects.

Keith suggested that members contribute a baseline amount, and then contribute a share of energy savings for additional projects. In response to a question from Allyn Harvey, Keith said the savings would have to be based on something GCE did, not energy savings the member gained through an independent measure.

Bob Gordon suggested charging member governments for extra services, noting that it would show the value of the services. Leo McKinney said that would be a hard sell because GCE services are already included in the membership fee. Bob suggested that Keith visit the member governments and explain what GCE is doing. Heather noted that Shelley Kaup will be making Annual Energy Presentations to GCE member boards in June and July, explaining energy use from 2013, and additional energy savings measures each member can do.

Allyn wrapped up the discussion and asked for more time to be allotted on future agendas for continued discussion about long-term funding options.

Strategic Planning

Keith Lambert noted that while he prefers not to include funding in a strategic plan, he feels that adding Goal No. 4, seeking secure long-term funding for GCE to fulfill its mission, is important now. He said the board has been “dodging that conversation” from the beginning, and GCE must ask for member contributions each year and has no certainty about its budget from year to year. Putting the issue in the strategic plan forces the board to address the issue, he said.

Jerry said GCE should test each budget line item to make sure it lines up with GCE’s mission and goals, and asked how work on compressed natural gas (CNG) fits the goals. Heather noted that Goal No. 2 calls for a reduction in imported petroleum, and that CNG as a vehicle fuel helps

meet that goal. Jerry said the goal should be more explicit, perhaps by adding the word “imports.”

Board members asked Heather to email out the draft 2015 Strategic Plan to all board members and ask them to send in their comments, and asked her to bring a revised draft document to the July 9 meeting, with an extra document noting any comments received.

Action Items

Elect board secretary

Heather McGregor explained that because Judith Hayward is now the alternate board member for the Town of Parachute, Tom Baker has advised that the board elect a new secretary. *Leo McKinney nominated Stuart McArthur, seconded by Keith Lambert. Stuart was elected unanimously.*

2014 budget line item reallocation

In the interests of time, Chairman Allyn Harvey put this item off to the July 9 board meeting.

Garfield County FMLD payment policy and letter

Heather McGregor briefed the board on the Garfield FMLD payment policy, which is to pay out the grant award at the conclusion of a project, after invoices have been paid by the grant recipient. This poses difficulties for GCE, which does not have cash reserves to cover this line item in 2014, while waiting for grant reimbursement in 2015.

Heather said the FMLD’s attorney suggested that the GCE board write the FMLD board a letter requesting interim payments. The matter was discussed on June 4 by the GCE Finance Committee, which asked a letter to be prepared for the board’s signature. Heather presented the letter for the board’s approval.

Jerry Morris made a motion authorize board members to sign the letter, seconded by Leo McKinney. The motion passed unanimously.

Large FMLD and DOLA grant applications

Heather McGregor briefed the board on grant ideas that could be pursued. An FMLD grant could be submitted for energy efficiency building improvements for GCE partners. Because the FMLD board prefers single-project, single-applicant grant proposals, GCE would assist partners in submitting individual applications for projects. Each partner would have to decide where this grant concept fits in with their other priorities for making FMLD applications.

Heather met with Tom Jankovsky and Garfield County Manager Drew Gorgey on June 6 to discuss a countywide grant application to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. The grant would fund vehicle buy-downs and energy coaching for local governments to plan for and buy alternative fuel vehicles. Heather noted that the county government has also been asked to submit a multi-jurisdictional application for funding for the Grand Avenue Bridge project in Glenwood Springs, which would take precedence. The alternative fuel vehicles grant could be submitted at a later date.

Affiliate Membership concept

In the interests of time, Chairman Allyn Harvey put this item off to the July 9 board meeting.

Resolution 2, Energy Savings Reinvestment Policy

In the interests of time, Chairman Allyn Harvey put this item off to the July 9 board meeting.

Program Updates

Xcel Energy demand-side management (DSM) docket outcome

Heather reported that the Colorado Public Utilities Commission agreed to hold Xcel Energy to its current goals for energy efficiency in its DSM programs for customers. The GCE board had written a letter in April urging this action.

Residential Revolving Loan Fund

CLEER staff carried out marketing and outreach efforts to publicize the loan fund through direct conversations with HVAC contractors and by hosting a booth at the Lowe's Contractor Appreciation Day. CLEER wrote a case study on loan recipients; it was included in CLEER's May newsletter and is posted on the home page of the GCE website.

Heather explained that health and safety measures, such as radon or asbestos mitigation, are eligible for loan funding if they are carried out along with an energy efficiency upgrade. The health and safety measures can be covered by up to 25% of the loan amount. These rules were already in place by Funding Partners for Boulder County's loan program. GCE's loan information packet will be updated so customers see that this work can be covered by the loan.

SEP grant

CLEER has received a second SEP grant this year from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, for \$44,940. This funding will be aimed at energy efficiency retrofits for low-income households in the income tier just above the level qualifying for Northwest COG's free home weatherization program. CLEER is designing the program, and working with Energy Outreach Colorado to leverage additional funds.

Partner Annual Energy Presentations

Shelley Kaup reported that she is making Annual Energy Presentations to GCE member boards in June and July. The reports cover the partners' 2013 energy usage using Energy Navigator data, energy efficiency projects that are recommended to achieve more energy savings, and discussions for each member board to consider setting goals for energy efficiency in their own buildings and facilities.

Presentation

Shirley Moore, program manager in Colorado for GRID Alternatives, gave a presentation on the organization's work. Their mission is to install solar electric systems on low-income homes, and Shirley is working to bring the program to Garfield County. The solar panels are installed by volunteers, including students in solar energy programs, with the homeowner assisting. A private sector third party pays for the equipment and takes advantage of the federal tax credit.

GRID Alternatives has installed more than 4,200 systems, mostly in California, and 46 in Colorado since 2012. The organization will be making 10 installations this year in the Roaring Fork Valley, and is partnering with Habitat for Humanity for two homes in Silt and with the River Center in New Castle. She hopes to build the program across Garfield County in 2015.

To assist her effort, she asked GCE board members to set up opportunities for her to present to their governing boards and write letters of support. A question and answer discussion followed, and board members thanked Shirley for her presentation.

Adjourn

Leo McKinney made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Allyn Harvey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATIVE

By: *Allyn Harvey*, Chairperson

ATTEST: *Stuart McArthur*, Secretary

These minutes were reviewed and approved by a vote of the Garfield Clean Energy Board of Directors at its meeting held on Aug. 13, 2014.