



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, November 12, 2014, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.**

**Garfield County Administration Building, 108 8<sup>th</sup> St., Glenwood Springs**

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### **Board members present**

**Town of Carbondale: GCE Chair** Allyn Harvey  
**City of Glenwood Springs: GCE Vice Chair** David Sturges  
**Garfield County: GCE Treasurer** Tom Jankovsky  
**Town of Parachute:** Judith Hayward  
**Library District:** Jerry Morris  
**Town of Silt:** Rick Aluise  
**Town of New Castle:** Bob Gordon  
**City of Rifle:** Barb Clifton  
**RFTA:** Jason White

### **Others attending**

Garfield County: Kevin Batchelder, Deb Fiscus  
CLEER: Alice Laird, Heather McGregor  
Public: Nancy Genova (former GCE board member for CMC)

### **Members not present**

**CMC:** Rachel Pokrandt

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2014, Rifle

**Board member and public comment:** None.

### **Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Oct. 8, 2014 minutes:** Judith Hayward corrected the description of her comments regarding future service on the Finance Committee. Allyn Harvey asked that the minutes be revised accordingly.

*Citing the pending revision, Judith Hayward moved to approve the minutes, Bob Gordon seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

## **Finance Report**

### **Accounts Payable, financial report**

Finance Committee members said that the email link sent out did not contain the invoices supporting the October financial report. Jerry Morris said he obtained the full financial report in a separate email and looked through all the invoices. Heather McGregor said she was reluctant to send large file attachments to board members, but members of the Finance Committee said they would prefer receiving the full financials as an attachment rather than a link.

Jerry Morris reported that he reviewed the financials. He said the coding on some CLEER invoices, where costs are split with other programs, is hard to follow. He asked CLEER to improve its coding notations. Jerry also questioned the use of a graphic artist from Ridgway, and suggested that the board consider adopting a local preference policy.

*Tom Jankovsky moved to approve the accounts payable, Jerry Morris seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

## **Program updates**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report**

Heather McGregor presented a PowerPoint showing highlights from the report. The written report was included in the board packet for the Nov. 12 meeting. She predicted that GCE will reach its 2014 goal of 55 households and 50 businesses making energy efficiency upgrades. By Sept. 30, the tally was 35 households and 28 businesses, and dozens more are in the pipeline. CLEER has done 27 free business walk-throughs, and 22 of these have launched projects, which is an 81% uptake rate.

The Residential Revolving Loan Fund now has 16 borrowers, including five new in Q3. The SEP rebate fund is likely to be used up in November. The presentation also touched on Navigator usage and new “live data” sites, renewable energy production and installations, Active Energy Management accomplishments, the EV Rally and website usage.

## **Garfield BOCC special work session on GCE**

Heather McGregor reported that the Garfield County Commissioners have called a special work session to discuss their 2015 contribution to Garfield Clean Energy. The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 12 at the Garfield County Sheriff's Annex in Rifle. The GCE board discussed the situation, raised questions and suggested ideas.

Heather reported that the county manager is asking whether it would be better to contract directly with CLEER or to bring the functions of Garfield Clean Energy in-house as a county department. The questions are being raised because of the drop in funding from Rifle and the Library District, an increased request to the county, and Garfield County now being asked to cover more than half of the GCE budget. Tom Jankovsky said the increased funding request, the efficiency of the GCE structure, and whether GCE is a pass-through for CLEER prompted the questions. Tom said the topic also came up with Commissioner Samson at a recent mayors meeting.

Rick Aluisse noted that he did not attend that mayors meeting. Judith Hayward said GCE provides a “powerful and good” forum for the county and the municipalities to sit down together. She said GCE is working toward a goal and more businesses are involved every year. Bob Gordon said he attended the mayors meeting, and said mayors were looking for a funding breakdown. He said GCE needs to show the commissioners the importance of what it has done for the communities, and said he would never try to pass a new tax in these times.

Jerry Morris asked what would happen if the county contracted directly with CLEER, and what role the other partners would play. Barb Clifton said it could be set up as an advisory board. David Sturges said the issue is sharing money to fund a basic service enjoyed by all the partners, on behalf of their constituents. Tom said it’s hard to communicate the value of GCE programs to his fellow commissioners, and asked how well other board members do that with their colleagues. Allyn Harvey said the value of GCE is all the partners sitting down to tackle the energy question together. He noted that all the partners are saving energy dollars. David noted that when the GCE Collaborative was formed, it was explicitly not given taxing authority.

Barb asked who runs CLEER. Alice Laird, CLEER’s executive director, said CLEER wrote the original grant for Garfield New Energy Communities Initiative, and the grant award wouldn’t have been possible without countywide involvement. Jason White said GCE is a pacesetter with its model of cooperation. Because Garfield County pays the lion’s share, county officials need to be comfortable with the organization, he said. If the structure changes, he still wants to see the same or greater levels of service. Rick said even if the structure is awkward, he can’t think of a better way. He said a different structure could lose the cohesiveness in place now.

Barb said Rifle understands the value of GCE, but with its water plant funding problems, it cannot contribute more dollars. Jerry Morris said the county dollars are spread throughout the county. Jerry said if each member just pays for serving its own residents, GCE won’t be very effective. Allyn noted that if GCE had tax revenues, the conversation would be different.

### **Action items**

#### **Election of new board vice chair**

Heather McGregor reported that Leo McKinney is unable to continue as board vice-chair because of the early release time from the Roaring Fork School District on Wednesdays. He will continue as a board alternate for Glenwood Springs, but has asked the board to elect a new vice-chair. David Sturges will become the primary board member for Glenwood Springs. Heather noted that new GCE officers will be elected in January.

Barb Clifton asked if Dave would be willing to serve as vice-chair. Dave said he will be leaving office in April due to term limits, and would prefer that someone who will be on the GCE board for a longer period of time be elected. However, no other board members expressed a willingness to serve.

*Allyn Harvey nominated David Sturges to fill the position of vice-chairman, Bob Gordon seconded the motion, and the board voted unanimously to make David the new vice-chair.*

### **Purchase of data logger for Silt water plant**

Heather McGregor reported that with the installation of a solar array at the Silt water plant, there is an affordable opportunity to install a data logger at the plant. The funding for this project is in the 2014 budget. It would require upgrading a data logger retrieved from another building to a version that is solar-capable, and buying other equipment. The solar array installer is covering \$2,000 of the costs; GCE's costs will be \$1,600 at most.

*Bob Gordon made a motion to approve the proposed project, David Sturges seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

### **Rifle continued use of Navigator in 2015**

Heather McGregor reported that Rifle City Manager Matt Sturgeon has offered to let Rifle's bill data entry for city facilities go dormant in 2015, given the city's much lower contribution. Barb Clifton said the city feels it's unfair to contribute \$3,000 and incur a cost to GCE. She would rather see that money go into energy coaching. Tom noted that if Rifle's costs could be lowered to \$900 if it did the bill data entry. Barb said city staff is not interested in that task.

David Sturges said collecting the data is important to show what GCE is doing. Allyn Harvey said there is value in understanding the cost savings from solar PPAs. Mike Ogburn said he would like to get a full year's worth of data at the city's four new PPA solar sites. Barb said Rifle doesn't need this information. Allyn said it would be valuable for others as a case study. Mike suggested that Rifle could continue with bills only for the four buildings through mid-2015. Barb agreed to that compromise.

### **Budget planning**

#### **Navigator costs and potential cost savings**

With the meeting time running short, this item was postponed to the December meeting.

#### **2015 Budget, review of final draft**

Heather McGregor handed out the final draft 2015 budget, and highlighted the recent changes. She reduced Navigator operations to \$35,000, which assumes the status quo on bill data entry. She pushed more funds into residential and commercial energy coaching. The budget is based on the 2015 membership contributions included in each partner's 2015 budget.

#### **2015 Scope of Work, review of final draft**

Heather included the final draft Scope of Work in the board packet. She reviewed new projects to be included: updating the countywide energy inventory, building usage of the Green MLS among real estate professionals, benchmarking partner buildings using the Energy Star system, and building on the success of the 2014 contractor workshop with an expanded trade show.

Jerry Morris asked if the companies would be making a donation to GCE. Heather said in the past, they have provided sponsorship fees to CLEER to help cover CLEER's added costs for hosting these events which exceed the GCE budget. Tom Jankovsky asked if the trade show would be billed as a GCE event or a GCE-CLEER event. Heather said it would be both.

Alice Laird noted that the Scope of Work includes an effort to address the new Goal 4 of finding more secure funding for GCE. She said CLEER will be exploring different funding models, including capturing energy cost savings from those who benefit from GCE services. Tom Jankovsky asked Alice to contact state Rep. Bob Rankin, who sits on the Joint Budget Committee, to see if there is some way to slice out funds from the Department of Local Affairs or the Colorado Energy Office.

### **Presentation**

#### **Mike Ogburn: Electric vehicles**

With the meeting time exhausted, Mike quickly showed a map of the growing network of EV charging stations in the region. He said there are 60 public charging plugs at 25 stations, including 20 hosted by GCE partners.

**Meeting adjourned** at 3:03 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 Dec. 10, 2014.