



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

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**Board Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, 11:04 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.**  
Colorado Mountain College, 3695 Airport Road, Rifle

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**Board members present**

CMC: GCE Secretary Rachel Pokrandt  
RFTA: Jason White  
Garfield County: Josh Williams  
Town of New Castle: Bruce Leland  
City of Rifle: Dana Wood

**Others attending**

CLEER: Heather McGregor, Erica Sparhawk

**Board members not present**

Town of Parachute: GCE Chair Stuart McArthur  
Town of Carbondale: GCE Vice Chair Allyn Harvey  
Garfield County: GCE Treasurer Tom Jankovsky  
Town of Silt: Rick Aluise  
City of Glenwood Springs: Leo McKinney

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2015, Glenwood Springs Library, 815 Cooper Ave.

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**Call meeting to order**

In the absence of the board chair and vice-chair, Board Secretary Rachel Pokrandt chaired the meeting. Rachel called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

**Roll call**

Rachel took the roll. At the beginning of the meeting, three board members were present. Jason White and Dana Wood arrived later.

**Approval of Agenda**

Because of the initial lack of a quorum, the board started with agenda items 7 and 8.

**Updates on 2015 energy programs**

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

Erica Sparhawk summarized the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report. She said the Residential Revolving Loan Fund has 32 loans out, and noted that the program offers low interest rates and quick turnaround for approvals. The residential program has been very active this year, even in

addition to the Home Energy Program, with 95 households taking action this year. She predicted that there will be a further uptick in calls in the fall. She noted that Energy Outreach Colorado is providing extra funding to the Home Energy Program to take care of the 16 families that were on the waiting list.

Rachel asked if there is a way to quantify the benefits from the weatherization project at Rifle Creek Apartments, where 94 units received insulation and air sealing. Erica said the contractor's testing showed a 23% average reduction in air leakage. (This is not the same metric as energy savings.) Erica said the Home Energy Program will continue in 2016, and CLEER is considering ways to accomplish results comparable to 2015.

Erica said commercial coaching numbers are lower this year, because GCE has no rebates to offer, and because contractors are more busy now than during the recession. Josh Williams asked about energy savings in residential compared to commercial. Erica said commercial projects yield bigger savings because they are bigger projects, and commercial buildings use more energy. CLEER is working to increase commercial coaching in Q4.

Erica summarized active energy management with GCE partners, noting that GCE is helping partners get utility rebates for upgrades. Rachel noted that CMC is including the level of engagement in efficiency as job metric in performance reviews for facility managers.

### **Residential Revolving Loan Fund**

Erica reported that with the GCE loan fund almost fully loaned out and continued demand for new loans, she has been searching for options. A statewide residential program is launching soon, but interest rates will be 9.9%. The average rate for the GCE loan program is 4.7%. Erica said energy coaches believe the higher interest rates would be a tough sell.

Meanwhile, Joe Rowan, CEO of Funding Partners (FP), the organization that manages GCE's loan program, offered this week to put new capital into the loan fund. The FP offer is to buy current loans for up to 75% percent of the total dollar amount, about \$220,000 worth. The interest and principal from those loans would accrue to FP, while GCE would be able to use the new funds to make more loans at the current interest rates.

Erica said Joe plans to make the proposal to the FP Board on Nov. 4, and then bring the proposal to GCE at its Nov. 18 meeting. Erica said she was looking for an "informal green light" to tell Joe to proceed with the proposal. Board members agreed with the plan and directed her to move forward.

### **CoPACE in Garfield County**

Heather McGregor reported that Paul Scharfenberger of the Colorado Energy Office made a presentation to the Garfield BOCC on Oct. 12 to explain the CoPACE commercial loan program. Josh Williams attended that meeting, and summarized the conversation.

Josh said Commissioner Martin asked a lot of questions, and Paul's replies were meant to build confidence and trust in the program. Commissioner Martin asked about the order of liens on the property, and whether the county government would be liable if a borrower were to default. Josh said Paul answered those concerns. Josh noted that the county collects a fee to cover its administrative costs.

Josh said this presentation was the first for Paul outside the Denver metro area, and it was helpful for Paul to hear the types of questions that come up in rural areas. Josh said the commissioners voted 2-1 to direct county staff to prepare a resolution for Garfield County to opt in to the program. Josh said the resolution would probably be back in front of the commissioners in mid-November or early December.

Jason White said CoPACE is a creative idea, and it's strictly opt-in for property owners. Jason noted that with Garfield County's pro-business stance, it makes good sense to give commercial property owners this option for financing energy upgrades. Josh said Garfield is the first rural county to move toward opting in. Rachel Pokrandt said Alice Laird, of CLEER, should be commended for continuing to push for this in Garfield County.

### **Energy Outreach Colorado grant for 2016 Home Energy Program**

Erica reported that CLEER has received a \$70,000 grant from Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) to fund the Home Energy Program in 2016. The grant would cover \$50,000 in energy upgrade measures and \$20,000 for home visits and follow-up work with contractors.

Rachel said she wished the grant were coming to GCE. Erica said she tried to make that work, but the program is complex financially, and would have placed a burden on the GCE bookkeeper. CLEER will propose that a portion of GCE's residential coaching budget in 2016 be dedicated to supporting this program. It is expected to serve 30 to 50 families.

Heather reported that CLEER is also negotiating a \$19,500 contract with the Colorado Energy Office for GCE to deliver the Green MLS program in Garfield County. She planned to bring the contract to the Nov. 18 meeting for board approval.

**Lunch break:** 11:53 to 12:10

### **Board tour and presentation requests**

#### **Rocky Mountain Institute building tour**

Heather said Rocky Mountain Institute is building a state-of-the-art office building and conference center in Basalt, and has invited the GCE board to tour the building while it is still under construction. Erica said the building is so efficiently designed that it will not have a furnace. Open times are Thursday and Friday afternoons at 4 p.m. Board members said a Friday would be better. Heather said she would send an email looking for a date.

#### **Citizens Climate Lobby request to present**

Heather said the local chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby, a grassroots national organization seeking a carbon tax, has asked for time to present to the GCE board. Board members agreed to hear the presentation, and suggested that it be scheduled for January.

**NOTE:** With a quorum in place, the board moved back up to the top of the agenda.

### **Board member and public comment**

Leo McKinney gave written comments, asking to revisit the original 2012 GCE funding formula. He felt that formula struck a fair balance, but feels that GCE members have strayed

from that balance in ensuing years. Rachel asked for a comparison of the original formula with current contribution levels to be presented Nov. 18.

### **Consent agenda**

Minutes of the regular Sept. 16, 2015, board meeting and the special board meeting with Colorado Energy Office Director Jeff Ackermann held on Oct. 1, 2015.

*Josh Williams moved to approve the consent agenda; Jason White seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Financials**

#### **September 2015 and YTD financial reports**

*Bruce Leland moved to approve the financial reports for September, Josh Williams seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.*

#### **September 2015 accounts payable**

*Jason White moved to approve the accounts payable for September, Rachel Pokrandt seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.*

#### **Janet Obeji resignation; new bookkeeper search**

Heather reported that Janet Obeji submitted her resignation, effective early December. She is taking a full time position with one of her clients. Tom Jankovsky and Heather have updated the job description and circulated it among CPAs in the region. The goal is to identify a qualified replacement and bring that recommendation to the board at the Nov. 18 meeting. Janet indicated she would be willing to go over the books with the new person.

### **Action items**

#### **Resolution 7: Anti-Discrimination Policy**

Heather reported that GCE legal counsel Jim Neu reviewed the proposed anti-discrimination policy and found it satisfactory. He suggested adding the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies' anti-discrimination flyer to the policy resolution. *Bruce Leland moved to approve Resolution No. 7, the Anti-Discrimination Policy, Rachel Pokrandt seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

### **2016 Budget**

#### **Board member updates on 2016 budget requests**

Board members reported on the recent presentations made to GCE member boards. Rachel presented in Silt. Bruce Leland said Leo McKinney's presentation in New Castle was well-received. Jason reported that Allyn's presentation to the RFTA board went smoothly. Erica said Leo's presentation to the Carbondale Trustees also went well. Heather said a presentation to the Garfield BOCC is set for Nov. 2. Board members discussed the option of asking Garfield County for a higher contribution.

Dana Wood said Rifle's numbers are uncertain, and more will be known after the next budget meetings. Heather reported that during her presentation to Glenwood Springs, the city manager said the full \$45,000 was in the budget, but the budget isn't yet finalized.

**Draft 2016 Budget**

Heather noted that a draft budget is included in the board packet. She will include a revised draft in the November packet, and asked board members to review it and provide feedback.

**Goal 4: Identify funding to meet goals**

**Follow-up on meetings with state Rep. Bob Rankin and CEO Director Jeff Ackermann**

With time running out, this item was deferred.

**Conversation with Garfield FML District**

Heather reported that Tom Jankovsky is seeking an informal meeting with FMLD legal counsel Drew Gorgey.

**Upcoming events**

**Glenwood Springs CNG station grand opening**

Heather invited the board to attend the grand opening of the Trillium CNG station, to be held on Friday, Nov. 6 at the Shell West Mart in West Glenwood Springs.

**Transportation workshop**

Heather reported that Alice Laird is planning a workshop, “Mobility, Fuels and Funding: Exploring Solutions for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Transportation.” The tentative date is Nov. 19.

**Adjournment**

*Bruce Leland moved to adjourn the meeting, Jason White seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Rachel Pokrandt adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.*

GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATIVE

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stuart McArthur, Chairperson

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rachel Pokrandt, Secretary

These minutes were reviewed and approved by a vote of the Garfield Clean Energy Board of Directors at its meeting held on Nov. 18, 2015.

