



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

Board Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2016, 11:05 a.m. to 1:25 p.m.
Colorado Mountain College, 3695 Airport Road, Rifle

Board members attending

Town of Parachute: GCE Chair Stuart McArthur
Garfield County: Treasurer Tom Jankovsky
CMC: Secretary Rachel Pokrandt
City of Rifle: Joe Elliot
Town of New Castle: Bruce Leland
RFTA: Jason White

Others attending

CLEER: Heather McGregor, Alice Laird, Erica Sparhawk
Xcel Energy: Kelly Flenniken
Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEET): Ann Livingston (by phone)
Town of New Castle: John Wenzel
Town of Silt: Pamela Woods, Rory Hale

Board members not present

Town of Carbondale: GCE Vice Chair Allyn Harvey
Town of Silt: Rick Aluise
City of Glenwood Springs: Leo McKinney

Next meeting: Friday, March 11, 2016

Glenwood Springs Branch Library, 815 Cooper Ave., Glenwood Springs

Call meeting to order: Chair Stuart McArthur called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Roll call and approval of agenda: Rachel Pokrandt took the roll.

Joe Elliott moved to approve the agenda, Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Board member and public comments: None.

Consent Agenda

Minutes for Jan. 20, 2016, regular board meeting

Joe Elliott moved to approve the Jan. 20 minutes. Bruce Leland seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Financials

January 2016 and YTD financial reports and accounts payable

Tom Jankovsky reviewed the balance sheet and unpaid bills for January. He noted that the UMS bill was unusually high in January, particularly since it did not include any bills for Garfield County or Rifle. He noted that the total accounts payable added up to \$29,000, a bit high for a monthly average.

Tom Jankovsky moved to approve the financial reports and the accounts payable. Rachel Pokrandt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Consider new meeting day and time

Heather McGregor summarized a memo in the board packet. Board members had discussed in January changing the meeting day and time again so more members could attend. An email poll showed that the second Friday of the month was the one time everyone could attend. Board members discussed this option and others.

Tom Jankovsky moved to change the meeting date to the second Friday, from 1-3 p.m.

Further discussion ensued, including the suggestion that board meetings be held on a bi-monthly basis, or alternate between in-person and conference call meetings. Rachel Pokrandt offered CMC's video-conferencing option.

Bruce Leland seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Local Power Inventory and Plan

Update on Colorado Energy Research Collaboratory

Heather and Rachel reported on a Feb. 16 conference call with David Hiller, executive director of the Colorado Energy Research Collaboratory (CERC). The CERC board affirmed its interest in working on the Local Power Inventory and Plan, but expressed concern about their ability to meet GCE expectations with the present budget.

The project concept calls for a team of university engineering students to collaborate with CMC students, with guidance from faculty. Because of the academic calendar, the project would start in fall 2016 and conclude in late summer 2017. The purpose of the project would be to:

- Identify viable locations and technologies for generation of electricity and of combined heat and power within Garfield County.
- Create a plan for development of identified local power resources.
- Offer a high-quality experience of collaborative fieldwork and research for CMC, CSM, CSU and CU students.

Policy update

Clean Power Plan letter / input

Alice Laird briefed the board on the U.S. EPA's Clean Power Plan, a national effort to reduce carbon emissions from coal-fired power plants. Each state is being asked to develop a plan;

Colorado's is being led by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. While a recent Supreme Court decision put a stay on the plan, the CDPHE is still moving forward with its plan.

The agency will emphasize energy efficiency, and officials are interested in the GCE model, Alice reported. It's a prime opportunity for GCE to provide input. Alice noted that funding for programs would not be available until 2018. She asked board members to provide input for a draft letter. She noted that CDPHE will hold a hearing in Craig in April as it looks for ways to help coal-dependent communities in the transition.

Goal 4: Identify funding to meet goals

Garfield FMLD action plan

Tom Jankovsky reported that he had discussed GCE's ideas for grants with FMLD Board Chair Gregg Rippey. The idea of using an FMLD grant to provide rebates in western Garfield County does not fall within the FMLD's rules, because FMLD funding can't be used to benefit individuals. Tom said Gregg also rejected the idea of creating a separate pot of FMLD funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Tom said Gregg asked GCE to request funding for a project to build, or a small planning process.

Alice asked if the Local Power project would appeal to the FMLD board. Board members discussed applying for a grant to help fund the Local Power project. The board also discussed seeking a grant to upgrade HVAC systems in GCE member buildings, such as town halls. Tom said he would like to see an application for the Local Power project. Jason White noted that a planning project needs a 50 percent match.

Stuart McArthur said the FMLD application requires a board resolution. *Tom made a motion asking CLEER to provide a resolution to the board via email supporting a grant application to the Garfield FMLD for the Local Power Inventory and Plan and working with the CERC.* Stuart noted that the resolution could be approved by telephone and ratified at the March meeting. Alice looked on the Internet and found a Word document template for the resolution. Stuart deferred the motion until the end of the meeting so the resolution could be presented to the board.

Update on Aspen Community Foundation (ACF) meeting, next steps

Alice reported a successful meeting on Jan. 29 organized by the Aspen Community Foundation to convene the groups working on clean energy issues in Pitkin, Eagle and Garfield Counties. She said she had just received a rough summary of the meeting from ACF regarding follow-up, and will present that information at the next board meeting.

Lunch break

Board members and guests took a 10-minute break to have lunch, provided by CMC.

Presentations

Xcel Energy Partners in Energy program

Kelly Flenniken, Xcel Energy's Grand Junction Area Manager for Community and Local Government Affairs, presented on Xcel's Partners in Energy program. The program

provides staff support from Xcel to communities to develop an energy action plan and assist with implementation of the plan, tracking, reporting and marketing.

There are five communities in Colorado already involved: Jefferson and Summit counties and the cities of Englewood, Littleton and Lafayette. Another six communities are considering, including Garfield Clean Energy. Kelly said the energy action plan is valued at \$30,000 to \$50,000 in Xcel staff time, and is tailored to meet the needs of each community. She said it's also an important tool for economic development. Xcel has two application cycles per year; the next deadline is March 18.

Board members discussed the program with Kelly. Ann Livingston of SWEEP said the program is a great process to bring together local stakeholders. Jason White asked about renewable energy. Kelly said in Summit County, a big part of the plan is a large community solar garden.

Jason moved that Garfield Clean Energy enroll in the Xcel Energy Partners in Energy program, noting that it carries no financial commitment from GCE. Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

DOE Outdoor Lighting Accelerator program

Ann Livingston, Program Manager for State and Local Engagement for SWEEP, presented on the advantages of using LEDs for street lighting, and on the U.S. Department of Energy's Outdoor Lighting Accelerator program. *(Ann presented by phone, as the temporary closure of I-70 prevented her from traveling from Boulder.)*

Ann presented some statistics about streetlights:

- There are 26 million streetlights in the U.S.
- Nationwide, street lighting costs \$6 billion and emits 40 million metric tons of CO₂ per year.
- LED streetlights can cut energy use by 40 to 80 percent, depending on the local climate. In Colorado, typical savings is 60 to 65 percent.
- About 3 percent of streetlights have been converted to LED. Forecasts show that 94 percent of streetlights will be converted to LED by 2023.
- Las Vegas, Nev., tested 6,600 LED street lights, got a positive response and issued bonds to replace its remaining 44,000 lights. Savings have exceeded original estimates, with a payback of seven years.
- In Colorado, Longmont and Fort Collins are planning city-wide LED replacements.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Outdoor Lighting Accelerator provides technical assistance from DOE staff to help communities make smart choices in converting streetlights to LEDs. The community must commit to replacing a significant portion of its lighting in the next two years, although it's not a binding commitment.

Board members asked questions and discussed the program. Erica Sparhawk noted that the DOE program covers all government-owned outdoor lighting, not just streetlights, and would apply to government buildings served by Xcel, Holy Cross or Glenwood Springs Electric.

Tom asked what the requirements would be. Erica said GCE would need a point person on staff to lead the program, and proposed using GCE's active energy management budget line to fund that work, making LED outdoor lighting the primary focus for energy efficiency upgrades for GCE partners in 2016.

Rachel noted that the program would be helpful for RFTA and CMC. Tom said LEDs could be used for the county's parking lots, fairgrounds, and possibly the airport. The board deferred action until after the next presentation.

Xcel Energy LED Street Lighting program

Kelly Flenniken briefed the board on Xcel's program, aimed at replacing cobra-head streetlights in municipalities within its service territory with LEDs. Xcel is offering two pricing options: Option A has no upfront cost to the municipality and delivers savings of 4 to 7 percent; Option B allows the municipality to pay for the LED conversion and yields savings of 9 to 20 percent.

Xcel is asking Colorado cities to elect one option or the other by Dec. 31. Kelly noted that Carbondale, Dillon and Silverthorne have selected Option A. Kelly brought detailed spreadsheets on the two options to share with officials from the towns of Parachute, Silt and New Castle. She provided contact info for the program manager, Susan Davis.

Tom asked Joe Elliott if LEDs require a new fixture. Joe said there are kits for conversions that allow the existing fixture to be re-used. He said CMC is making a wave of LED replacements. It has been cost effective and yielded excellent light quality.

Tom Jankovsky moved for Garfield Clean Energy enroll in the U.S. Department of Energy's Outdoor Lighting Accelerator program. Joe Elliott seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2 Supporting a Garfield FMLD grant application

Board members reviewed printed copies of Resolution 2, supporting a Garfield FMLD grant application to supplement funding for the Local Power Inventory and Plan.

Rachel Pokrandt moved to approve Resolution 2 supporting a Garfield FMLD grant application. Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

New date for Strategic Planning Retreat

Stuart noted that with the change in regular board meeting dates, the Strategic Planning Retreat would move to Friday, May 13, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at CMC Rifle.

Upcoming events

Heather invited board members to attend the Energy Smart Contractor Expo, a major outreach project for GCE, to be held on March 17 at CMC in Glenwood Springs.

Adjournment

Tom Jankovsky moved to adjourn the meeting, Jason White seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Stuart McArthur adjourned the meeting at 1:25 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 March 11, 2016.