



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: Tuesday, June 14, 2016, 12:00 to 3:03 p.m.**  
Silt Branch Library, 680 Home Ave., Silt

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**Board members attending**

Town of Parachute: GCE Chair Stuart McArthur  
Garfield County: Treasurer Tom Jankovsky  
City of Rifle: Joe Elliot  
Town of Silt: Rick Aluise  
Town of New Castle: Bruce Leland  
City of Glenwood Springs: Leo McKinney  
Town of Carbondale: Katrina Byars  
Garfield County: Josh Williams  
CMC: Pete Waller  
RFTA: Jason White

**Others attending**

CLEER: Heather McGregor, Alice Laird, Erica Sparhawk  
Retreat facilitator: Greg Russi

**Board members not present**

None

**Next meeting:** Friday, July 8, 2016, Glenwood Springs Branch Library

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**Board Luncheon:** The meeting began at noon with a luncheon.

**Call meeting to order:** Stuart McArthur called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Stuart introduced new board member Katrina Byars, representing the Town of Carbondale.

**Roll call and approval of agenda:**

Heather McGregor took the roll.

*Leo McKinney moved to approve the agenda, Katrina Byars seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

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

**Consent Agenda: Minutes for May 13, 2016, regular board meeting**

*Bruce Leland moved to approve the May 13 minutes. Rick Aluise seconded the motion, and the motion passed 7-0. Leo McKinney and Joe Elliott abstained from voting.*

## **Financials**

### **May 2016 and YTD financial reports and accounts payable**

*Leo McKinney moved to approve the financial reports and the accounts payable. Rick Aluise seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*

## **Updates**

### **C-PACE progress and Contractor Workshop**

Alice Laird updated the board on C-PACE, the commercial clean energy and water efficiency financing program offered by the State of Colorado. She noted that “clean-up” legislation was approved in the 2016 session, and signed by the Governor. Adams County has now opted in to the program, joining Boulder County. Other counties, including Eagle, are considering opting in as well.

Alice said CLEER is receiving calls from contractors wanting to know when the C-PACE option will be available in Garfield County. They have suggested a local workshop be held to increase understanding of how the program works. She asked board members if GCE would be a cosponsor of the contractor workshop, set for June 30. Katrina Byars said it would be a great idea, and asked what it entails. Alice said it would involve setting up the event, providing refreshments and publicity. Jason White suggested reaching out to Alpine Bank as a sponsor.

## **Action Items**

### **Election of new board vice-chair and board secretary**

Stuart McArthur noted that with Allyn Harvey leaving the Carbondale Board of Trustees, the GCE vice-chair seat is vacant. Pete Waller said Rachel Pokrandt will also be leaving the GCE board to take an assignment leading CMC’s Leadville campus, creating a vacancy in the board secretary seat.

Stuart opened nominations for the board vice-chair. No one offered a nomination. *Katrina Byars volunteered to serve as vice chair, Leo McKinney seconded and the board elected Katrina as vice-chair by acclamation.*

Stuart opened nominations for the board secretary. *Rick Aluise volunteered to serve, Pete Waller seconded and the board elected Rick as secretary by acclamation.*

### **Reset November board meeting**

Heather McGregor asked the board to reset the November board meeting, since the second Friday of the month will fall on Veteran’s Day. *Leo McKinney moved to change the meeting date to Friday, Nov. 4. Bruce Leland seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

### **GCE – Xcel Energy Partners in Energy MOU and stakeholders list**

Erica Sparhawk summarized the Xcel Energy Partners in Energy program, which the board approved in concept in February. She reported that CLEER staff has participated in two calls with Xcel staff and Brendle Group, the consultants who will help GCE develop and

implement a countywide energy action plan. The first major step in the project is to invite a broad group of stakeholders to attend a series of three half-day meetings to be held in the second half of 2016. A CLEER memo includes a list of potential stakeholders; Erica asked board members to suggest other participants. Board members suggested marijuana grow facilities and the Colorado Department of Transportation.

Xcel is also seeking a memorandum of understanding with GCE to pursue the project, also included in the board packet. *Leo moved to authorize the board chair to sign the MOU, Rick Aluise seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

Pete Waller asked if the plan would include other energy utilities. Erica said Xcel is asking for energy usage data from all the utilities serving Garfield County. Josh Williams asked if the project would provide access to the missing energy consumption data. Erica said Xcel staff is working to obtain that. Katrina Byars asked who would adopt the resulting energy action plan. Erica said GCE would be asked to adopt the plan, and GCE member governments could adopt it as well.

### **2017 Strategic Planning Retreat**

Facilitated by Greg Russi (Tom Baker was unable to attend)

**Summary report on activities, cumulative accomplishments:** Erica Sparhawk, CLEER  
Erica reported key results of the Garfield Clean Energy program since 2010:

- 279 service contractors and suppliers involved in projects
- \$12.5 million invested in projects
- \$1.8 million per year in energy savings from all tallied projects
- 609 residences and 226 businesses invested in energy projects, with \$1 million in savings to date
- 37 borrowers in the Residential Revolving Loan Fund
- One-stop-shop website tallied 22,000 visits in 2015, with 32,250 page views.
- 37 solar arrays on government-owned buildings generating 2.1 megawatts, or 3.25 gigawatt-hours of power per year
- 30 CNG buses and vans operated by RFTA
- 2 public CNG stations, with a third opening later in 2016
- 20 electric vehicle charging stations with 39 plugs

**State and regional policy and funding context:** Alice Laird, CLEER

Alice provided information on related policy and funding efforts at the state and regional levels, which can complement GCE planning efforts and possibly help in providing resources or supporting policies for implementation.

State level efforts:

- State Climate Action Plan, adopted in 2008, updated in 2015 is receiving increased attention among state agencies, especially in terms of examples of how to increase energy efficiency/reduce emissions in economically viable ways.
- State response to the federal Clean Power Plan: while there is currently a U.S. Supreme Court hold on the plan, state agencies are assuming that at some point

some version of the effort will move forward and the state will need to provide a plan for how to reach the state targets.

- Colorado Blueprint contains an energy efficiency section that looks at related economic opportunities and job creation.
- Colorado Climate Communities Network, a new alliance of local governments working for support for local programs at the PUC and state Legislature.
- Colorado Energy Office programs, e.g. Refuel Colorado Fleets, Green MLS, farm efficiency and C-PACE commercial financing.
- Public Utilities Commission decisions regarding renewable energy and energy efficiency standards for utilities

Regional level efforts:

- Xcel Partners in Energy project with GCE
- Eagle County's countywide climate plan, and discussions about forming something similar to GCE or a multi-county effort
- Town of Carbondale updating its Climate Action Plan
- CORE Board interest in visiting with GCE
- Energy Smart Colorado would like GCE to become a member

Tom Jankovsky noted that the success of GCE is built on its being a bipartisan effort of multiple governments. He warned against stepping into more politicized areas such as climate. Alice clarified that climate-related efforts were mentioned because some of the state climate efforts also focus on energy-efficiency incentives. Funding for local efforts that have the shared goal of increased energy efficiency might be an outcome and might be a source for funding for GCE programs.

Leo McKinney noted that only three GCE members have their own climate plans, and questioned how GCE as a whole could join a climate-oriented effort. Jason White said a council of clean energy groups could function similar to CDOT's transportation planning regions, which are an efficient means of funneling state money to regions.

### **Review of strategic planning concepts and framework:** Stuart McArthur

Stuart summarized his approach to strategic planning, based on work he did with the City of Aurora. It involves setting a vision, mission, goals, objectives, inputs and outputs. The inputs and outputs should be measurable and attainable. Even the vision should be attainable at some point.

The vision should describe what we want to become, what is our long-term position, the future. The mission is driven by the vision, and describes what we are currently doing. The mission can change over time, and is rooted in the present. Stuart expressed his concern that GCE's energy goals are not attainable because GCE does not have control over energy usage across the county.

### **Review of vision, mission and goals, existing and proposed** (PowerPoint)

Board members discussed GCE's existing vision, mission and goals, and looked at Stuart's proposed revisions. Greg Russi and Rick Aluisse said the energy goals are based on per capita to allow for population growth. Leo asked where Garfield County is today compared

to the 2009 baseline. Pete Waller suggested focusing the vision, noting that CMC's vision is to "be net-zero by 2050."

Tom asked how energy efficiency can be measured in other counties to compare with Garfield. Erica noted that national and state figures are available on the federal EIA website. Bruce asked what happens when we reach our goal. Katrina Byars said a diverse clean energy portfolio would be good to include in the vision.

Stuart said GCE provides education to help the community accomplish the energy goals. We coach and encourage others. Pete noted that tracking energy use through the Navigator is important for measuring savings.

Joe Elliott said our vision is to get all of Garfield County energy efficient, along with alternative fuels and renewable energy – but GCE is not going to build a solar farm.

### **Board discussion and direction on updated vision, mission and goals**

Board members made several suggestions for revising the vision and mission, noting that it should include the concepts of coaching, leadership, education and implementing solutions. Heather offered to develop several versions of the vision and mission for the board to consider at the July meeting.

Greg turned the discussion toward GCE's goals. Bruce said board members want to know where GCE is in achieving the goals before tossing them out. Katrina said the renewable energy goals should be easy to measure because utilities are responsible for meeting renewable energy standards. Rick said it's possible that we are on target. Alice noted that the Xcel Partners in Energy process can help measure results to date. Pete asked if GCE is driving the goals, or is it providing leadership to other organizations to reach the goals.

Joe suggested taking these revisions in steps, by looking at a vision and mission at the July meeting and then focusing on the goals later in the year.

### **Adjournment**

*Bruce Leland moved to adjourn the meeting, Pete Waller seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.*

### GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATIVE

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Aluise, Secretary

These minutes were reviewed and approved by a vote of the Garfield Clean Energy Board of Directors at its meeting held on July 8, 2016.

