



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: Friday, October 14, 2016, 1:10 to 3:02 p.m.

Colorado Mountain College Campus, Rifle

Board members attending

Town of Carbondale: Vice Chair Katrina Byars
Town of Silt: Secretary Rick Aluise
City of Glenwood Springs: Leo McKinney
Garfield County: Tom Jankovsky
CMC: Richard Maestas
RFTA: Jason White

Others attending

CLEER: Alice Laird, Erica Sparhawk
Energy Smart Colorado: Peter Rusin, Executive Director

Board members not present

Town of Parachute: GCE Chair Stuart McArthur
City of Rifle: Theresa Hamilton
Town of New Castle: Bruce Leland

Next meeting: Friday, November 4, Glenwood Springs (shifted to a week early due to Veterans Day)

Call meeting to order

Katrina Byars called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Roll call and approval of agenda:

Rick Aluise took the roll.

Jason White moved to approve the agenda; Leo McKinney seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Board member and public comments

Katrina Byars commented on the visit from OEDIT and how proud she is of GCE's results and what the entire county is doing on energy efficiency. Rick Aluise asked about funding outlook for 2017 and asked if there should be a funding committee as there was in 2015 that consisted of Rick and Rachel Pokdrandt. Alice said she will reach out to board members to see who can participate in a funding committee.

Jason mentioned the VW Settlement that will be bringing \$64 million to Colorado that is being handled by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and said that GCE should weigh in on uses. Jason will listen in on the call to see how it will benefit rural counties.

Consent Agenda: Minutes for September 9, 2016, board meeting/joint meeting with CORE Board.

Leo McKinney moved to approve the September 9 minutes. Rick Aluise seconded the motion, and the motion passed 6-0. Minutes approved unanimously.

Financials

September 2016 and YTD financial reports and accounts payable

Tom Jankovsky reported that GCE has \$132,000 in the bank, and has receivables of \$35,000, and spending is within budget. Tom commented that with the end of the year coming GCE needs to make sure to carefully track final amounts in budgets to not overspend the GCE budget through December.

Board members expressed concern about GCE members who have not yet made their 2016 payment, and also expressed concerns about the amounts that are being contributed.

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

Reallocation Request

Erica summarized the packet memo on the reallocation request and explained that due to the increased interest from homeowners in GCE programs residential coaching is taking more time than budgeted and that recent publicity and fall weather will trigger increased/ongoing demand for residential programs. Erica also summarized how there is greater demand for assistance from GCE Partners for Active Energy Management services than is in the budget. Erica summarized the requested reallocation to move \$8,720 out of Commercial Coaching into Residential Coaching; move \$2,400 out of Commercial Coaching into Active Energy Management and allow the funding for the Local Power project to be spent locally and wait for assistance from School of Mines for after a workshop is held to identify top local power priorities and a more defined scope of work.

Tom Jankovsky commented that additional funding had needed to be reallocated to residential energy coaching in 2015, and that for the 2017 budget the residential budget amount should be increased. Katrina asked if the amount transferred is enough. Erica replied that the amount transferred will really help on the residential side. Alice commented that demand for commercial energy coaching is lower in western parts of the county due to lack of the rebates that were available other years through other funding sources.

Leo McKinney moved to approve the relocation request as outlined in the memo. Richard Maestas seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. (The memo is attached to the minutes for detail.)

Energy Smart Colorado presentation: Peter Rusin, Executive Director

Peter Rusin, Executive Director of Energy Smart Colorado gave a presentation on what Energy Smart Colorado is and the benefits to Garfield Clean Energy for joining.

Board members asked a variety of questions. Who are the existing Energy Smart partners and how do members use the Energy Smart name without losing their own identity. Peter explained that it varies; some members make the Energy Smart brand more visible; others put it secondary and Energy Smart is flexible. Peter shared that by joining together local energy efficiency efforts might have more of a presence on utility issues, grant efforts, or PUC/legislative issues. Tom Jankovsky commented that it sounds similar to a trade association or NWCOG, for energy efficiency organizations.

Richard Maestas asked about opportunities for grants; Peter said he does not want to overpromise but is actively seeking out grant funding and in particular is looking for grants to help provide equitable rebates across different regions for partners and additional funding to support the CARE program, or funding that can add value to existing programs. He said he sees one of his main roles as to help strengthen efforts and help the partners find sustainable funding.

Tom Jankovsky asked how Energy Smart and Peter's position is currently funded; Peter explained that it is from funding from the Energy Smart DOE loan fund that was converted to operational funding and a bit from utility contracts. Energy Smart has a contract with Black Hills Energy and Peter mentioned that GCE as an Energy Smart partner would get \$40 per coaching client through that effort.

Tom asked if Energy Smart sustainable; Peter explained that his charge is to develop the full-time funding to make it sustainable and will either find the funding by October 2017 to make it sustainable with his full-time role, or propose another structure that will allow it to live on. Leo asked if Glenwood Springs is already an Energy Smart member because they are listed on the website and Erica explained that Glenwood Springs is listed because CORE is a member and the Energy Smart assessment is offered in Glenwood Springs.

Katrina mentioned that GCE already offers the full service energy coaching and asked how GCE would benefit from Energy Smart full-service energy program and how Energy Smart would complement GCE's existing programs. Peter explained that GCE is unlike other partners in that in many ways GCE is already offering the full service energy efficiency programs, and that GCE already has an impressive track record, and that Energy Smart provides a way to connect with other similar programs in the state to work for greater funding and help increase consistency throughout the region.

Board members asked if Energy Smart is working on renewables and Peter replied that Energy Smart is primarily focusing on energy efficiency.

Jason said it looks like Energy Smart could be a great link to statewide policy makers and asked if there is a longer term strategy on funding. He noted that many local governments in our region receive severance dollars and these amounts are decreasing, so municipalities might start reducing their funds. Jason said he hopes Energy Smart can help work out longer term funding sources for energy efficiency organizations.

Katrina thanked Peter for traveling all the way from Denver to make the presentation and said it looks like a valuable partnership. Peter explained the next step would be for the GCE board to approve the Energy Smart agreement, and that there would be an annual \$1,000 fee.

Tom asked if there is an annual meeting' Peter said there is usually an annual meeting in March, usually in Eagle County and that there are monthly phone calls for the staff more deeply involved in energy coaching.

GCE Board members expressed support for becoming an Energy Smart partner. Alice said the Energy Smart Agreement will be added to the November agenda for Board approval.

Program updates

Third Quarter report

Erica summarized the highlights of the Third Quarter report that was handed out. She highlighted that residential numbers are up over 2nd Quarter report due to Maisa being back from maternity leave, additional IQ funding and additional outreach.

Xcel Energy Partners in Energy Planning effort and Update on 2017 Strategic Plan

Alice provided a brief update on the results of the October 12 Xcel Energy Partners in Energy Planning process and how the energy actions identified through the process and the data analysis will help with the GCE Strategic Plan and will help determine program levels to reach targets. The next meeting in late November will result in the draft plan.

OEDIT visit and next steps

The board discussed the OEDIT visit and next steps. Alice mentioned that OEDIT staff are working on setting up a Denver meeting date.

Local Power Project

Alice gave an update on the local power project and shared an overall Garfield County Energy Inventory that had been developed in 2014 by County staff working with TRC consulting. The Inventory shows the breadth and complexity of the topic of local power options, and also includes many maps that show potential sites. Staff are proposing a workshop that would gather various experts on local power options (geothermal, coal seam, coal bed methane, microhydro, solar thermal, photovoltaics) to create a common level of understanding among GCE and CORE board members, increase baseline knowledge of options, and identify top priority areas that could then be handed off to School of Mines for next steps, or other next steps that require technical assistance. There are multiple studies that have been done to date and staff are finding that to make sure any future studies or next technical steps are useful it would be valuable to first increase understanding of the studies that have been done to date and status of existing efforts to develop sources. GCE board members said that a local workshop seems useful but felt that rather than trying to hold it in December, January would be a more realistic timeframe for people to be able to participate.

Draft 2017 Budget

Alice shared the draft 2017 Budget with the board and relayed that she and Erica had met with Tom Jankovsky to go through the draft. Tom’s advice about increasing the budget for residential energy coaching has been incorporated into the draft. The revenue amounts are based on what GCE has heard so far from members regarding 2017 contributions.

Follow up to joint GCE/CORE meeting

Alice referenced a handout that summarized the results of the joint meeting with CORE board in September and asked for board input on the proposed areas of collaboration.

Upcoming events

Erica reported that there will be another Facility Manager Workshop on the topic of Wastewater Treatment Plants in November.

Adjournment

Leo McKinney moved to adjourn the meeting, Jason White seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:02 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 November 4, 2016.