



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

Board Meeting Minutes: Friday, May 14, 2021, 1:00 p.m.

Conference Call

Board members attending

RFTA: Chair, Jason White
Town of New Castle: Bruce Leland
Garfield County: Frank Coberly
CMC: Jarrod Kochevar, Sean Nesbitt
Town of Carbondale: Ben Bohmfalk

Others attending

CLEER: Erica Sparhawk, Zuleika Pevec, Maisa Metcalf, Katharine Rushton
Holy Cross Energy: Jenna Weatherred

Board members not present

Town of Silt: Keith Richel
City of Rifle: TBD
Town of Parachute: Stuart McArthur
Garfield County: Tom Jankovsky
City of Glenwood Springs: Ingrid Wussow

Call meeting to order:

Jason called the meeting to order at 1:04pm

Roll Call and Approval of agenda:

Bruce conducted roll call.

Jason invited changes to the agenda, there were none.

Frank Coberly moved to approve the meeting agenda; Ben Bohmfalk seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Member and Public comment:

Jason invited comments from the Board and Public. There were none.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of March 12, 2021 minutes

Bruce had two small corrections to the minutes and will send them to Erica.

Sean had a question about the January and February financials and members who had not paid their dues. Erica explained which members had paid and which had not yet.

March and April Financials

No comments on the financials

Ben Bohmfalk moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Sean Nesbitt seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Action Items:

None to be discussed.

Program Updates:

Solarize Program update and rebate discussion

Erica provided an update and requested additional rebate funds be allocated for the Solarize program.

Bruce asked if there will be another push for new enrollments. Erica explained that although people are welcome to sign up there are so many already enrolled it isn't necessary.

Ben stated that he supported using the DOE funds for rebates but would like to think about the bigger picture and how to use to remaining the funds.

Jason asked about how important storage is for the utilities. Jenna explained that storage is helpful for peak usage times and essential that it's included with new solar coming online.

Ben Bohmfalk moved to approve additional funds be allocated for Solarize Rebates. Frank Coberly seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

DOLA Renewable Planning Grant update

Erica and Katharine gave an update. Reviewed some key data on solar potential.

Ben expressed surprise that the percentage of solar on the grid with large scale solar adoption wouldn't provide more. Katharine agreed, but explained that solar is only one technology and there are others that will help get to 100% renewable.

Sean asked if the data is broken down by county and utility, Erica explained how all the data was compiled and what we have access to.

Ben excited about the report and data coming from it.

Frank asked a clarifying question about the predicted jobs numbers and if there was information about what kinds of wages those jobs would be. Erica said she didn't have that level of detail but would see if we can get it.

Jenna asked about the potential jobs, are they long-term or short-term. Erica answered that there will be solar installed every year, so they can be long-term. Katharine elaborated that there are not only installation jobs, there is also economic stimulus that grows local economy, including jobs.

Erica said that before they release the report, she can reach out to those interested on the Board to review it.

Jason commented that he likes the planning and it will help in finding opportunities for funding.

Low-income solar technical assistance request

Katharine explained the opportunity for a Rifle solar-garden and explained that GCE/CLEER have been awarded technical assistance from NREL.

Jason asked what the terms are for the technical assistance? Katharine said it is no cost to us and we get 40 hours of assistance to try to figure out a model that would work for the landowner while providing solar for low-income families.

Ben expressed support and is glad that CLEER applied for the opportunity.

USDA Rural Energy Savings Program (RESP) opportunity

Erica wanted to share the opportunity with the Board but the action needs to be taken by each municipality. She explained the details of the program and asked if there were any entities that might be interested.

Bruce said New Castle will be in touch to learn more.

Jenna shared that Holy Cross Energy is using the loan mostly for the EV charger program: Holy Cross pays upfront cost for chargers, then customer pays back over 10 years on electric bill and shares charging data.

BikeThere update

Zuleika provided a detailed update on all the events planned for the month of June.

Ben expressed that he would like to make sure all our materials are also translated into Spanish. Zuleika said she'd look into it and also make sure Spanish language materials are part of the planning for 2022.

Affiliate Membership

Jason introduced Jenna. Erica explained the details of affiliate membership as per the GCE bylaws and intergovernmental agreement. She also explained the memo included that showed the original ideas for membership amounts.

Jenna talked about how Holy Cross wants to be more involved with GCE and is how the affiliate membership model seems like a good way to do it.

Ben expressed support for HCE joining GCE as an affiliate member.

Jason said that this meeting is more of a meet and greet for Jenna. Asked if everyone is ok with figuring out the affiliate membership dues later.

Bruce wondered about the full process. Erica wanted to get initial approval then add an action item for a future meeting for the Board to vote on it.

Ben asked that staff make sure there is a general statement about what it means to be an affiliate member and that the Board consider a flat rate for affiliate members so that it's easy going forward.

Adjournment

Ben Bohmfalk moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:56 p.m.; Frank Coberly seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATIVE

By: _____
Jason White, Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Bruce Leland, Secretary

These minutes were reviewed and approved by a vote of the Garfield Clean Energy Board of Directors at its meeting held on July 9, 2021.