



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, July 8th, 2022, 1:00 p.m.
(Virtual via Zoom)

Board members attending

RFTA: Chair, Jason White
CMC: Jerrod Kochevar
Garfield County: Tom Jankovsky, Frank Coberly
Town of Carbondale: Lani Kitching
City of Rifle: Sean Strode
City of Glenwood Springs: Vice Chair, Ingrid Wussow
Town of New Castle: Secretary, Bruce Leland
Town of Silt: Keith Richel
Town of Parachute: Travis Elliot

Board members not present

Town of Silt: Keith Richel

Affiliate members present

Holy Cross Energy: Jenna Weatherred

Others attending

CLEER: Alice Laird, Maisa Metcalf, Dave Reed, Zuleika Pevec

Call meeting to order:

Jason White called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Roll Call and Approval of agenda:

Bruce Leland conducted roll call.

Jason White invited changes to the agenda, there were none.

Travis Elliot moved to approve the meeting agenda, Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Member and Public comment:

Jason White invited comments from the Board and Public.

Sean Strode noted that after a presentation to the city council by CLEER staff on July 6, it looks likely that Rifle will rejoin with a \$10k contribution. Maisa and Bruce both welcomed Rifle back.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of May 13th, 2022 minutes

May & June Financials

Bruce Leland said he appreciated the detailed minutes of the May strategic planning session.

Tom Jankovsky reported that GCE seems to be in good shape financially, based on the June financials.

Tom Jankovsky moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Sean Strode seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Program Updates and Information:

CLEER staffer Zuleika Pevac reported on the following programs:

Bike to Work Day Event - GCE and partners hosted three welcome stations the morning of June 22, and had displays in all the branch libraries all that week. A \$1k contribution from Valley Ortho enabled us to get an e-bike at cost for the grand prize, and 193 people signed up. Jason said he attended the Carbondale station and said the event was well executed.

ReEnergize Garfield County - The program is going well, with 111 applicants to date; 45 are receiving aid through ReEnergize, 15 through CARE, and 51 through WAP. We have allocated \$138K of the \$150k available for ReEnergize rebates, offset by \$19k from Glenwood Springs Electric's LMI program, so we're close to running out of funds. Applications and inquiries are still trickling in. We have a great working relationship with NWCCOG and are receiving all positive feedback from clients. We'd love to have more participants in Parachute/Battlement Mesa. A case study is in the works, which will be shared with GCE members.

Harnessing Solar Benefits for Western Colorado Event - Tom Jankovsky did the opening remarks and highlighted the benefits of GCE and how a collaboration like GCE can make a difference. Six counties were represented, along with attendees from NGOs, the BLM, the solar industry and others. There was great discussion and engagement all around, and everyone was respectful. Tom Jankovsky added that it was good to have government and industry in the same room talking, and he found it very informative.

Action Items:

Request to pursue EV readiness/action plan funding

Alice Laird explained that there is funding available for electrification planning through the Colorado Energy Office. This could fund the development of a coordinated plan, either for Garfield County or possibly for the 3-county region, which would help us tap into further funding for implementation. The request would be for \$20-30k, with a local match of 10-50% which could come from GCE's transportation line item.

This led to brief discussions of municipalities' EV-ready codes (New Castle and Carbondale have EV-ready codes now, and Rifle is interested). The idea of encouraging EV charger users to donate to GCE was also discussed, along with the need for coordination among municipalities on the costs to users for EV charging.

Lani Kitching moved to approve the request to pursue EV readiness/action plan funding, Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Strategic Planning Session:

Draft Vision & Mission

Maisa Metcalf presented the board with the following statements, which incorporate minor revisions made per the board's discussion in May. Board members offered no objections to either:

Vision statement: Garfield Clean Energy Collaborative (GCE) will be an innovative leader in promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy and clean transportation to protect the environment and build a strong, resilient and diverse economy.

Mission statement: The mission of the Garfield Clean Energy Collaborative is to provide energy efficiency solutions, alternative and renewable energy opportunities and energy and environmental education to all individuals and organizations, in order to protect the environment and build a stronger, more resilient economy benefiting the residents of Garfield County.

Draft Goals

Maisa presented the following draft goals, which incorporated input from the board's discussions in May:

Goal 1: Garfield County will increase participation in energy efficiency programs by 50% for residents and 25% for businesses from 2019 levels by 2030.

Board members supported this goal, but they asked staff to provide more detailed projections of the number of residences and businesses to be served year by year to better show how the 2030 targets will be reached. Maisa said staff will be able to provide more accurate estimates after the county energy plan has been updated.

Goal 2: Garfield County electricity will be 100% carbon-free by 2030 through grid supplied resources and local renewable installs.

Board members supported this goal, but requested reconsideration of the term “carbon-free.” Tom Jankovsky said he thought “renewable energy” was a more accurate phrase. Jenna Wetherred said she would research best terminology.

Goal 3: Garfield County will strive to transition 15% of all registered vehicles to zero-emissions by 2030 and will reduce vehicle miles traveled annually by improving mobility access and transportation options.

Board members supported this goal.

Goal 4: Garfield County will reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to energy supply by 30% by 2030

- Garfield County will reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to electric supply by 100% by 2030
- Garfield County will reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to natural gas supply by 10% by 2030

Maisa noted that staff had changed the wording of this goal from what was written in the board packet in order to clear up potential ambiguity. Board members supported the reworded goal.

Several board members expressed satisfaction that the goals have been reframed to be smarter, more measurable and more accelerated in light of the progress made in the past five years. Maisa said the goals will be presented at next week’s Garfield County energy plan update meeting.

2023 Budget Discussion

Jason referred board members to the memo from the Finance Committee recommending steps to increase GCE’s partner contributions in 2023, given that they have generally remained level or declined over the years. He noted that GCE has been frugal in its operations, inflation is increasing costs across the board, and going forward the budget will need to align with the more ambitious goals that the collaborative is setting for itself.

Alice briefly explained how partners’ annual contributions were originally set and the need for a formula or rational basis for contributions going forward that provide predictable revenue and that account for ongoing inflation. She offered two possible approaches to calculate suggested 2023 partner contributions: 1) the partner’s founding-year contribution amount, increased by 3% compounded annually; 2) the partner’s pre-pandemic contribution amount, increased by 5%.

Board members supported staff’s efforts to increase partner contributions, and directed staff to work with the Finance Committee to recommend specific suggested contribution

amounts before September, so as to be able to make the requests early in partners' 2023 budget cycles. The board also directed staff to approach the Garfield County Library District, Xcel Energy and local fire districts about joining GCE.

Adjournment

Lani Kitching moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:48 p.m.; Bruce Leland 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 October 14th, 2022.