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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 for Friday, May 10th, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Location: Garfield County Administrative Annex in Rifle

Minutes taken by Christina Matzl, CLEER
Facilitated by Leah Weiss

Board members attending

CMC:	Ryan Shepherd (virtual), Sean Nesbitt (virtual)
City of Rifle:	Sean Strode
Town of New Castle:	Secretary, Bruce Leland
Town of Carbondale:	Ben Bohmfalk
City of Glenwood Springs:	Alternate, Erin Zalinsky
RFTA:	Chair, Jason White
Garfield County:	Tom Jankovsky, treasurer, and alternate Frank Coberly

Board members not present

Town of Silt:	Keith Richel
Holy Cross:	Jenna Weatherred
Town of Parachute:	Chris Jackson

Affiliate members present

Garfield County Libraries:	Jamie LaRue

Others attending

CLEER:	Alice Laird, Christina Matzl, Morgan Hill, Mary Harlan
Partners in Energy:	Van Wallace, Imogen Ainsworth (virtual)

Call meeting to order:
Jason White called the meeting to order at 11:09 a.m.

Roll Call:
Bruce Leland conducted the roll call.

Board Member and Public Comment:
- Bruce Leland thanked CLEER for attending the New Castle Earth Day

Regular Business:
Approval of March 8th meeting minutes and February and March 2024 financials
- Motion to approve financials and minutes
    - *Sean Strode moved to approve the Feb-March financials and March Minutes, seconded by Erin Zalinsky. All in favor. 11:12*

Action items
- None

Staff updates
Quarter 1 report
- Q1 rebate spending looks low as projects are not completed yet.

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Communities Sparking Investment in Transformative Energy (C-SITE) funding opportunity

- Alice shared that the C-SITE grant is a great fit for GCE's goals and would help continue work on the goals. The grant requires a 5% local match and the emphasis is on transformative and innovative energy proposals, intended to scale up programs. CLEER staff requested support from the Board to submit the application and use GCE funds as a match. Lauren and Morgan will follow up with all details and rough components if approved.
- Staff are asking GCE for approval today since we will not meet again before the grant application is due. Sean expressed confidence in the grant but concern about the matching funds. Staff will keep GCE updated on the needs and process.
    - *Bruce moved that GCE approve submission of an application for the C-SITE grant, seconded by Ben. All in favor. 11:26*

BikeThere event on June 26th

- Event in collaboration with the Library district and multiple partners including CDOT. The event is in conjunction with CO Bike to Work Day to encourage biking as transportation. An e-bike is being provided by the Colorado Energy Office, prizes donated by businesses, bike shops donating bike tuneups. Each library will have its own mini-event. The fire departments are involved and provide bike testing, kids bikes, e-bikes, and bike safety.

Additional updates

- Through the Colorado Energy Office's Energy Code Adoption and Enforcement Grant, we have hosted several training sessions recently and have more to come. Heidi from the CLEER team has been doing workforce training including blower door tests.
- GCE will be hosting two events this year for energy efficiency in the lodging sector. The first is a lunchtime webinar, the second will be in-person in the fall. Staff are partnering with the local chambers.
- Sean Strode mentioned CMC's interest in blower door training as a non-credit course. CLEER staff will follow up on this.

<u>Board retreat and strategic planning</u>

Celebrating successes

- Overview of GCE's achievements
    - Board and staff listed multiple key GCE achievements.
- What is the Board proud of?
    - The Board listed multiple areas that they value about GCE including collaboration and bringing communities and entities together in Garfield County, economic diversification, creating measurable benefits, helping to update codes, leveraging and maximizing resources, and workforce training.

Where we are now

- 2023 data presentation
    - A presentation was provided by Brendle Group from Partners in Energy.
    - <u>Goal 1</u> - Energy efficiency focused on natural gas and electric data. Looked at per-premise data and accounted for the weather to view the trends. We are generally seeing upward trends across the board except for commercial electric use per premise which shows a 6% decrease. CLEER staff shared the tool that GCE will use moving forward to track program participation across the utilities.
    - <u>Goal 2</u> - Carbon-free electricity is achieved as a partnership between the utilities and local installations.
    - <u>Goal 3</u> - Clean mobility shows EV registration increases to about 1.6% of total registrations. EV charging stations are increasing as well. Does not account for personal chargers, only public.
    - <u>Goal 4</u> - GHG emissions show a 13% decline from 2019 to 2023. Progress on this goal occurs primarily as a result of other goals and utility efficiencies.

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- Goal 5 - Staff are working on a way to add quantifiable metrics to measure workforce development and economic development goals.

Break for lunch

Board retreat and strategic planning

Looking ahead

- **2025 priorities**
- *Led by Leah. "What stands out to you and excites you about the goals?"*
  - Jason commented that clean mobility stands out as a focus area for him. He is thinking of addressing traffic concerns and is excited about transit.
  - Erin likes the focus on economic diversity, which means more jobs and is universally beneficial for the community. This can possibly bring consistency to the community.
- *Look at goals and the barriers to goals*
  - Goal 1: Energy savings in the built environment
    - Barriers: Jason asked what it would take to achieve the 1.5% annual energy savings goal, with a response from CLEER that it would involve installing energy savings measures in 600 homes per year, a nearly 5-fold increase from the current installation rate.
    - One key point is to target the biggest users, which has been touched on in the past, as well as a public sector focus. A big barrier is capital costs and participation totals.
    - The ReEnergize program is a focus area to continue making a big impact. The CLEER team is working to take the opportunities of federal and state funding. The program sells out and the workforce would require assistance to scale the program.
    - Action steps: Publicize codes. Keep up with lending agencies and other financial support programs. Communicate bill savings and ROI as the value of GCE programs.
  - Goal 2: Carbon-free electricity
    - Barriers: Include HCE and GWS in the numbers shared. Consider utility goals. Think of Solarize's success. Need more clarification of what is GCE's specific goal, or actions. Look at incentives to increase infrastructure for solar in the design process.
    - Action steps: push programs, support community buy-in and renewables production locally
  - Goal 3: Clean mobility
    - Barriers: Charging station infrastructure is needed, especially in the charging deserts. We can take a cue from other counties; Eagle County has determined a target number. Ben asked, what are the gaps in the federal and state efforts that the local governments are responsible for?
    - Action steps:
      - Mary will follow up on what is the calculated need for EV chargers in the county.
      - Board members feel the need to determine GCE's specific role.
      - Jason suggests trying to electrify more fleets, which may be quicker than private focus.
      - Sean Nesbitt suggests helping communities with fleets and EV car share programs.
      - Jamie suggested mode transitions support, like expanding bike paths.
      - Bruce suggested a group buying for government fleets.
  - Goal 4

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        - Achieving this goal will be a result of progress on other goals and will be supported by community climate action planning occurring in the area. It will also be supported by CO regulations and goals.
        - Action steps can support high efficiency when electrification is not possible and still achieve emission reductions.
    - Goal 5
        - Barriers: data collection or aggregation is needed.
        - Action steps: Service directory or green trades directories maintaining contractor lists. Continue to support the workforce. Mary mentioned a CMC automotive training collaboration that has statewide support. Look more into geothermal systems and workforce support.
- **Review of the mission statement and vision**
    - Mission - Bruce stated that it needs grammatical edits and several in the group stated it should be shortened. Tom suggested removing "stronger". Morgan acknowledged that we do provide tangible efficiency services. "Individuals and orgs" should be removed. Staff will work with Bruce to fine-tune the mission.
- **Imagining what's possible for GCE**
    - Takeaways:
        - Tom highlights the longevity of the organization and its continued progress.
        - Sean Strode likes that this group is adaptable and evolves like the clean energy world has adapted and changed.
        - Erin appreciated that GCE is progressive, rather than reactive.
        - Ben mentioned the power of collaboration.
        - Jason commented on how GCE is efficient and can do a lot with a little and wants to stay sustainable in all realms including funding.
        - Jamie circled back to the idea of "thought leadership".
        - Bruce commented on how we come up with specific directives.
        - Frank brought up how we can always look at where we are and where we want to be, and make adjustments.

Tour

- **Garfield County Rifle campus EV charging station**
- **City of Rifle Parking Garage solar array**
- **Habitat for Humanity Wapiti Commons housing project**

Adjournment

Jason, Erin, Sean Strode, Jamie, and Ben attended the tour of clean energy sites in Rifle (listed above). The tour was completed at 3 p.m.

GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATIVE

By: DocuSigned by: Jason White 02F0C1B64041480...
Jason White, Chairperson

ATTEST: DocuSigned by: Bruce Leland 0D8FB5768F7443D...
Bruce Leland, Secretary