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GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY
Communities joining for a clean energy economy

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 | Holy Cross Energy
Garfield County Libraries

Board Meeting Minutes: Friday, November 15th, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Glenwood Springs Branch Library, with some members attending virtually

Minutes taken by Christina Matzl, CLEER

Board members attending

CMC:	Sean Nesbitt (virtual)
RFTA:	Chair, Jason White
City of Rifle:	Sean Strode (virtual)
Town of New Castle:	Bruce Leland
Garfield County:	Treasurer, Tom Jankovsky
Town of Carbondale:	Christina Montemayor

Board members not present

Town of Silt:	Keith Richel
Town of Parachute:	Chris Jackson (virtual)
City of Glenwood Springs:	Erin Zalinsky

Affiliate members present

Holy Cross Energy:	Jenna Weatherred (virtual)

Others attending

CLEER:	Morgan Hill, Christina Matzl, Zuleika Pevec

Call meeting to order:
Jason White called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm

Roll Call:
Bruce Leland conducted the roll call.

Board Member and Public Comment:

- Jason informed the Board that RFTA will most likely select a new representative who is on the RFTA board or C-suite as opposed to Jason who is a staff member to sit in GCE. Jason may still remain as an alternate. So the board may need to appoint a new Chair. Will keep the discussion open and discuss restrictions on outside of Garfield County reps from RFTA
- Also note that in April Igrid will not be seeking reelection so we will need a replacement for the Glenwood Springs representative and a new Board vice chair
- Need to open the discussion up to all board members to see who might be interested in becoming GCE Chair
- Frank Coberly is in poor health and can no longer serve as the Garfield County alternate

Regular Business:
Approval of Sept 13th minutes and August and September Financials

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- Tom commented on the financials
    - In the income vs expenses portion of the P&L statements, August had higher expenses due to payouts for ReEnergize
    - CLEER understands that several line items are over budget but are ensuring that the total contract amount is not exceeded.
    - Note that the budget is very close for the end of the year
        - No income that was not anticipated will be coming in
        - GCE did receive additional funds for Winterwise and Charging and Fueling grant writing
    - Zuleika commented on budgeted rebate lines. Three lines show as credit reserves, reenergize, EECBG, and commercial rebates.
    - The total on the balance sheet is greater than the P&L sheet and accounts for DOE funds
- Motion to approve.
    - *Tom Jankovsky moved to approve the financials and minutes, seconded by Jason White. All in favor. (1:27)*

Action items

- Financial review update:
    - Received from McMahan and Associates
    - CLEER flagged and asked about a discrepancy citing that expenditures were over by $36,000. This did not factor in rollover funds from ReEnergize in 2023. McMahan said it was a common occurrence and not an issue
    - Balance reserve will be less than in 2024, $20,000 will be the beginning fund balance for 2025
- Motion to approve:
    - *Jason moved to approve the review by Mahon and Associates, seconded by Tom. All in favor. (1:32)*

Goal #1: Energy savings in the built environment

ReEnergize progress and 2025 planning

- Zuleika provided an update on ReEnergize. Our current understanding is that rebates are over budget by about $6,000 due to the allocation timeline. Staff are looking to pull some funding from the Commercial rebate pool to offset the overage.
- There are a few rebates that need to be paid out to NWCCOG and to ReEnergize clients with private contractors.
- The commercial rebate pool is turning out to be more difficult to distribute than anticipated. $5,000 going to Hot Springs Lodge for their project and being a workshop partner. CLEER is working with the lodge on major energy efficiency projects of LEDs and water heat pumps for the historical lodge remodels.
- There were questions about how to balance the budget legally, in regards to government vs private business being able to move around funds between line items. The Board agrees that it's fine if the end total balances out.
- Staff are looking at offering a uniform rebate amount next year as opposed to the current tiered version.

WinterWise update

- Part of this campaign is a time-limited offer on a reduced-cost home energy assessment, which is the start to most efficiency projects.
- Cost is a barrier to getting assessments done in our region. Assessments cost roughly $400, and utilities provide a $200 rebate. We negotiated an additional rebate with HCE and GWSE to bring the cost down to $50 per assessment.
- We received a grant from Alpine Bank to cover the cost for Xcel customers.

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- Staff provide custom intensive coaching to participants to help move projects forward. We will do this coaching with anyone whose assessment report we have.
- Timeline was a barrier this year, especially with Xcel customers. We may look at lengthening the sign up timeframe next year to work better with ClearResult.

Powering Hospitality workshop recap and next steps

- 11 motels and hotels participated out of 27 "lodges" in the County (this number is based on County Assessor data)
- Heidi did massive in-person outreach for participation
- We focused on educating owners about the State benchmarking and building performance standards.
- Portfolio Manager is the platform used to track utility bills for benchmarking. CLEER will help with this, especially for GCE partners.

Water efficiency programs

- The Board feels that it is not a good year to grow this program. Tom stated that it does not directly align with the GCE goals.

Regional Net Zero Roadmap

- Regional effort to plan for education on the topic and attempt adoption for jurisdictions who wish to.
- Describes the "ideal end state" of buildings in 2030 and beyond and changes older definitions of net-zero.

<u>Goal #3 Clean mobility</u>

EV readiness plan implementation

- Implementation of this plan is set to kick off in 2025 due to budget constraints.

EV fleet adoption roundtable

- Board members have previously expressed the value of opportunities to discuss EV fleet adoption. There was not enough time for this discussion at this meeting.

<u>Goal #5 Economic development and jobs</u>

Ongoing collaboration with Colorado River Valley Economic Development Partnership

- Alicia Gresley on the line to discuss work being done by CRVEDP
- Her team is working to get the GCE information out to local businesses, such as recently connected LiftUP with GCE support. The EDP has received EECBG funding for staff for 3 years. They will be developing a western GarCo data program to help identify needs and labor statistics. Their slogan is "better jobs closer to home," which will hopefully support GHG reductions as well.

Policy and funding for rural energy programs

- CLEER is continuing to participate at the state level to provide feedback on Xcel rural energy rebate programs, with the goal of improving programs from a policy standpoint.
- Xcel has been approached in the past about being a GCE affiliate member but have not agreed to join. They support GCE through their Partners in Energy program.
- HCE is starting an on-bill financing option for heat pumps.

<u>GCE general topics</u>

- Q3 report: Board members are encouraged to review the report.
- Staff is in discussions with the Battlement Mesa Metro District to be an affiliate member.

<u>2025 Draft Budget</u>

Member contribution request status

- Tom explained that Garfield County had a 10% reduction across all grants. Most other partners are confirmed for totals. Bruce said New Castle will likely not be raising the total.

2025 Budget presentation and discussion

- Rebate for ReEnergize directly pays for measures, which is relatively simple. For commercial

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property owners and residents who do not qualify for ReEnergize, receiving rebates can be much more difficult.

- Sponsorship line discussion: there is a need to determine how sponsors would like it recorded due to recognition. Flexibility may be needed between community partners vs sponsors.
- Jenna asked how can Holy Cross Energy support ReEnergize better?
- An overall focus is on growing funding for ReEnergize. NWCCOG will staff up if we have the funding and projects.
- Expenditures:
    - 2024 budget included a planned drawdown of DOE funding.
    - 2025 budget has been modified where spending has been over or under to help balance out more efficiently.
    - Water conservation line is not in the calculations and will be removed.
    - Note ReEnergize funding: total rebates include $20,000 from GCE and the $77,080 from EECBG.
    - Clean Mobility is increased to accommodate for time spent. 2024 outreach line was merged to the other lines essentially.
    - Renewables is focused on technical support and was decreased by $5,000.
    - 50000 lines increased slightly to allow for more time to work with facility managers.
    - Special projects increased slightly for planning GHG inventory update. Tom asked about moving some from here to Clean Mobility since it is generally under budget. Morgan noted that we will not have the cost of the EbikeThere grant as that program was discontinued.
    - The board supports the current budget.

Draft CLEER Scope of Work

- Scope is very similar to previous years.
- There was an addition of a GHG inventory under the Partnership services line item and thermal energy network support line under Renewables

Bruce motioned to approve the 2025 budget as amended. Tom seconded the motion [3:06]

Bruce motioned to approve the 2025 Scope of Work. Tom seconded the motion [3:06]

<u>Adjournment</u>

Scheduling December board meeting

- It was initially determined that this is not needed as the Board approved the budget and Scope of Work.

Bruce motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:06. Tom seconded the motion [3:06]

GARFIELD CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATIVE

By: Signed by: Jason White 02F0C1B64041480... _____
Jason White, Chairperson

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