



Town of Parachute | City of Rifle | Town of Silt | Town of New Castle | City of Glenwood Springs | Town of Carbondale
Garfield County | Garfield County Public Library District | Roaring Fork Transportation Authority

Long-Term Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 23, 2010, 11 a.m. to Noon

Garfield County Administration Building, 108 8th St., Glenwood Springs

Attending: Lisa Dawson, Ed Green, Jeff Hecksel, Shelley Kaup, Jim Rada, Greg Russi, David Sturges, Heather McGregor

Absent: Tom Baker, Mike Braaten,

Finalized purpose statement: The committee reviewed a draft purpose statement developed by CLEER staff following the discussion at the March 10 meeting. With a few minor changes, the committee approved the following statement and will forward it to the Garfield NECI Advisory Board for their approval.

Garfield Clean Energy is a collaborative effort among local governments to build the clean energy economy and increase energy security through widespread development of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The organization provides education, technical assistance, program development and administration, marketing and financing to make clean energy accessible and affordable for households, businesses, schools and community institutions throughout Garfield County.

Description of proposed services: The committee reviewed a draft description of proposed services developed by CLEER staff following the discussion at the March 10 meeting. With a few minor changes, the committee approved the following statement and will forward it to the Garfield NECI Advisory Board for their approval.

- Energy management services: help each community and Garfield County as a whole meet energy efficiency and renewable energy targets.
- Continue energy efficiency, conservation, and renewable energy programs established under G-NECI:
 - Greening government
 - Residential and commercial
 - Clean energy financing
 - Clean energy transportation
 - Renewable energy

- Technical assistance
- Financing assistance and development of financing tools
- Energy education and outreach
- Liaison with GEO and DOE, DOLA and other state and federal agencies
- Grant development and writing
- Connecting entity on energy issues, activities and opportunities between governments, schools, community institutions, households, businesses and others

Questionnaire: Committee members thought it might be helpful at some point to develop a questionnaire about potential clean energy services and circulate it to various special districts and community institutions.

Funding sources discussion: The committee reviewed the details of the Retrofit Ramp-Up grant application. DOE has not yet announced the winners of that grant. The outcome of that process will have a large impact on the immediate future of Garfield Clean Energy.

Committee members identified these possible sources for funding: grants, taxes or fees, a county allocation, payments for services from consumers, contributions from utilities, a carbon tax on energy.

Ed noted that if the county were to allocate funding, the BOCC would want to see proportional funding from the municipalities as well.

Jeff said a separate entity with its own taxing authority would allow the greatest flexibility. A sustainable organization needs independence and a self-identity.

Committee members wanted a better sense of how far the present and potential funding would carry the effort.

Committee members requested names and website of similar organizations that could be explored to learn about funding and structure options.

Jim suggested that the future model could be built on an administrative core, while farming out more of the direct services to private enterprise.

At this point, the time for the meeting ran out. Everyone agreed it had been a productive meeting with good discussion.

Agenda for next meeting: Further exploration of structure and funding options, informed by research committee members can do in the meantime.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 14, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Garfield County Human Services Building, 195 W. 14th St., Rifle