



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

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 9, 2010, 1:08 to 3:12 p.m.

Garfield County Human Services Building, 195 W. 14th St., Rifle

Board members present:

Garfield County: Ed Green

Town of Parachute: Judi Hayward

City of Rifle: Keith Lambert

Town of New Castle: Greg Russi

City of Glenwood Springs: Shelley Kaup, David Sturges

RFTA: Ed Cortez

Not present:

Garfield Library District

Town of Silt

Town of Carbondale

Others attending:

Colo. Dept. of Local Affairs: Elyse Ackerman, regional director; Joe Carter, program manager

Governor's Energy Office: Joani Matranga

Garfield County: Jim Rada, environmental health manager; Lisa Dawson, finance manager

CLEER staff: Alice Laird, Heather McGregor, Mike Ogburn

City of Rifle: Mike Braaten, energy coordinator; Nathan Lindquist, city planner

Rifle Cable Channel 10: Michael Churchill

Next meeting

Wednesday, July 14, 2010, 1-3 p.m.,

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

Approval of minutes from May 12, 2010, meeting: Moved by Judi Hayward, seconded by Ed Cortez, no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

Public comments: none

Board member comments: Shelley Kaup shared a thank-you letter received from the Advocate Safehouse Project for the donation of 300 sets of light bulbs for their Mother's Day Mile fundraiser and footrace event.

Presentations

Energy Inventory — Mike Ogburn and Alice Laird

Mike Ogburn explained the key findings of the report *Adding Up the Energy Bills: The annual cost of using energy in Garfield County in 2009 and Economic opportunity through increased energy efficiency*. He noted that over time, appendices will be added that offer more detail. The report is designed so it can be easily repeated in future years so the county as a whole can track its progress.

Alice Laird noted that once the Advisory Board approves the report, it will be released to the media and posted on the Garfield Clean Energy website. It will also be presented to each of the G-NECI partner governing boards later this summer. Mike noted that developing energy targets is the logical next step, now that the present level of energy use and spending is known. Shelley Kaup commended Ogburn and his research team for the work done on the inventory.

Judi Hayward moved to approve the report, Ed Green seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Draft resolution on energy targets — Alice Laird and Mike Ogburn

Alice Laird presented a draft resolution on setting energy reduction targets (*attached at the end of this report*). The overall target would be a 30 percent reduction from 2009 levels by 2020. She said the resolution would also be presented to G-NECI partner governing boards along with the energy inventory report, with the goal of having all partner governments adopt the resolution and targets.

A board discussion followed, covering the concepts of absolute vs. per capita reductions in energy, and how realistic a 30 percent target would be. Board members also discussed the value of energy security and domestically produced vs. imported fuels and agreed that the concept of energy independence should be included in the resolution.

Joani Matranga noted that the state of Colorado, Holy Cross Energy and Xcel Energy have all set ambitious goals and working toward meeting them. Board members said the resolution should also define key terms.

Board members debated whether the resolution should go out in draft form or as a final document. They felt some good ideas could come from the governing boards, so the resolution should make the rounds in draft form and then be finalized by the Advisory Board based on input. Then it would be returned to all the governing boards for them to formally adopt it.

Project updates and reports

Clean Energy Challenge for Business — Heather McGregor

The Challenge for Business launched on June 2. Ads will be in the local newspapers and on radio through the month of June. The Challenge includes an energy coaching service, added rebates, verification of the upgrades, and professional and marketing support to contractors. Rebates will be funded using half of the DOE block grant funds allocated to Garfield County, plus an environmental penalty payment received through the state health department. The other half of the DOE block grant funds will be used for residential rebates in a program to be rolled out this fall.

Status of PACE issues — Alice Laird

A letter issued May 5 by federal mortgage lenders Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac has put a chill on PACE programs across the country. The lenders are saying they will not issue a mortgage for a property that is encumbered by a PACE-type first lien.

On the other hand, the state legislature has passed House Bill 1328, which establishes a statewide residential PACE loan program. The organization and loan program is to be up and running within six months. This eliminates the need for each county to create a local improvement district. The new agency will issue a resolution that counties can pass to opt in to the statewide program. This is expected later this year. She said people are already talking about expanding the program with legislation in 2011 to include commercial properties.

Alice asked the board if it still wanted to pursue a local improvement district and a bond issue to fund a local loan program. The advantages would be that a loan program would also be able to cover commercial properties, could possibly be up and running a few months sooner than the state program, and could be a vehicle for using funds from the Boulder-Denver-Garfield Retrofit Ramp-Up grant.

However, Alice noted that Boulder is unlikely to release loan funds for Garfield County if the county does not also put funds into a loan program. She said the Retrofit Ramp-Up loan fund is now being looked at as a means of providing credit enhancements (interest rate buy-downs) rather than direct capital for a loan program,

The other option for a PACE loan program would be to urge Garfield County to join in the statewide program. Ed Green said he felt the County Commissioners would prefer the latter option of joining the statewide program. With the BOCC public hearing coming up on June 21, Greg Russi suggested that the Advisory Board tell the commissioners that things have changed and it's a moot point to set up a local improvement district.

Greg Russi suggested that someone from Garfield County should be recommended for appointment to the new state agency's governing board.

Summary of Long-Term Structure project — Alice Laird

Discussions taking place in the Long-Term Committee meetings should be happening with the entire Advisory Board. Alice suggested taking extra time in the August or September board

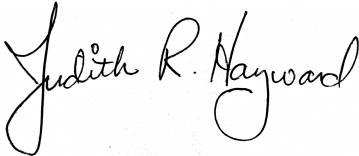
meeting to discuss feedback from partner governing boards. The Advisory Board needs to decide if the IGA model will continue for the time being, and if Garfield County will continue to serve as the fiscal agent. A lot of grant money is available, but it won't be sufficient to cover all aspects of the G-NECI program. Ideally the partners would contribute funding for 2011, but requests will need to be submitted in July or August. Alice offered to contact the town managers to put a placeholder spot for the G-NECI program in their 2011 budget plans.

Budget Report

Please refer to the monthly financial report in the June 9 meeting packet.

These minutes were reviewed and approved by a vote of the Garfield New Energy Communities Initiative Advisory Board on July 14, 2010.

Signed by:



Judith R. Hayward, Advisory Board Secretary

DRAFT
RESOLUTION NO. xx
SERIES OF 2010

**A RESOLUTION OF _____ IN SUPPORT OF
COUNTYWIDE ADOPTION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

WHEREAS, countywide, we collectively spent 95 Million Dollars¹ on energy to heat, light, and run our homes, businesses, and community facilities in 2009; and

WHEREAS, countywide, we collectively spent 124 Million Dollars² on fuel to operate our vehicles and run our transportation systems in 2009;

WHEREAS, countywide, in 2009, we collectively spent a total of 219 Million Dollars³ on energy;

¹ Garfield County Energy Inventory, page 7

² Garfield County Energy Inventory, page 7

³ Garfield County Energy Inventory, page 7

WHEREAS, with proven technology and energy management measures, we can significantly increase our overall energy efficiency, achieving the same level of comfort and service, with less energy intensity and greater use of renewable energy sources ; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency and renewable energy investments result in numerous positive results including job creation, cost savings, energy independence, energy security, and reduced emissions; and

WHEREAS, across the country and across Colorado, businesses and units of government are adopting energy efficiency targets⁴ as a way to accelerate achieving energy efficiency and economic benefits; and

WHEREAS, multiple municipalities in Garfield County have already adopted local energy and economic goals and policy statements; and

WHEREAS, working together countywide, we can significantly reduce energy costs and energy waste, making more funds available for other purposes and creating a stronger and more resilient economy; and

WHEREAS, working together, we can tap the economic benefits for households, businesses and units of government, by striving to make our entire county a model of energy efficiency, energy security, and energy independence.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that _____ hereby supports adoption of a county wide goal to increase energy efficiency by 30% by 2020 over a 2009 baseline as a means to a stronger and more resilient and more energy-secure economy.

INTRODUCED, READ AND PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2010.

(Town, City, Entity, or County)

name, title

ATTEST:

clerk

⁴ Garfield County Energy Inventory, page 12