



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 Notes – Workshop format

Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2010, Noon to 4 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 Silt: Bobby Hays, Meredith Robinson

Town of New Castle: Greg Russi

City of Glenwood Springs: David Sturges

Garfield Library District: Amelia Shelley

RFTA: Ed Cortez

Not present:

Town of Carbondale

Others attending:

Garfield County: Jim Rada, environmental health manager; Lisa Dawson, finance manager;
Betsy Suerth, project engineer

CLEER staff: Alice Laird, Heather McGregor, Mike Ogburn

Meeting facilitator: Gary Suiter

City of Rifle: Mike Braaten, energy coordinator

Sonoran Institute: Clark Anderson

Next meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010, 1-3 p.m.,

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

Meeting notes

This board meeting was a longer workshop focused on the long-term structure and funding to continue a countywide energy program. Gary Suiter facilitated the meeting. His notes follow:

Meeting Objective and Outcomes:

- Keep discussion “grounded” (avoid too much theory)
- Identify key decision points - How we develop existing structure and funding?
- Have a clear sense of next steps
- Affirm longer-term goals

Alice and staff provided an overview of progress from December 2009 to date. It was noted that the group desired to continue the effort, and that there is continued interest in a non-profit “energy services model.”

The group reviewed Garfield Clean Energy’s mission statement. It was suggested to amend the Mission Statement to allow other entities to participate (delete “among local governments” phrase). It was also suggested to address “conservation” in the Mission Statement and Description of Services.

There was discussion about expanding the Advisory Board to include schools, utilities, CMC, etc. It was noted that too large of board can be unwieldy. It was agreed that other entities would be invited to participate in the effort. This needs to be ratified by the Board.

- Invite additional members to attend for 2011 - Board action requested

Funding sources were discussed. These included:

- Contributions from partners
- Potential energy savings re-directed
 - unstable
 - garners public support
- Internalize as a county division
 - procurement issues
 - requires county support
- Local ordinances - assess carbon footprint - requires political will
- Re-direction of utility franchise fees - requires political will

Funding issues

- Stability
- Political will
- Grants ending
- Public resistance to taxation
- Proceed cautiously with mandates
- Pressure from financial institutions

Future structure

The group was presented with examples of multi-partner models across the country. The current structure is governed by an InterGovernmental Agreement (IGA). Other options include:

- Non-profit
- Joint Powers Authority - California legislation
- Council of Governments - regionally governed
- Statute enabled special district

- Government internal department/division

Longer-Term structure options

- Hybrid - public/private
- Statutory agency (legislation)
- Non-profit - have CLEER already
- Energy services model - concept of energy saving
- Think bigger - hybrid, public/private partnership model - hydro/profit making

It was agreed to proceed with the current structure for 2011.

- Proceed with current IGA structure for 2011 - Board action requested

“Tweak” the structure in 2011 with the invitation of additional participants.

The group indicated a preference for two models:

1. Local government/internal department/division
2. Statutorily enabled special district

Next Steps:

- Re-visit original Garfield County resolution
- CLEER to present “menu of choices” to members for future funding
- Renew IGAs with current members
- Continue researching long-term structures/pros and cons

Ed Green suggested visualizing the process by using 3 concentric circles:

