



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, October 12, 2011, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Rifle Branch Library, 207 East Avenue, Rifle

Board members present

Garfield Library District: Jerry Morris

City of Rifle: Keith Lambert

Town of New Castle: Greg Russi

RFTA: Ed Cortez

Town of Carbondale: John Hoffman

Town of Parachute: Judith Hayward

Garfield County: Tom Jankovsky

Others attending

Garfield County: Jim Rada

CLEER: Alice Laird, Tom Baker, Karen Lanier

Colorado Mountain College: Lynne Cassidy, Nancy Genova

City of Rifle: Nathan Lindquist, Mike Braaten

City of Glenwood Springs: David Sturges

Karp, Neu, Hanlon Law Firm: Jim Neu (came in at 2:20)

Members not attending

Town of Silt: Dave Moore

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 9, 2011

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

Public comments: none

Board member comments: John Hoffman introduced discussion on the language in the IGA concerning debt and taxing authority, due to Carbondale City Council concerns and the other pending members.

Greg Russi explained the language in paragraph 4 D and that he had a call in to the attorney Jim Neu for his legal expertise.

The board discussed whether the authority would be able to enter into contracts with other entities. Ed Cortez expressed concerns about creating an entity that could become a taxing body. Greg Russi referred to the May meeting minutes, when the draft IGA was approved.

The board discussed that changing language would mean going back to four boards with the amended IGA, or keep moving forward with the existing language. The board tabled the discussion until Jim Neu could be present.

Tom Jankovsky asked if the board would respond to a letter to the editor in the Post Independent that brought up an issue that does not pertain to GCE. Greg Russi will write the letter and emphasize the positive contributions of GCE and its role in economic development.

Jerry Morris pointed out that the Energy Navigator kiosk is in the lobby and is showing the building's energy use. Other entities are interested in using the Energy Navigator. DOLA funding started the project and supports replication of the technology.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes and Finance Report: Jim Rada had put out a request for in-kind contribution information and asked for it to be returned by November 15 for his final reports. DOLA remaining money is mainly in Greening Government and a plan is in place to spend it on energy conservation measures.

Keith Lambert made a motion to approve the minutes; Judi Hayward seconded, all approved the consent agenda.

Updates and Reports

Long-term Structure Progress: Tom Baker reported that Rifle, New Castle, the Library District, and Carbondale have all adopted the IGA. All GCE partners are still working on budgets and none have made decisions on the funding yet. Upcoming meetings with the other partners are scheduled.

Tom Jankovsky reported on status of Garfield County's consideration of the IGA and funding request. Garfield County Commissioners will be approving the overall Garfield County budget on December 15.

Transition Committee: Greg Russi provided a memo on the Transition Committee meeting from September 28. The board discussed that in order to accept an in-kind contribution from a partner as the financial services provider GCE would need to draft a scope of work for financial services, and discussed what to include – payroll, A/P, A/R, general ledger, what a contractor would need to know, what Garfield County Finance is currently doing and how to fill the role. Garfield County will continue to manage the DOE grants, which will end in 2013. Greg Russi's goal is to have the new financial services provider in place by Jan. 11, 2012. The board discussed the in-kind contributions ramifications, and determined they would not impact the partner's monetary obligation.

Greg Russi set the next Transition Committee meeting for Wednesday, October 26 at Glenwood Springs City Hall, if available. Dave Sturges will check on the room.

The board discussed updating the bylaws and rules and the process to adopt an affiliate member, so there is the ability to add private sector participants. The IGA has the general idea but there are no specifics currently. The transition committee will work on the details of affiliate members.

Petroleum Independence: Tom Baker reported continual growth in the CNG coalition and interest for CNG. Demand is growing at the Rifle fill-station and Kirk Swallow of Swallow Oil has reduced the pump price to \$2.98/gal (this is down from \$3.35/gal earlier this year).

The West Slope CNG Collaborative drafted a comment letter for submission to the PUC for their investigatory docket on Electric Vehicle and Natural Gas Vehicle barriers. Specifically, the letter comments on issues experienced by Swallow Oil and conversion kit availability.

RFTA is rapidly moving on the idea of CNG for their bus transit system. RFTA and CMC met to understand the

training systems CMC can offer when/if CNG buses are delivered. Potentially, RFTA will take delivery of 4 replacement buses next year and work out operational and maintenance problems prior to delivery of 18 Regional Bus Rapid Transit buses. RFTA is currently meeting to address any barriers to this effort.

Two new representatives have joined the WS CNG Collaborative -- West Glenwood Springs Shell Station, and Battlement Mesa Company. Battlement Mesa Company is talking to Mike Ogburn about converting their vehicles to CNG.

Commissioner Jankovsky has challenged the state to develop an implementation strategy for the \$300M state-wide CNG infrastructure development. Alexine Hazarian of EnCana is a key leader in this effort and keeps the WS CNG group informed on progress regarding state-wide planning on this matter. There will be a workshop on November 9 in Denver.

Automobile manufacturers are beginning to manufacture natural gas vehicles at the factory. Over the next 2 to 3 years all the major manufactures will sell natural gas vehicles.

Mike Braaten from the City of Rifle was working with Encana on a grant for converting two new light duty trucks for CNG. EnCana approved the grant for over \$27,000. Mike Ogburn is helping to write a RFTA CNG grant.

Representative Roger Wilson has encouraged the WS CNG to identify any legislation that he can "carry" in the next legislative session. The deadline for providing legislative ideas to Representative Wilson is Thanksgiving.

Tom Jankovsky spoke with Congressman Tipton and has a staff person who wants to be involved with the CNG group. He will send the contact information to Tom Baker.

IGA Questions: Jim Neu joined the meeting and answered questions about the authority's ability to incur debt. If the board chose to incur debt, with the language stricken, it could not. Years down the road, if the board wanted to add it back in, they would have to change the IGA, get it approved by each member, and take it to voters. He drafted the IGA to be very broad, with the ability to become what all the members want it to be. There is protection on the authority incurring debt, because the members have to approve it.

Ed Cortez asked out about redefining the language so it's clearer in the IGA. Keith Lambert asked about whether entering into a contract with an entity could be a debt, and Jim Neu assured the board that it would not be.

The board also discussed the changing the language to state GCE will not be a taxing authority.

Keith Lambert made a motion to remove the word the "debts," in Paragraph 4D; John Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

John Hoffman made a motion to amend the IGA to specifically prohibit general obligation bonds or sales tax. Tom Jankovsky seconded the motion. Tom Jankovsky stated he seconded the motion to open discussion on the motion, but felt that the IGA did not need to include the language. The board voted and the motion failed unanimously.

The discussion of affiliate members in by-laws was put aside for later. The board will adopt the by-laws after the authority is in place.

Reports, GCE Summary: Alice Laird provided a handout of economic benefits to date on GCE programs. Annual savings and report of key summary information will be provided for the DOLA report.

Jim Rada restated that numbers from members is important to reporting what was committed and delivered for in-kind contributions.

Financing Program: Alice Laird reported that the documents for the agreement between CHFA and Garfield County are almost completed; CHFA and CLEER will start marketing the financing program as soon as all documents are finalized. Tom Jankovsky asked about the other two components of the proposed financing program: leasing and the revolving loan fund for micro loans. Alice Laird stated that the current loan-loss reserve program is intended to also provide backing for the leasing program and that leasing companies will be included in the outreach from CHFA; Alice will be meeting with Funding Partners, the CDFI (Community Development Financial Institution) that is helping with the microloan program to move forward on the micro-loan/ revolving loan fund and will follow up.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

These minutes were reviewed and approved by a vote of the Garfield Clean Energy Advisory Board on

Signed by:

Judith R. Hayward, Advisory Board Secretary