



San Juan Regional Community Energy Board
Meeting Agenda-Draft
July 27, 2010 3:00 p.m.
Ridgway Town Hall

Call-in Option: 218-936-7979, access code 394137

Attendees: Kim Wheels, Kris Holstrom, Jen Coates, Bob Risch, Chris Hawkins, Wil Clapsadl, John Clark, Karen Guglielmone, Todd Brown, Elaine Fischer

By phone: Kurt Johnson

Absent: Keith Meinert, Bob Delves, Brad Zaporski, Ken Haynes, Natalie Shelbourn

1) Advisory Board members – Activity Update

Bob Risch – GEO should be announcing hydro awardees soon. Microhydro power is ready to turn on but running into glitches with electrical inspectors. Should be resolved soon. FERC conference call with 6 staffers – though they want to help they don't know how to deal well with small micro-hydro. But Ouray County is breaking new ground.

Chris Hawkins – Mtn Village working on a comprehensive plan being done in a sustainability framework. Here to learn and listen. Doing the Green Gondola campaign and exploring political will for additional changes.

Will Clapsadl – year long anemometer program finished a month early and moved up to a site on Log Hill. Data showing no real viability for wind generation on the valley.

John Clark – not much to report from Ridgway. Are some issue doing microhydro on town water supply.

Jen Coates joined the meeting 3:16

Question regarding SMPA – Ouray county scored highest for criteria on location for Sun Edison project. Elaine had heard from Ken Haynes with issues regarding solar farm and BLM land. No one has had the opportunity to speak directly with Wes. One issue may be proximity to substations, potential properties that fit, etc.

Karen Guglielmone – New Town Building code – staff working with. Started grading for WWTP solar panels.

(Kurt Johnson left the meeting.)

Still waiting on the contract from GEO. Some parts are going ahead anyway. It's a shared project with MV. Chris asked who the keeper of the carbon spreadsheet is – Karen.

Kim is assembling a meeting of building officials in region to get everyone on same page for energy codes, and include Ouray County and City of Ouray in the discussion

2) TNCC Program Update

- a) Sustainability 101 – college credit course; Permaculture Design Course in process and coming up weekend of July 30th in Ridgway
- b) Integrated Design Workshop – July 30
Appropriate for anyone interested in building design. Smoother construction and reduced costs with getting all to the table at the start of a program. Anyone involved in planning and construction; open to the public
Design and planning up front

3rd workshop in series

- c) CEC Meeting – July 16 – Residential EE, low-income Weatherization program
- d) Phone Call – July 22
- e) Weatherization Program update
 - i) Montrose meeting between CEC’s, GEO, Housing Resources of Western Colorado
 - ii) Plans to coordinate outreach with Montrose CEC and SMPA
 Establishing a weatherization program plan in our region; 30 year program – rules recently changed; Potentially twice as many households qualify; Recently hired MADA employee in Montrose to facilitate program in our area; Target – 11 houses in Ouray; 16 in SM County; GEO working to increase the success of this program – outreach and new employee in Montrose; SMPA has weatherization program high on their list also; CEC in Montrose and Kim working with SMPA to further this program; Booth at Ouray County fair; Regional outreach opportunities available with coordination of MADA and Social Services offices

CEC meeting July 16 – Low Income weatherization and residential energy efficiency. Weatherization – has been a program for 30+ years in our region. New rules mean more are eligible. People can be 200% of and can get more funds for houses. Free audit, info and implementation of some items. Through Housing Resources of Western Colorado – a new person has been hired, based in Montrose that should help with getting the word out.

Ouray – 11 houses SMC -16. Last year 1 in SMC and 4 in Ouray. GEO wants to see higher success rate for implementation. Also high on SMPA priority list.

Kim will bring additional brochures to Ridgway for distribution as appropriate.

3) STRATEGY

- a) Review of process & our status
- b) Benchmarking Analysis Status
 - i) SMPA & SourceGas data
 - ii) Jurisdictional / Regional baseline data
- c) Develop Strategic Goals
 - i) Goals / Action Plan discussion
 - ii) Strategic goals are the milestones we aim to achieve that evolve from the strategic issues. The SMART goals model is used to set meaningful goals. SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Agreed upon, Realistic, and Time or cost bound.

? Does the group want one document vs. a document for each govt.

Kim reviewed draft summary of goals and objectives submitted to date
 Heating season coming up – so City of Ouray look to energy savings objectives for winter season
 Ouray County- goal is to get baseline data to create realistic goals and measure progress
 Energy use data is available for personal accounts (govt buildings etc.) from SMPA and Source Gas
 Establish regional goals then individual communities have subset of goals

Bob R. wants to get things happening that will impact energy use this year and so had lots of immediate things to do. Also attractive for a 2015-2016 timeframe. Must be aware of not overwhelming small staff. Must focus tightly on projects.

ToT – first drop in GHG below 2005 level in 2009 – but lost 10% of the workforce –



Jen got historical data from SMPA and Source Gas back to 2005 without much difficulty. Others can get that info as well. Going through govt archives is very painful. Will is just at the beginning stages of this. Utilities also need to be aware of the need for this kind of information. GEO has indicated that they are going to try to get info from Source Gas for certain regions where multiple jurisdictions are involved. Kim may be able to help govts with this leverage.

Looking at WSJCEB overall goals and objectives page 2.
Objectives, gaps, existing goals, potential goals.

Review of draft objectives and goals:

I. Overall Energy Consumption

Goal 1 – increase time from 20% by 2012 to 2020, 2012 is unrealistic – perhaps 2015 is better – and goal could be stated as 20% or more.

(Will Clapsadl had to leave the meeting)

Consensus to use energy consumption (which would include fuels) rather than Greenhouse gases. Objectives will be changed to reflect energy consumption as well. Could 2015 be stated by 2020.

In objective for Overall Energy Consumption – change ‘utility consumption’ to ‘energy consumption’
Discussion of goals by 2015 or 2020 – potential for “putting off” decisions and projects
2020 will be the overall target, if jurisdictions want to do individual goals for 2015 or sooner than 2020, can state this

Chris asked about the binding nature of these – is the goal to get the regional govts on the same page? Each govt will want to adopt or have a Sustainability or Action Plan in place. Also helps in capital improvements planning.

Actions can be filled in later.

Goal 2 – change GHG to “energy consumption”, same changes as listed above. John asked why the baseline was 2010. This is for commercial and residential.

Goal 3 – new construction covers anything that requires a building permit – should clarify in the goal to include remodels and additions. Change 2009 IECC to be 2006 IECC code or better.

Elaine asked about how to get builders to more efficient with trucks / construction traffic with new construction. Ex: Capella is storing its dirt in Ridgway and then moving it back. Snow removal is another issue for Mtn Village – operationally related (not construction) but reduce truck trips. Clarify that this goal is specifically addressing the energy use of the building, not the construction process.

Add action item to Transportation to reduce fuel consumption related to construction and carpool/ materials storage opportunities

Discussion of affordable housing opportunities

Goal 4 – possibility of Ouray County and Ouray through geothermal; Update goal 4 to read: ‘work toward region becoming carbon neutral by 2035’

Possibility of adding incremental subgoals to achieve over time. specific offsets by specific means. Exploring geothermal, efficiencies, new technologies.

II. Renewable Energy from Electricity

“RE” = electricity

Goal 1 – increase the amount of locally-produced RE in the region to 50 MW by 2020 through large and small-scale systems. (not the per capita option)



Discussion – 50 MW is significant in light of potential drying of funds and other factors; 50MW is a very aggressive goal; model of rural utility is an aged system not adapting well to modern needs; Tri-state contract is not working for the region

Board to consider this goal in the interim and re-visit at next meeting

Suggest coordination with other entities or CECs to increase potential lobby for existing contractual obligations of rural utilities with generation providers

This goal may need to be more general in nature without specific RE wattage goals

Possibly work toward encouraging Tri-state to reach the 50MW RE goal, not specific to Ouray and San Miguel County

This will be continued to next meeting so Brad can help with the discussion.

III. Transportation: Ground and Air

Objective – change GHG to energy consumed; add ‘per capita’

Goal 3 – change 25% fuel use reduction by 2012 to 2020

Chris asked about Zero waste initiatives and the potential for methane production for vehicle use. Capturing food waste to create methane. Explore the concept of a Biodigester to create methane?

Discussion of landfill and recycling options; possible partnership with landfill and recycle organizations (Montrose County) on facilitating zero waste options

Use of electric vehicles and limited power, issues with batteries – difficult to keep batteries going for more than one year; hills are difficult; issues also with biodiesel; alternative technologies have own unforeseen issues and complications; financially it’s tricky; need to look at whole systems (eg: if shipping biodiesel across America, what is the cost associated)

Goal : Effectively use air travel ---- Airtravel issue may end up being area specific (more geared towards TOT & MV)

Can we piggyback off light rail corridor – preserve corridor to Montrose. Long term – but may want to add in preserve rail way right of ways.

Look at light rail options with rail planned for I-70 corridor with spur planned to Montrose

Eliminate Goal 4 – reduce fuel use...

Work with Region 10 transportation group to facilitate stated goals

Staff inputs needed on goals and action items for each jurisdiction

4) GEO Program update

a) CEC check-in phone call with GEO – July 28

b) CEC Meetings

i) Upcoming August 5 & 6 – Denver – Main St. Efficiency Training, NREL tour

c) Recharge Colorado – Rebate Program – update / status

i) Insulation & Air Sealing rebate change, Duct Sealing, Energy Monitors, Energy Audits

Rebate program – install after April 19 through Sept.

d) GEO grants – mid-July

i) Main Street Efficiency Initiative – Prescriptive – WE WILL APPLY – “Main St. in a Box”.

5) Other



6) Schedule Next Meeting – August 17

In Placerville at Firehouse – 3:00 PM

Kim will edit goals and actions and get back out to group for additional inputs. Focus on items covered today