



**Western San Juan Community Energy Board
Meeting Minutes: Aug 21, 2012 @ 3:00 p.m.
Ridgway**

Conference Dial-in Number: (605) 477-2100 Participant Access Code: 709405#

Attendees: Kim Wheels (EcoAction Partners), John Howe (Mountain Village), Paula James (OurWay), Jen Coates (Ridgway), Todd Brown, Bob Risch (Ouray), Elaine Fisher (San Miguel County), Nina Kothe (San Miguel County), Ken Haynes (San Miguel Power), John Clark (Ridgway); By Phone – Randy Barnes (Ophir); Chris Myers joined the Board meeting at 4:11 PM

The meeting convened at 3:15 PM.

Board & EAC's (3:00-5:00)

- 1) Water Conservation Plans - Following up from our last meeting with Kevin Reidy, objective is to make a decision regarding whether to address these as a group or individual jurisdictions.

The Board agreed that each jurisdiction would pursue this individually.

- 2) Employee Efficiency Program:

- a) Program development status
- b) Scheduling of departmental / staff meetings with jurisdictions
- c) Plan for fall launch?

Kim reported that most jurisdictions working on this in some manner gathering input from each department. Kim reported that Karen has been assigned to work on the Pandora project and will be loosely participating

Elaine shared with the group the need to explore the budget for EcoAction Partners

Ouray is hiring now and focused on Public Works structure and will work with employees

Ridgway – exploring opportunities now for energy efficiency and water conservation in follow up to the Technical Energy Audits.

Kim reminded the group that the focus is on behavioral changes for employees.

Nina reported that San Miguel County is moving forward with working with employees and asking employees to help develop the program. One question is how to make the program fair for everyone who pledges to participate by completing 5-6 initiatives (desk job vs. snowplow job). Nina created a pledge form for San Miguel County employees and is looking for the employees to lead the charge.

The goal is to have employees take behavior changes home where they can really make a difference.

John Howe expressed the importance of developing and sharing and propagating the energy conscious culture in the municipalities.

Nina reported that recognition is more important than financial compensation for employee behavioral change.



Elaine offered that elected officials could assist by being present at the staff meeting to initiate program participation to lend support for the program.

Paula suggested that Transition OurWay group could participate with some community outreach and education.

- 3) GHG Inventory update: Goal to update regional Inventory with 2011 data and develop per jurisdiction.
 - a) Is this what is still needed / wanted by each jurisdiction?
 - b) Review GHG Inventory needs

Kim is gathering data from SMPA and SourceGas as well as municipal water and wastewater utilities in the WSJCEB area.

The Board discussed the difficulties in organizing assessor data for residential and commercial properties and also in collecting accurate data for waste hauling and recycling.

- 4) Energy Data Management Program - Facility Dude

- a) Intro to Program by Kim & Nina

Cost of entering the program is based on the number of meters, so if participate as a group can achieve some economy of scale. Kim and Nina explained the program and offered to set up a detailed webinar for the Board on Tuesday, Sept 18th at 2:00 PM in Ridgway for internet usage purposes.

- b) Schedule webcast for EAC's for next meeting? (September 18 – Ridgway? @ 2:00)

The Board agreed to view a Facility Dude webinar to better understand the program offerings. Kim will schedule the webinar for Tuesday, Sept 18th at 2:00 PM in Ridgway Town Hall. Kim will reach out to the school districts and offer participation in the webinar.

- 5) 2013 WSJCEB meetings: goals, EcoAP budget requests, & meetings for 2013

- a) Intro to discussion – Do we want to continue same format for next year? Or what would group like to be different?

Kim will email the 2013 EcoAction work plan to Ouray County jurisdictions and the WSJCEB will consider proposing to the EcoAction Board what the priorities of the WSJCEB are for 2013 and ascertain budget requests from.

Nina presented a quick list of the WSJCEB initiatives that have been completed so far that need to be considered: Greenhouse Gas inventory update, energy tracking, employee program, green building code initiatives, facility managers meetings.

Kim will forward the EcoAction work plan to the Board, highlighting priorities for the WSJCEB.

- 6) Board updates



7) CEC Announcements

- a) Green Building Guild meeting Aug 27 – 8:30 AM in Telluride
Kim reported that Energy Star funds were not available this year.
- b) Partnership with Clean Energy Collective to promote SMPA's Solar Farm
- c) EcoAction Initiative & Business Consulting
- d) Zero Waste Task Force Update – report
- e) Ouray presentation – Ouray BRT & Ridgway Chamber – Sep 19 - present GHG Inventory, MSEI program results, SMPA Solar Farm w/ CEC?
- f) Transition Ourway Energy Group – Sep 27

8) Next Meeting: September 18 – Ridgway @ 2:00

3 Top priorities:

Below are the 3 agreed-upon top areas WSJCEB has decided to focus on as priorities for regional efforts, and the projects that we've decided to focus on thus far.

- Energy Efficiency = Reduce overall building energy use. Since quite a few efforts are already underway to improve the efficiency of buildings themselves, WSJCEB has decided to focus on developing an employee behavior change program focused on government staff, SMPA employees, and others represented by the group. The goals of this program will be to reduce behavior-related energy consumption in the buildings as well as to develop habits that employees will carry into their personal lives, thus assisting the region with our residential energy use goals.
- Landfill: Waste Reduction & Recycling = increasing recycling / composting availability potentially through development of regional facilities/centers. Due to the Recycling Grant opportunity being pursued by several regional recycling providers, WSJCEB has for now narrowed down our efforts toward exploring possibilities for residential composting programs. The other action we will work toward is obtaining more accurate baseline data from the regional waste haulers.
- Transportation = Work together on incentivizing bicycling, on-foot in-town and public transit for commuting, and decrease single-occupancy vehicle traffic. Look at creative approaches to parking restrictions that might encourage bicycles and/or electric vehicles.

Note: this does not include or supercede the other efforts individual governments / EACs are already working on or have decided to prioritize. There will still be a lot of communication and sharing among the EAC's regarding other efforts they are undertaking, as this benefit of networking and learning from each other is one of the continued priorities of the WSJCEB process.