



**Western San Juan Community Energy Board**  
**Meeting Minutes: January 17, 2012 @ 3:00 p.m.**  
**Ridgway Town Hall**  
Call-in Option: 218-936-7979, access code 394137

Attendees – Todd Brown (Telluride At-Large), Bob Risch (Mayor and EAC Ouray), Nina Kothe (EAC SM County, John Clark (Ridgway Town Council), Kim Wheels (TNCC), Chris Myers (Town Council Telluride), Deanna Drew (EAC Mountain Village), Dan Bartashius (EAC Town of Ridgway), Jen Coates (Town of Ridgway), Randy Barnes (Ophir EAC) – via phone

**EAC 3:00-4:00**

1) Jurisdictional Energy Action Plans

- Examples of Ouray, Telluride, others?

*Nina reported that she is working on the San Miguel County plan and is trying to gather reports and information from various aspects of previous work to organize the plan.*

*Kim explained regional nature of overall action plan and now the focus is on individual plans for each jurisdiction to facilitate implementation of the larger regional plan.*

*Bob recommended that accomplishments also be listed in the jurisdictions action items in order that institutional knowledge is retained.*

*Deanna reported that Mountain Village reviewed their 2012 Energy Plan in January and they are focused on baseline data. Deanna has prepared data for the Town Council and in 2012 will focus on natural gas and electricity. Collecting baseline data is the primary objective of 2012. Mountain Village is exploring lighting and boiler optimization with a consultant, outdoor natural gas fire pits, behavior modification, food and water data while water conservation is a lesser concern than energy conservation.*

*Bob suggested an idea where the communities set a baseline and then the financial savings realized through energy use reduction, etc. the unexpended revenues could be put into a pool for staff bonuses at the end of the year. Bob is working on a draft policy for a program like this.*

*Deanna presented a document on energy conservation in the workplace that she will distribute to the Energy Board. Kim will add energy conservation in the workplace as a discussion item for the February agenda. The Board is supportive of the opportunity to discuss workplace conservation and data tracking for each municipality to show downward trends.*

*Nina expressed that rewards work much better than punishment so financial incentives are positive for results.*

*The Board discussed opportunities in soliciting ideas from the Public Works*



*Randy reported that Ophir has the hydro project high on the list of action items for 2012 and the Town has a grant and the Ophir Energy Plan based largely on rebates. Randy will email the plan to Kim for the Energy Board.*

## 2) Waste & Recycling Actions

### a) Contracts

- Comparison chart results

*Kim reviewed the final report (excel sheet) representing data from the various contracts among jurisdictions to understand similarities and differences in waste and recycling programs in each jurisdiction. Data tracking for baseline number of GHG emissions is difficult to ascertain*

### b) RREO grant – Hub/Spoke concept – regional application plans

*Kim stated that waste reduction is a goal in the regional energy plan, and exploring a recycling and/or composting center or program is one objective. Kim indicated that TNCC was awarded this grant in the past, focusing on recycling programs. Focus this year is on 'hub and spoke' project – a hub for recycling that spokes out into the state. Durango is currently exploring opportunities for their recycling program, where recyclables go to Phoenix. Our recycling goes to Grand Junction as does the recyclables from the Gunnison region. Pre-application is February and application is due in March.*

### c) Regional Waste Contractor Meeting plans

*Kim reported that there is a plan to convene the regional waste management contractors to understand what they are doing and what they are thinking about doing in the future.*

### d) Project ideas

- Composting Center? location? Logistics? Feasibility?

*Yard waste opportunities, regional with coordinated methods, compost management. Nina suggested this could be a business venture and referenced the green waste adventure in Mesa County.*

*The Board discussed the opportunity for community gardens, home composting, understanding the Mesa County operational costs, etc.*

*Kim shared that the curbside composting in Carbondale is beginning and we could monitor the success of their program.*

*Chris suggested contacting other resort or mountain communities that have successful programs.*

*Kim indicated that none of the Ouray/SM Counties have commercial recycling programs (except Telluride where commercial recycling is required but not sponsored by the Town, and Deanna reported that Mountain Village just adopted an ordinance requiring commercial recycling as well). It was suggested that the Board consider commercial recycling as a priority to address in 2012.*

## 3) Energy Efficiency & Conservation Discussion

- What is priority for this group?
- Funding mechanisms?
- Community Outreach?



d) Residences and Businesses?

**The EAC meeting adjourned at 4:06 PM**

**Board 4:00-5:00**

Attendees – Todd Brown (Telluride At-Large), Bob Risch (Mayor and EAC Ouray), Nina Kothke (EAC SM County), John Clark (Ridgway Town Council), Kim Wheels (TNCC), Chris Meyers (Town Council Telluride), Deanna Drew (EAC Mountain Village), Jen Coates (Town of Ridgway), Randy Barnes (Ophir EAC) – via phone, Keith Meinert (Ouray County At-Large)

**The Board convened at 4:06**

4) Board & EAC updates (15 min)

*Bob reported that the City is looking to move forward with the TEA contract and hopefully moving forward with the 2<sup>nd</sup> hydro plant.*

*Nina reported on boiler replacements and LED lighting retro-fit in the Miramonte building – TNCC assisted with funding of some of the retrofits.*

*Keith reported that the 4H Center and Land Use building could possibly be explored with the Ridgway/Ouray TEA process.*

*Deanna indicated the Town of Mtn Village is addressing the Green Gondola Campaign and working to establish renewable energy programs on the ground. The goal is to reproduce with renewable energy sources the amount of energy used by the gondola. First project is to install a large array on the gondola terminal – a local project. The town has taken over the Green Gondola program and will reduce the overhead required in the administration of the program and is partnering with SMPA.*

*The Board inquired on the*

*Chris reported on a Telluride Council retreat in February to explore additional goals for 2012. The Council has identified as a high priority to continue producing renewable energy in follow up to the successful wastewater facility solar project.*

a) Transit Committee Update – Nina

*Nina reported that the state formed regional coordinating transit councils with our region operating under Region 10. Jenny Patterson is the committee chair for the SM County Transit Committee and many exciting things are happening. Primary goal is coordination and communication between various transit and transportation providers and programs. Nina reported on ideas for improved ridership, which could be a goal of the WSJCEB, inclusive of a Transit Authority potentially involving a tax as a revenue source, which would organize the regional transportation organizations. There is more to come in this regard. Keith shared that Montrose County is a key player in the transportation discussions and needs to be included in the discussions. Kim shared that she has presented the Regional Energy Plan to the SM County Transit Group and there has been encouragement through the GEO for the CECs to be involved in the transportation discussions.*

b) GEO Update – Kim

c) MSEI Program Completion Update



*Program is complete and 1-page summaries of businesses participating. Kim will frame the summaries and present to the business owners to generate more excitement. Eco Action will fill in for the MSEI program moving forward. Kim and the Energy Auditors were able to foster the program. Region 10 has a loan program available. EcoAction will have to charge for the program but the details are yet to be determined.*

*Jen suggest that the local Chambers of Commerce may be good partners for this program.*

*Kim reported on the Front Range Energy Efficiency Business Coalition looking to expand into Western Slope – free workshop on Jan 27<sup>th</sup> in GJ re: demand side management. Kim will provide additional information for the Board on this workshop.*

- d) Other items: CORE example programs, Fracking in Foodshed, etc.
  - e) Energy Smart Transportation Initiative (ESTI) by GEO and CDOT
  - f) 'Discussion of electric vehicle charging stations in Ouray or San Miguel Counties'
- 5) SMPA AMI support document (5 min)

*Bob reported that this may no longer be appropriate and the Board agreed.*

*Nina reported on her 1-page summary regarding opportunities for LEAP households to reduce energy costs, explaining the Housing Resources of Western Colorado and the Mexican-American Development Association with weatherization efforts. Kim reported that 5 homes in Ouray may be completed with most homes completed, and in San Miguel County a number of homes remain to be addressed.*

- 6) Fostering Sustainable Behavior & CBSM workshop Presentation/Discussion (30 min)?

- a) Integrated w/ DOE Behavioral change presentation DOE on behavioral change
  - i) Recap from notes – Kris, Nina, Kim  
*Kim proposed to the Board and EACs that they may be leaders in conveying this information to their respective communities and reviewed the 'Fostering Sustainable Behaviour' dated Nov. 4, 2011, which addresses changing behaviors and the obstacles therein. Information alone does not create change. Information vs. Economic Self Interest. Kim will forward the presentation to the Board and the Board will discuss opportunities at the next meeting.*

- b) Presentation of this info to govts & communities?

- 7) GHG Inventory – Final Document

- 8) Next Meeting: February 14 in Placerville. Per request: "Watergy 101"

*The meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.*

**Other items of interest:**

**Congratulations to COREmmuters!**

*CORE is proud to report that the Sustainable Communities Team Challenge wrapped up in high-style on*



November 15<sup>th</sup> with a well-attended party... team with the most human-powered commute miles... category for the most Car-Free Days. Congratulations to all participants, who together over two months, biked and walked 14,037 miles and logged a total of 1,550 days without ever getting in a car. This allowed them to collectively avert the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 14 barrels of oil or 657 gallons of gasoline! That's the same amount of CO<sub>2</sub> as 150 tree seedlings would sequester in their first 10 years of growth! Way to go teams!

The other three groups also concluded and presented their projects: a modular home retrofit, the Glenwood Fruit Harvest Project, and the Roaring Fork High School effort to grow cafeteria food. Look for the next COREmmuter program to begin early next spring, and keep logging those alternative commute miles this winter, by bus, bike, skis, blades or boots!

### Green Events Report Card

The City of Aspen is one of the only towns in the U.S. that requires public events to meet environmental standards.

### Curbside Compost in Carbondale

Carbondale residents now have the option for curbside pickup of household compost. Anything once living qualifies! Pickup is once a week on Tuesdays, and buckets are provided.

### PACE - Strong Bipartisan Support for HR 2599

Elected officials... please show your support. Or maybe as a regional collaborative effort, a letter should be written? Lynn Padgett is following this item closely... <http://pacenow.org/blog/>

### Future Meeting Topics / Ideas

- 9) Jurisdictional Benchmark Data Comparison – following completion of the following:
  - a) Residential Energy Use data per jurisdiction – update w/ Tride / TMV data?
  - b) Water Use per jurisdiction
  - c) Add SMC business SF data from Assessor
- 10) Energy Data Management Options
  - a) Nina offered to be the guinea pig to help determine costs.
  - b) Would smart meters be compatible with Energy Navigator? Brad will check on this
- 11) Regional Housing Assessment Report – relation to STRATEGY / Actions
- 12) Future Meeting idea: EAC – take turns to describe what each are doing and stating challenges; share data management strategies