



**Western San Juan Community Energy Board  
Meeting Minutes: March 6, 2012 @ 3:00 p.m.  
Ridgway Town Hall**

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

**Attendees:** Kim Wheels, Jen Coates, Chris Myers, Bob Risch, Nina Kothe, Karen Guglielmone, Ken Haynes, John Clark joined at 4:00; via phone – Randy Barnes; Todd Brown joined via phone at 3:58; Elaine Fischer joined via phone at 4:03.

**EAC's (3:00-4:00)**

Items 1 and 2 of the agenda were switched:

1) Composting programs (30 min)

San Miguel County and Mountain Village have expressed an interest in composting.

a) Examples

Route County, Summit County and Carbondale/Aspen are the examples that Kim explored. Kim reported on her research of residential composting facilities: 1 – Counties own the facility and 2- there is a company in existence in operation to run the program. Kim shared that unless and until a company exists and there is property provided, there is little hope that major efforts for community composting might happen. The Board discussed the challenges and opportunities with community composting.

TNCC is planning to establish a zero waste task force of regional stakeholders and Kim asked the interest from Ouray County in participating in zero waste effort? The Board discussed composting logistics and generation amounts for residences and commercial properties. Chris stated the EcoAction program asks participants to measure and track recycling, compostables and waste. The Board discussed opportunities to understand the regional recycling and waste management efforts, including short and long term goals and how the WSJCEB might complement these efforts and/or participate.

Mountain Village is exploring a small-scale composting program.

Nina suggested Walter Wright or Kris Holstrom from TNCC present information to the WSJCEB on zero-waste basics. Nina also mentioned a company called "The Earth Machine" that can provide information to communities on composting.

Karen indicated there are a number of programs that include education on composting happening with TNCC and the region.

Bob mentioned the Our-Way Transition Group may also be a part of the composting discussion for the region.

Chris stated that composting is part of the more broad zero-waste discussion.

The Board discussed the opportunities with community gardens, municipal lands, etc. and the complexities of composting and what is happening today in the region.

All agreed that the best and only opportunities currently available for increasing composting in the region lie in the realm of educating the public about personal composting systems and



exploring small-scale community options working with community gardens and similar localized groups.

b) Plan a Pilot?

Kim will provide information to Ouray County on the zero waste meetings that are pending, with Ridgway and Ouray indicating interest.

2) Development of programs to modify government staff energy use behavior (30 min)

a) Integrated w/ DOE Behavioral change presentation DOE on behavioral change

Kim presented 2 electronic options: email and website to initiate part of the 5-step process and asked the Board what our capability is with regard to internal internet or email option for electronic-based messaging. Kim provided the following example of a company that communicated 4 times via email to 400+ employees:

Email 1 – one specific action to commit to (41% committed)

Email 2 – follow up with those who committed (49% initiated behavior)

Email 3 – to all employees, stating who committed and who didn't participate

Karen indicated email followed by individual meetings would be a better route. Bob indicated that for the City of Ouray that the employee base is so small a conversation would be better than email or web-based communications. Some staff don't have email to check. Nina suggested giving employees a choice. One example the Board discussed is checking tire pressure, and exploring one targeted action item or multiple options.

b) Community Based Social Marketing: Other examples & experiences

Resources can be found at [www.cbsm.com](http://www.cbsm.com) – resources for transportation, waste, behavioral change.

c) Plan a Pilot?

Kim will initiate 'Step 1 – Select Behaviors' for the group to explore and offer rewards for behavioral changes.

**Board (4:00-5:00)**

3) Sustainability Action Plan – review of priorities selected (20 min)

Nina read the 3 priorities of the WSJCEB:

1 – Energy Efficiency – reduce overall energy use: focus on developing employee behavior change

Todd asked how this data would be tracked. Kim responded that employees can report back via email to indicate what they have been done. Nina indicated that people sign on and make a commitment, which could be measurable

2 – Landfill Waste Reduction and Recycling – generalized increasing recycling; composting development of regional center; explore possibilities for residential composting; acquire baseline data for regional waste haulers

3 – Transportation – work together on incentive programs to encourage biking, walking and mass transportation decreasing single occupancy traffic

Kim shared that the Board could work to achieve these goals by working with staff



Bob mentioned the City of Ouray is changing their code to allow for electric vehicles in Town and reported on statewide bill for allowing ATVs on roads. Elaine reported that CCI is monitoring. Karen indicated that there are reasons to not allow for ATVs and the Board discussed some of the detail surrounding the ATV state level discussion.

Chris indicated that parking needs to be part of the discussion as well in particular for bicycles, etc. Ken indicated that the final transportation goal should include parking.

The Board agreed that the 3<sup>rd</sup> goal should include opportunities for electric vehicles and something related to parking improvements.

Kim shared that there is an upcoming electric vehicle meeting coordinated by GEO "FEVER" efforts in Montrose at the FORE office.

Nina suggested updates from the regional transportation committees to the WSJCEB and the transportation goal of the WSJCEB does not conflict or overlap with what the regional transit groups are approaching.

#### 4) GEO / CEC Program Update

Kim presented a slideshow to the Board on the collective accomplishments from the CEC network that was created by the GEO.

Chris suggested that the San Miguel County preview the presentation at the IG meeting. John Clark recommended that the presentation be viewed during the Tri-Agency meeting in Ouray County.

- a) GEO update – CEC survey results & presentation, future of program discussion (15 min)
- b) MSEI Program Completion Update – scheduling for Ouray Business Roundtable

Kim stated she has been working with Rick Noll on a Green Business Roundtable discussion for the Main Street Energy Initiative discussion, and the target month is now June. Kim suggested tying the MSEI, Energy Action Plan and GHG study together for the presentation in Ouray County this summer.

- c) Transit Committees
- d) Other community presentations needed for GHG Inventory?
- e) Final reporting to GEO this week

#### 5) TNCC's EcoAction Initiative

- a) Update on 2012 program
- b) San Miguel and Ouray County participants welcome!

Kim reported that the fees are being restructured this year as TNCC did not receive grant funds to run the program. The first applicant from Ouray County is now signed up for EcoAction and additional participants are desired. Recommendations may include a professional energy audit, Region 10 funding sources, tracking software, SMPA SMPP program.

Kim indicated that the Alliance for a sustainable Colorado may take on coordination the CEC network communications with the dissolution of the GEO coordinator's job.

MSEI program is over but businesses can participate in the Eco Action Business pilot program with TNCC. Business loans for energy efficiency improvements are available through Region 10

