

Minutes – Dec. 13, 2018 Palouse Citizens’ Climate Lobby

5:30-7:00pm, Umpqua Bank Meeting Room, 225 N. Grand Ave., Pullman

Present: Marilyn Von Seggern, Brian Dietel, Katie Gieske, Pete Haug, Mark Bordsen, Judy Meuth, Mary DuPree, Carlos Simms, Bertie Wedell, Steve Flint, Deb Olson, Casey Johnson, Mac Cantrell, Carolyn Joswig-Jones, Jeff Joswig Jones, Andrew Munson, Lana Cohen, Paul Spencer

Introductions

Additions to the Agenda – Bertie Weddell will talk about her rough draft of “How is Climate Change affecting you here?”

Review of Minutes - No changes.

Announcements

On April 13, 2019, there will be a Washington State CCL Conference. Previously there have been only regional CCL conferences for our area (including WA, OR, ID, AK and HI).

In response to a request with approximately 200 signatures for more coverage and discussion of climate change, our Northwest Public Broadcasting radio station will begin broadcasting two different 1 hour programs about climate change in January. Also, the 90 second Yale Climate Connections radio spots are available **five times a week**, Monday through Friday on many public broadcasting stations. Audio and print archives of these programs are available at <https://www.yaleclimateconnections.org>

- Bertie passed around a rough draft of “How is Climate Change affecting you here?” as an example of educational pieces such as handouts. She asked for suggestions, additions, and collaboration. If anyone is interested, please let her know. She noted that the images are not local, so please send her local images. Judy mentioned that she made a Powerpoint presentation on this topic which she will give to anyone who wants to view it. Mac said he would send an email from Arjan Meddens about this topic.
- COP24 in Poland – This is the 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Judy mentioned that the delegates were excited at the many non-national US responses (by states, cities, and organizations). One of our local CCL members is at the conference and may be available to report on the conference at one of our meetings.
- City Resolutions – Moscow, Palouse. Mac and Mary met with individual Moscow City Council members and introduced a resolution supporting a carbon fee and dividend which was recently approved by the Administrative Committee. It will be considered by the City Council at their meeting on Monday (Dec. 17) so people should attend to support it if possible. This will be the first such resolution in Idaho if it is approved! Linda Jovanovich is working to accomplish this in Palouse also.
- Media - Recent editorials and letters to the editor. Al had a recent op-ed published and Marilyn published a letter in the local paper. Judy’s letter was published in Moscow-Pullman, Lewiston, Colfax and Spokane. Bertie and Pete have also had letters published

recently. CCL National is asking us to send information to local media about the recently introduced carbon fee and dividend bill.

- Presentations - Carbon Series at UI. Mac will be presenting at the Campus Conversations on Feb 27 & 28 at 12:30 PM.
- Education Outreach – Kathy Dawes and Kathryn Bonzo are working to develop stand-alone lessons for schools.
- University initiatives – We have two CCL positions for student volunteers posted on the WSU CougSync Network. The positions are for social media help and research on climate change groups at WSU and other universities.
- Lobbying – Mac and former Palouse CCL member Ginny Lohr attended a meeting with Rep. McMorris-Rodgers’ staff during the CCL November lobby day in DC. Judy sent a letter to the staff member after the new Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act was introduced in late November. Mac also had a good meeting with Sen. Risch in DC.

National Actions for December

1. Build momentum for the new bill
2. Support our \$1 million year-end appeal
3. Talking Points Practice: The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act

Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act <https://energyinnovationact.org/how-it-works/>

Judy presented a slide show with information about the Act. She also made a comparison of the differences between the provisions of this Act and the CCL Carbon Fee and Dividend proposal.

- Bill HR7173 will die at the end of the current session (December 2018) so must be re-introduced in the new session.
- **Talking Points –effective, bipartisan, creates jobs, revenue neutral, good for people**
- **Priority Actions –**
 - Lobby members of congress
 - Collect postcards and comment forms to members of Congress
 - Congressperson liaisons – build rapport and talk to aides
 - Write lots of letters to the editor and op eds
 - Request meetings with editorial boards and ask for editorial endorsements
 - Cultivate engagements with “Grasstops” (persons of prominence and influence). Ask them to endorse bill, attend a meeting with an editorial board, talk with members of Congress.
 - Collect endorsements
 - Promote municipal, county, and state resolutions
 - Build relationships with organizational allies
 - Educate via tabling, presentations, conversations, etc.
 - Engage people in conversation
 - Ask for people’s thoughts on climate change and for permission to share your views.
 - Find common values
 - Direct people to <https://energyinnovation.org>

The bill will be re-introduced in February or March in the new Congress session.

- Mark suggested that it is important to convince the House Leadership to give the bill priority and put it in the best committees to shepherd it through
- Deb – We should have a letter writing party. [Group general agreement]

2019 Our Chapter activities will focus on the above **Priority Actions** as well as

- Seek new members
- Work with Palouse Knowledge Corridor – Francis Benjamin is a good contact
- Make presentations in libraries. Pete volunteered for the Whitman Co. Library.

A web article may be interesting to you – “Why greens are turning away from a carbon tax”
<https://www.politico.com/story/2018/12/09/carbon-tax-climate-change-environmentalists-1052210>

National CCL Monthly Call - The speaker this month is Per Espen Stoknes, Norwegian psychologist, Green Party politician in Parliament, and author of *What We Think About When We Try Not to Think About Global Warming*. To watch, download the video recording, or listen at PodBean or iTunes, visit <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-speakers/>

Next Meeting January 17, 5:30-7:00pm, 1912 Center, Senior Center, 412 East 3rd St. Moscow

Energy Innovation AND Carbon Dividend Act

AMERICA'S CLIMATE SOLUTION

H.R. 7173

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act will drive down America's carbon pollution and bring climate change under control, while unleashing American technology innovation and ingenuity. It's:



Effective

This policy will reduce America's emissions by at least 40% within 12 years. It's supported by economists and scientists as simple, comprehensive, and effective.



Good for people

This policy will improve health and save lives by reducing pollution that Americans breathe. Additionally, the carbon dividend puts money directly into people's pockets every month to spend as they see fit, helping low and middle income Americans.



Good for the economy

This policy will create 2.1 million additional jobs over the next 10 years, thanks to growth in the clean energy economy.



Bipartisan

Republicans and Democrats are both on board, cosponsoring this bill together. The majority of Americans support Congress taking action on climate change, including more than half of Republican millennial voters. Solving climate change is too urgent to get caught up in partisan politics.



Revenue Neutral

The fees collected on carbon emissions will be allocated to all Americans to spend any way they choose. The government will not keep any of the fees collected, so the size of the government will not grow.

How it Works

- 1 Carbon Fee**
This policy puts a fee on fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas. It starts low, and grows over time.
- 2 Carbon Dividend**
The money collected from the carbon fee is allocated in equal shares every month to the American people to spend as they see fit.
- 3 Border Carbon Adjustment**
To protect U.S. manufacturers and jobs, imported goods will pay a border carbon adjustment, and goods exported from the United States will receive a refund under this policy.
- 4 Regulatory Adjustment**
This policy prevents additional regulations on covered CO2 emissions, as long as emission targets are being met. If emission targets are not met after 10 years, then EPA regulatory authority over these emissions would be restored. Regulations based on other pollutants will not be affected, nor will regulations such as auto mileage standards, water quality and more.

Sponsors

Republicans			Democrats		
					
Francis Rooney (FL-19) Original Cosponsor	Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-08) Original Cosponsor	Dave Trott (MI-11) Cosponsor	Ted Deutch (FL-22) Original Sponsor	Charlie Crist (FL-13) Original Cosponsor	John Delaney (MD-06) Original Cosponsor

Learn More

Go to energyinnovationact.org to learn more about the Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act.

Support the Bill

Go to cclusa.org/energy-innovation-act to contact your Congressional Representative