

Minutes – Nov. 16, 2017 Palouse Citizens’ Climate Lobby
5:30-7:00pm, 1912 Center, Senior Center, 412 East 3rd St. Moscow

Attendees: Judy Meuth, Deb Olson, Donna Erickson, Bertie Weddell, Mary DuPree, Debbie Kadlec, Marilyn von Seggern, Steve Flint, Linda Canary, Jeanne Leffingwell, Brian Leffingwell, Paul Spencer, Linda Jovanovich, Cassie Geraghty, Paul Spencer

Introductions and Additions to the Agenda – Additions: LTE of the Month; Community engagement methods

Review of Minutes - Approved

Action Items from October meeting and updates from interest groups

- Judy: report on E. Washington Water, Wind and Fire Tour
 - This CCL Tour was jointly sponsored by the Washington Audubon Society. There were several events, with 20 attendees in Palouse, 3 in Colfax, 20 in Clarkston, and the mayor and one city council member in Pullman. The Tour goals were generally to educate, hear about people’s climate concerns and ideas for action, and get new chapters started. The three able presenters (2 from CCL and 1 from the Audubon Society) did a very nice job. In Pullman, the Mayor pointed out that it does not appear that the city will receive any of the dividends, and thus will not be compensated for the higher fuel prices. A tour presenter and Judy will research this concern and see how other cities with carbon pricing are managing.
 - There was a *Daily News* article and two articles in the *Whitman Co. Gazette* about the tour. The participants considered that the tour was successful in reaching a lot of new people. Mary reported that a similar tour in Alaska was very successful.
- Mary/Mac: report on Safeguarding Idaho’s Economy in a Changing Climate Conference
 - There were some sessions using streaming TV from Boise. For example, one was “Extreme Weather Events”. There were very interesting, local breakout sessions as well. There was an Ag breakfast which included farmers from the Camas Prairie area. They are pushing to sustainable operation with multiple crops – as many as 18-20 different crops!
 - Mary and Mac are tabling at the ongoing event and Mary is presenting about CCL and climate change impacts on health.
 - The recording of the conference is available on the internet.
<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/safeguarding-idaho/register>
- Mac: contact Tom Bitterwolf re. UI class presentation. (no mention of this)
- Monthly letters to the Editor (no discussion)
- Mary: link to short CCL Powerpoint – will soon be available

Campaign for Letters to Members of Congress

- We have about 160 signatures for the Idaho Letter.
 - Mary said that there are two different actions we could ask the new Moscow City Council to take. The consensus was that we pursue both:
 1. Endorse our own MoC letter urging national legislation on climate action and mitigation because local actions and control are not enough.

2. Endorse a letter that's not a direct part of our local effort that encourages legislators and mayors to do what they can to carry out the goals of the Paris Accord.

Ideas for more local engagement

- Judy: From the long list of potential efforts that was generated in Sept., two were initiated at that meeting: 1) Education (Kathy & Bertie have begun work) and 2) Presentations (Mary and Judy are sending links to a short presentation video and set of slides). At the Oct. meeting, two more were prioritized. 3) Lobbying members of Congress via postcards, letters, phone calls, emails, etc. We can improve on our Lobbying efforts by focusing on postcards, etc. when tabling and by everyone more regularly communicating with members of Congress. 4) Ag Outreach, perhaps including asking a farmer or rancher who attended one of last year's CCL/Ag meetings to give a tour of their operation. So far, no one has volunteered to work on this effort.
- Mac suggested that local actions could also be things like using solar power to help heat the swimming pools and converting to LED lighting.

National Call

Retired [Maj. Gen. Rick Devereaux](#), served 34 years in the U.S. Air Force before retiring in 2012. His last assignment was Director of Operational Planning, Policy, and Strategy in Washington, D.C. He is currently Executive Vice President for Government Affairs at Texzon Technologies, a pioneer in the field of electromagnetic wave propagation, power storage, and electricity distribution. He is a member of the Ashville CCL.

Devereaux discussed how to talk climate change to service members and enthusiasts – the military is not concerned with who caused climate change, has no interest in how to prevent climate change, and only is interested in how to mitigate the effects of climate change. The military is concerned about an increase in the sea level. Devereaux advised us to rely on science-based facts and to be prepared for skepticism.

He said that the military is moving away from fossil fuels, which are often conflict drivers. During conflicts, the congested sea-lanes needed for oil transportation are points of vulnerability. A video, "The Burden", was recommended. It describes fossil fuel use in relationship to national security, climate change, monetary costs and more. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exp-c1OUNz0>

National Actions for the Month

- Develop Part One of CCL-P Action Plan for CF/D bill introduction
 - Mark Reynolds said that he thinks that a 2017 introduction of the Bill is unlikely but that all of us should be ready to support the introduction when it occurs. There will be a "zoom call" with specifics when it happens.
 - Mary asked for volunteers to help with this:
 - Steve will work on the plan to lobby members of Congress.

- Judy and Mary will get volunteers to show support.
 - Bertie will coordinate media communication
- Mac suggested that introduction of a CF/D bill does not seem likely soon, so perhaps a rough plan would be enough for now.
- Cassie Geraghty said that she has found Facebook to be very effective for things like this and offered to give a short tutorial on how to get started and to use Facebook at the next meeting.
- Prepare for Giving Tuesday: Tues. Nov. 28 (citizensclimateeducation.org)

Review Action items

- Paul will write a letter to editor/Op-Ed in December
- Cassie Geraghty will prepare a short Facebook tutorial for the next meeting.
- Paul will bring a projector, screen, and computer for use with this tutorial on Dec. 14
- Mary will send link to short set of presentation slides from a California CCL group.
- Everyone: study Develop Chapter Action Plan. See our website: <http://cclpalouse.org/PDF/Develop Part One of your Chapter Action Plan.pdf>
- **Everyone:** Make a list of 3 people from the “Grasstops” (key contacts) to contact in January for the Letters to Members of Congress campaign.
- Anyone — Please let Mary and Judy know about any possible presentation opportunities at any organization to which you belong.
- All add to Google spreadsheet of potential signers for our Letter to members of Congress (or send signers’ names to Judy or Mary). Send signed letters to Judy or Mary.
- All - send Marilyn info on actions and any links so she can report them to national CCL (kvs21@frontier.com). Send published items to Paul to post on CCL-P website (paul-spencer@pullman.com)

Laser Talks

How Climate Change Affects Hurricanes
 Dividend Delivery (Both of these are attached below)

Next meeting

To accommodate the winter break, **THE DATE AND LOCATION OF THE NEXT MEETING HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO Thursday December 14, 5:30-7 at the Hecht Room in Neill Public Library, 210 N. Grand Ave., Pullman.**

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5-minute Laser Talk Exercise

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

How to practice: Pick a partner, read one of the the laser talks below (your choice!), and then summarize for your partner. Then the other person does the same thing.

Laser Talk #1 - Dividend Delivery

To address the question of “How will you go about distributing the carbon dividend to households?”, CCL commissioned an expert study of how to optimize the carbon dividend distribution. Our goal was to maximize simplicity and minimize costs for government, businesses and households, while still delivering a dividend to as many households as possible.

All the money collected from fossil fuel companies goes to a Carbon Fee Trust Fund managed by an Administrator. After administrative costs, the net funds constitute the pool for carbon dividends.

Recipients are identified from existing tax records or through a special form for those who haven't filed income taxes. Most people will get their dividend as a direct deposit or on an existing government-issued debit card, with paper checks as a backup. Eligibility changes are taken care of on a monthly basis, and any underpayments or overpayments for the year are reconciled on the recipient's next income tax return. CCL is satisfied that these steps will make the carbon dividend distribution fair, flexible, universal, and highly visible to households.

For more information see the [Dividend Delivery Study](#) on Community. (It's important to note that the estimated cost of administration of the Carbon Fee and Dividend would be 7-8% for the first year, 4% for the third, and less than 2% by year 6.)

For details about this, see: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/administrative-cost/>

Laser Talk #2 - How Climate Change Affects Hurricanes

People often ask if climate change caused a particular hurricane. The short answer is “no.” Hurricanes happened long before humans started pumping excess carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

What we can say with great certainty, however, is that human-induced global warming is making storms bigger, more powerful and more destructive for a number of reasons:

- **Warmer water:** Hurricanes derive their strength from warm ocean water. That's why they form in late summer and early fall when temperatures are at their highest. Global warming has increased those temperatures, thereby increasing the power of these storms.
- **Warmer air:** Climate change is also making our atmosphere warmer. Warmer air holds more water vapor, increasing the amount of rainfall produced by a particular storm.
- **Higher sea levels:** As our oceans heat up, the water expands. That expansion, combined with the melting of glaciers, is raising sea levels, making storm surges more destructive and deadly.

These factors played out in storms that made landfall in 2017. As temperatures continue to rise, we can expect to see more of this destructiveness and worse unless we reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.