

MINUTES – July 16, 2020
Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby
5:30-7:00pm Meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Lauren Carlsen, Judy Meuth, Mary DuPree, Amelie Schmolke, Pete Haug, Casey Johnson, Simon Smith, Trish Hartzell, Marilyn Von Seggern, Michael Kahn, Diane Noel, Mac Cantrell, Eric Odberg, Diana Armstrong

Introductions and Check-in

Additions to the Agenda and Review of Minutes: add Democratic National Committee climate plan to agenda.

Breakout Rooms: Whitman Co, Latah Co

Latah/Idaho

- **Moscow business community leaders: Chamber of Commerce**
We will contact these leaders and ask them to either endorse the EICDA as an organization or business, OR to write a letter to their MoC endorsing the EICDA OR write a letter to the MoC to ask them to act on climate change.
<http://www.moscowchamber.com/board>
- Report on Idaho June Lobby Meetings with our Members of Congress – Mac and Eric spoke about the impressive lobbying team who met with Senator Crapo's staff and the staff's positive response to the lobbyists. Eric emphasized the importance of the new Growing Climate Solutions Act and its potential positive impact on farmers re. carbon sequestration.
- Moscow Sustainable Environment Commission *Climate Impacts Assessment* - Mary reported that the Climate Action Working Group has established the goal of Moscow using 100% clean energy by 2040. Members of the group are beginning to meet with city councilors about their plans..
- ID Avista Campaign – Mary gave updates about Avista's 2020 energy plan.

<https://puc.idaho.gov/Fileroom/PublicFiles/ELEC/AVU/AVUE1901/CaseFiles/20200228Avista%202020%20IRP.pdf> (This is the entire Avista application)

<https://puc.idaho.gov/Form/CaseComment> Case # AVU-E-19-01 (This where to request a public hearing)

Whitman/Washington

- **Cathy McMorris Rodgers**--CMR publicly endorsed the Republican Climate Contract with goal for zero emissions by 2050 but no process to make it happen. CMR had public announcement about it, stressed clean energy solutions w/o government mandate.
- **Dave Wilson & Chris Armitage**--Simon Smith attended meeting with Dave Wilson and asked him about ideas on climate crisis. There was no detail in his answer. He may have some specific ideas; he is more independent than democratic, ran as Independent in last race. He wants to be contacted about HR 763. Judy said that Armitage lists Green New Deal, fully fund FEMA. How do we approach these campaigns? Simon said that CCLP does represent this issue in this area.
- **Pullman Draft Comprehensive Plan**—came out 3 weeks ago, has about 6 'policies' under chapter Land Use, the Goal to 'protect, enhance, and conserve Pullman's natural resources.'
- **Environmental 2040 Committee**—wants to include CCL on this. Simon is the contact.
- CMR wants to know what the Pullman Chamber of Commerce thinks about carbon pricing and HR 763. Judy will send a list of Pullman Chamber of Commerce Board members; if you know any of them let Judy know so we can begin contacting them.

Breakout Reports: Judy said Simon raised question of how to contact candidates for office to encourage them to develop an approach to climate action; this could be done for all candidates in our area.

CCL-Palouse Reports and Business

- Website--It is close to done, Joe Pallen has been working on it. It is clean, simple, and well-organized. It will include minutes and agendas; what else in terms of documents could be included? Links to other sites such as DNC and GOP platforms on climate was mentioned for inclusion.
- Tabling--Moscow Farmer's Market will not be accepting groups but tabling could be done in front of One World Café; in Pullman we could ask local businesses if we could use their sidewalk space. We have a new poster. It would be possible to start tabling around July 25 in Moscow.
- Youth outreach-- Kathy <https://community.citizensclimate.org/resources/item/19/152>
Kathy has ideas about how to talk to middle school and high school teachers about climate change and create a lesson plan for teacher training; We can create strategies for dialogue with UI and WSU students; a tie-in with upcoming elections could be the fact that many environmentalists don't vote. Voter registration materials should be available. Amelie will contact teachers at Lincoln Middle School; Trish is on the Board of Palouse Science Center and could work with Kathy Dawes on this opportunity.
- Radio Spots--Mary has a list of people who can work on radio spots and wants to meet soon to start drafting them; tell Mary if you'd like to work on this.
- Publications --CCLP has had many LTEs and OpEds in local publications. We are coming to the end of sign-ups so Judy will ask for more in a follow-up email. Report LTEs, messages to MoC's (not monthly calling campaign) to Diane in Chat.
- **CCL Virtual Conferences and Lobby Days** Dec. 5-6, Lobby days to follow
- Grasstops Relationships and Endorsements --Discussed in geographic meetings

Communications Exercise: The Dividend (at the end of these minutes) Report back: monthly carbon dividends would be a reminder to recipients about the amount of carbon in our economy; in ideal situation the dividends will shrink rapidly; there will be an ease-in and ease-out.

Continuing Actions for members

- Join an Action Team by topic of interest <https://community.citizensclimate.org/groups/action-teams>
- Join a Community Forum where there is an ongoing conversation on a topic <https://community.citizensclimate.org/forums>
- Check out CCL Radio broadcasts [Citizens' Climate Radio recording](#).
- Share CCL's new voter registration link on your social media. Let's help get environmentalists who don't vote to the polls. The first step is registering. Share cclusa.org/register-to-vote on your social media profiles and invite your connections and friends to register to vote for the climate.

Trish mentioned Biden's climate change platform and included link: Democratic Party platform <https://democrats.org/where-we-stand/party-platform/combat-climate-change-build-a-clean-energy-economy-and-secure-environmental-justice/>

Help Wanted

We need:

- Mentors for folks who come to our meeting for the first time – a one-time face to face/virtual visit.
- Everyone: Sign up for the Monthly Calling Campaign: cclusa.org/mcc.
- Be the "administrator" for the Monthly Calling Campaign in WA 05.
- Join our team of presenters – learn to make virtual presentations about CCL, climate change, CF/D, EICDA etc. to organizations and school groups
- Become our liaison with the Moscow Chamber of Commerce
- Expand our social media presence

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 20 on Zoom ? Last August we had a lawn party in place of meeting; should we do that on August 20?

COMMUNICATION EXERCISE: The Dividend

When Congress is able to turn its attention to climate change again, it should remember one lesson learned from the COVID-19 pandemic: direct cash payments are a simple, transparent, and fair way to support Americans when economic winds are shifting.

Over the next 10 years, America needs to move from a fossil fuel-based economy to a clean energy economy. By planning to give cash payments to Americans, we can ensure the health of our economy while making a gentle transition to a clean energy future. Here's how. Congress could put a price on carbon pollution, driving our economy away from fossil fuels and toward clean energy sources, and it could rebate that money as an equal cash payment, or "dividend," to all Americans each month. When dividends are given to everyone on a regular basis, regardless of their income status, low- and middle-income Americans benefit dramatically. Cash dividends are transparent and easy to track, unlike tax offsets.

It's clear that money in the hands of Americans helps keep our economy running. That's why Congress and the President are using this tool in the current crisis. When we've dealt with COVID-19, let's use that same tool to combat climate change.