

Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby
Minutes January 21, 2021, 5:30-7:00pm Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Amelie Schmolke, Casey Johnson, Mark Havens, Tim Dec, Anne Mackenzie, Judy Meuth, Mary DuPree, Diane Noel, Joseph Vaughan, Linda Jovanovich, Mac Cantrell, Simon Smith, Marilyn Von Seggern, Paul Spencer, Kayla Bordelon, Trish Hartzell, Eric Odberg, Nathan Weller, Steve Flint, Nancy Nelson, Mike Kahn, Stephanie Krantz, Kathy Dawes, Bill Engels

Introductions and Check-in

Mary offered a few bits of good news: Janet Yellen and John Kerry have both been outspoken advocates of a carbon tax. Aspects of the BEST Act, the USE IT Act and the Fisheries Act were included in the Omnibus spending bill which passed in December.

Additions to the Agenda and Review of Minutes

Announcements

- FLOW workshop Feb. 20—Tim Dec: Five levers workshop which will last two hours. Ellie Sparks and Tim Dec will be leading. Members throughout the state will help brainstorm ways to prompt movement in the region. Appropriate for people who want to learn more and to help people move up to the next level of organizing. Workshop focused on ID, but all Palouse CCL members welcome. To register go to:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/learn-to-build-political-will-using-ccls-five-levers-with-ccl-idaho-registration-136974393097>
- Braver Angels: Tim is also working on a “Braver Angels” group. He’s organizing an Idaho-wide group that brings together people from various political persuasions to bridge the partisan divides. A Blue/Red workshop kickoff event will happen soon. Linda is participating in Braver Angels on the WA side.
- Lobby Week March 22-26—Mac: large congressional changes mean that many lobbying details are up in the air. Tony Sirna on CCL’s webpage has some information on congressional changes. The new ratio in the senate means that there is a good chance for legislation to be brought to the floor. EICDA is one of the more conservative solutions currently on the table, so may have a good chance. The details for the March Lobbying Day will depend on what happens in the next month or two in congress. Let Mac (ID) or Judy (WA) know if you’re interested in lobbying.
- New secretary – New secretary is needed soon. Please get in touch with Mary or Judy.
- Social Media Action: tweet your support for Carbon Fee & Dividend to your MoC
cclusa.org/tweet:
- Monthly Calling Campaign – Mary: people can sign up for the monthly calling campaign <https://cclcalls.org> which provides you with a script, and reminds you to call your MoCs.

CCL-Palouse Reports and Actions

- Ag Outreach – Eric: the Ag committee is putting on a meeting on 2/24 regarding soil health and climate policy. Speakers – Jodi Johnson-Maynard (U of I), Jeremy Bunch

(Shepherd's Grain). Shepherd's Grain (no-till growers) has a project measuring the amount of carbon stored in the soil. The meeting is attempting to inform growers and to prepare them for the likely legislation, and get their input on potential bills.

- Pullman Climate Action Plan – Marilyn: the group has drafted a survey for Pullman residents to gauge the feeling about climate change. The survey has gone to a city counselor for feedback.
 - Simon: update on the survey. The survey will help to justify any Climate Action Plan that Pullman puts out. The survey, created with WSU input, will need to be distributed. The consensus is that it will be distributed online first, and then later distributed in person. Nathan mentioned Pullman 2040 and his friend (Francis Benjamin) that does surveys for that project and might have ideas for how to conduct the survey. Simon participates in the 2040 project and may follow up on this contact.
- Moscow Climate Action Plan – Mary: things are moving slowly as the council is distracted with masking issues. There will be a public workshop to gauge interest/feelings on a climate action plan.
- Chambers of Commerce—Simon, Mary
 - (Simon) looking for opportunities to speak to the chambers but need to go through a subcommittee first – they will talk to the subcommittee in Feb.
- Publications – Judy
 - Kathy, Pete, Casey, Trish, and Simon had letters in the Daily News. Judy reminds us to send our letters to the Lewiston Trib and Spokesman Review as well, and to your members of Congress.
- University student organizing—Kayla
 - Progress is being made with regard to organizing university students; Patrick Robichaud (Sustainability group at WSU) and Lauren Carlsen (UI) are going to try to gather the interested groups in Feb and look at how to broaden participation.
- WSU Center for Civic Engagement: Marilyn said a student has been assigned to CCL to work on social media. She will meet with the student next week.
- Grasstops—Mary will contact us next week regarding progress with grasstops (see Fig 1 right)

TALKING POINTS EXERCISE

Carbon pricing can come into effect rapidly while regulations will likely take many years. Compared to regulations, carbon pricing is a better match for the urgency of the climate problem and more popular than regulations.

Instructions: Let's practice talking about the speed and durability of carbon pricing so that you'll be ready to explain it to constituents, community leaders, congressional offices and the media.

You will be in a breakout room with one other person for 6 minutes. Each of you take 3 minutes to read the points and put each point into your own words. When everyone comes back together, a few people can share what they found useful.

Talking Points - Climate Policy and Urgency

Carbon pricing policy is fast acting, and we don't have any time to lose.

- An effective carbon pricing policy will cut emissions faster than regulations, which can take many years to develop and implement. For example, a rule to protect workers from silica dust took 13 years to implement and getting toxic lead out of gasoline took 23 years.
- Carbon pricing works rapidly, because companies and their investors quickly make decisions that maximize profits. With a price on carbon, clean energy and energy efficiency become the way to maximize those profits.

Legislation is more durable than regulation, and we need to make lasting change for a stable climate.

- Regulations can be undone by a change in administration, as we saw with the Clean Power Plan. The CPP, first announced in 2013, never took effect and was repealed under the Trump administration in 2019.
- Since the Constitution gives Congress the power to impose taxes, carbon pricing is less likely to be overturned by the courts. This reduces the chances of delays in cutting carbon, delays we can't afford at this point.
- For more details and footnotes, see this [related Laser Talk](#). To practice other talking points about CCL and climate policy, see the CCL Community "[Interview Talking Points](#)" resource.

Skill Development: Action Tracker--Diane

CCL would like to know about our actions on climate change with elected officials, friends, and community. These can include attending meetings (you can add your name to a meeting that's already been logged.) Mac reminds us that these actions are powerful evidence of concern for our MoC's.

Diane demonstrated how to track our actions (see Fig 2)

1. connect to CCL Community
2. Login
3. The CCL Dashboard should appear – click on Log and Track Actions The action tracker will open.
4. Click on **Log An Action**
5. There is a drop-down list so that you can select the type of “action”
6. If you communicated with someone in Congress, you would select **Contact with Legislator** add your information into the on-line forms

Other Dashboard features:

- i. Recent chapter actions
- ii. Grassroots outreach
- iii. Media/publications
- iv. Grassroots meetings
- v. Chapter development

You can also go to Action Tracker to see our activities presented graphically.

Bill will send a link about technology for reducing carbon content in fuel.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 18, 5:30-7:00 pm on Zoom
Adjournment at 7:08 pm

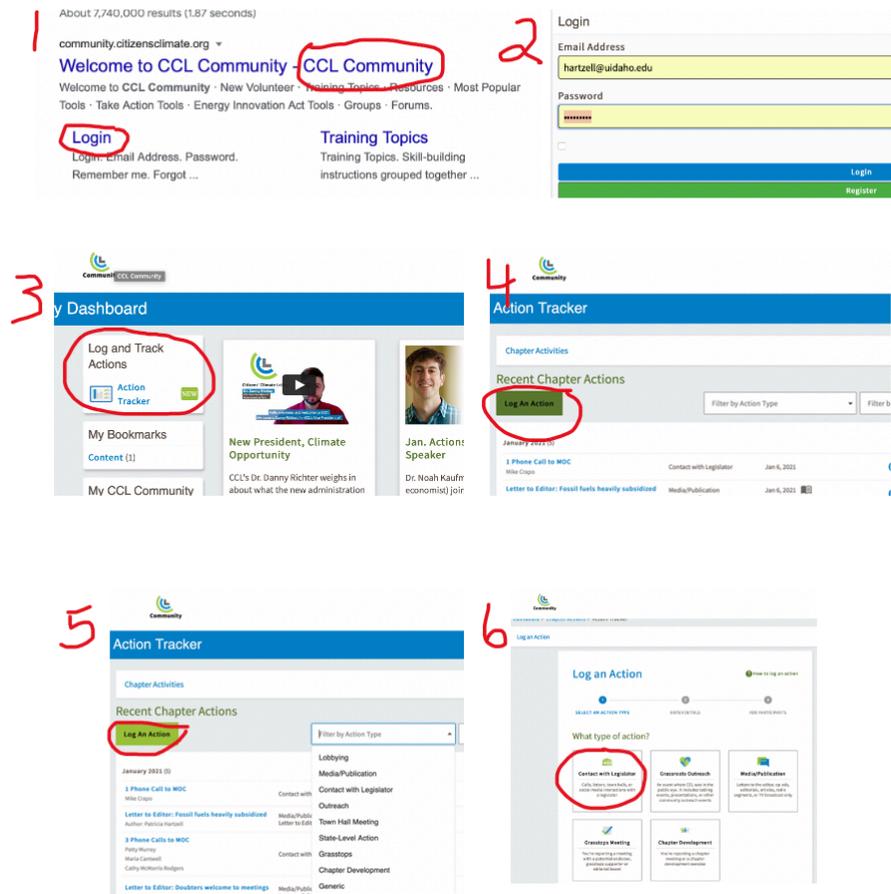


Fig. 1