

Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby
MINUTES March 18, 2021, 5:30-7:00pm Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Amelie Schmolke, Mac Cantrell, Casey Johnson, Sydnie Mejia, William Engels, Judy Meuth, Diana Armstrong, Mary DuPree, Mark Havens, Marilyn Von Seggern, Jesse Brazil, Kathy Dawes, Martina Ederer, Linda Jovanovich, Kayla Bordelon, Joseph Vaughan, Tuesday Ashley, Simon Smith, Kynan Witter-Hicks, Pete Haug, Mike Kahn, Trish Hartzell

Additions to the Agenda and Review of Minutes

Announcements

- CCL Evergreen Fundraiser (www.cclusa.org/donate) video – hoping to raise money to deepen the DC office with professionals.
- Business Advocates for Carbon Pricing Conference, April 13 (2 hrs.) Contact local business leaders and ask them to attend. [April 13 CCL Business Conference](#)
- Signup for monthly calling campaign: www.cclusa.org/mcc
- Zoom Gathering on Climate action Wednesday March, 24th 6:30pm
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81765449723>
- Earth Day (April 22) Event Possibilities
 1. parade or sign waving
 2. media interviews (radio, TV): what's happening in Congress now
 3. Tree planting
 4. Earth day/March for Science
 5. Tree planting at Rose Creek Preserve with PCEI
 6. Distribute packets of mycorrhizae and bacterial spores people can add to their soils
 7. Collaborate with other area groups, e.g. Palouse Land Trust
 8. Tentative plan at WSU for interactive event with seed packet give-away near the library
 9. Give people a chance to answer "What do you love and hope to never lose to climate change?"
<http://www.theclimateribbon.org/project#our-stories>

Simon, Judy, Joe, Linda, Kayla, Trish, and Tuesday volunteered to brainstorm and help plan one of more Earth Day activities.

CCL-Palouse Reports and Actions

- Agriculture, Soil Health and Climate Policy Meeting report – Judy: Soil scientists Jodi Johnson-Maynard and Jeremy Bunch of Shepherd's Grain were speakers. They covered new soil science research and carbon sequestration and credit markets. 78 People attended, including ag producers, wheat growers assoc., USDA people, etc. The group discussed soil challenges and the interaction with climate and weather changes.
 - Legislation will be introduced to help farmers get climate credits/change practices to make their practices more sustainable.
 - EICDA was also discussed. There were some concerns and some climate-change skepticism, but most people agreed it was a problem. They want more relief for farming and ranching. Farmers can't pass price on to consumers, so they need to be protected. EICDA only exempts on-farm fuels, which represents only a small part of their carbon footprints.
 - Farmers from the meeting will be joining the lobbying teams.
- Idaho FLOW Workshop outcomes – Mary: Attendees want to coordinate state-wide efforts. Grasstops group decided that we should be focusing on three industries: Ag, Tech, and Outdoor Rec. These industries have a statewide impact and we should be coordinating our efforts.

- Pullman Climate Action Plan – Marilyn: We are waiting for the draft comprehensive plan from Pullman’s Planning Commission. We’ll make comments on the plan as it is developed. Hope is to have climate action goals included.
- Moscow Climate Action Plan – Mary: Working group has started to make presentations on climate impacts to the various city commissions.
- Chambers of Commerce—Simon: No new developments in Pullman. Mary: No new developments in Moscow.
- Publications – Judy: a bonanza of LTE’s this month, including Bill Engels’ that was selected as national CCL’s “best of the week” letter.
Ramp up: LTE’s, Op. Eds – Judy: National has asked us to continue writing more LTEs because legislation is likely to be introduced and we can draw attention to the popularity of carbon pricing.
- University student organizing— Kayla, Lauren, Patrick:
 - Discussed getting LTEs in the university newspapers – those should ideally come from students, and should pick up once student recruitment picks up
 - Kayla worked with Patrick (WSU), Lauren (UI), Simon, and Mary on presenting to student groups (introduction of CCL) at WSU and UI: a few students have joined CCL as a result, but none have volunteered to take on a leadership role to start a CCL group at either of the campuses.
- Upcoming lobbying and the situation in the Congress:
 - Mac announced the upcoming lobby meeting with Sen. Crapo’s office (ID). He reported that with lots of climate-related legislation in the works right now, CCL’s bottom line is to support not just the EICDA but also other bills that impose a significant tax on CO2 and that support lower-and medium income families.
 - Judy announced that we will have a lobby meeting with Rep. McMorris Rodgers that will also focus on carbon pricing and the impacts of climate change on ag.

Communication Exercise (at the end of these notes; we ran out of time to do this in the meeting)

Skill Development: Social Media

- Palouse CCL Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: Search for CCLPalouse to find our accounts - Sydnie
Be sure to send her items for posting: sydney.mejia@wsu.edu
 Also relate ideas of what could be re-posted from other related sites (RepublicEn was mentioned)
 Pictures are always good to post as well

Monthly Guest Speaker:- Jennifer Burney is Associate Professor, Marshall Saunders Chancellor’s Endowed Chair of Climate Policy and Research at the School of Global Policy and Strategy, UCSD. Her research focuses on simultaneously achieving global food security and mitigating climate change. She designs, implements, and evaluates technologies for poverty alleviation and agricultural adaptation.

<https://vimeo.com/523248076>

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 15, 5:30-7:00 pm on Zoom

COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE

Practice quoting a trusted messenger on carbon pricing

We use trusted messengers a lot to convey support for our work, and there is a growing collection of people and statements we can use in our LTEs and elevator pitches. For a good example of using them in an op-ed, check out the recent [carbon pricing support op-ed template](#) on Community “Climate is on the agenda this year. A carbon tax should be too.”

Let’s practice citing a public source of support for carbon pricing and then saying briefly in our own words why carbon fee and dividend is the kind of carbon pricing we support. For example:

Janet Yellen said in her confirmation hearing that she is “fully supportive of effective carbon pricing.” I agree with her. The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act is my favorite form of carbon pricing because it will quickly lower emissions while putting cash in people’s pockets so we don’t solve this on the backs of low-income families.

Note that we don’t say she has endorsed the bill, but rather that the bill is an example you like of the kind of thing (carbon pricing) that she supports.

- 1) The support statements from trusted messengers below are in the chat. Attendees can also find the two statements on the last page of this Action Sheet at cclusa.org/actionsheet.
- 2) With a partner, pick a carbon pricing support statement you might want to use sometime and practice saying it and then pivoting to why the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act is the kind of carbon pricing you like. Be careful not to claim the person supports the Energy Innovation Act unless they have explicitly endorsed it!

Carbon pricing support statements from trusted messengers

- In 2019, the U.S. Conference of Mayors passed a resolution that said Congress should “pass legislation that imposes a price on carbon emissions sufficient to reduce emissions in line with ambitions detailed in the Paris Agreement.”
- “Representing more than 200 CEOs from America’s leading companies, the new Business Roundtable position on climate change reflects our belief that a national market-based emissions reduction policy is critical to reducing greenhouse gas emissions ...”