

Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby
June 17, 2021, 5:30-7:00pm – meeting in person (!) in Judy's yard

Participants: Steve Flint, Kynan Witter-Hicks, Margaret Davis, Linda Jovanovich, Mike Kahn, Marilyn von Seggern, Mac Cantrell, Pete Haug, Amelie Schmolke, Mary DuPree, Judy Meuth

Social Time and Introductions

We very much enjoyed meeting in person and enjoying Judy's hospitality! If you weren't there, you missed updates on setting methane bubbles on fire, moose feeding habits and vacant prime beaver real estate.

Announcements

- Energy Sector Innovation Credit (ESIC) Act—
Mac reported on the status of the ESIC Act that would provide tax credits for new energy technologies. Senators Crapo and Whitehouse are working together on the act. Mac had several conversations with Sen. Crapo's office about it, and was given the opportunity to review the act. CCL will officially support the bill once introduced. It is now planned to be introduced by the end of June. The work on the ESIC Act has come with a closer relationship between Sen. Crapo's office and CCL, particularly Mac. A lobby meeting with the office is planned for mid July.
We discussed that Republican support for carbon pricing still does not seem to be there. Such legislation may appear too big and there is resistance against any policy that may appear as a tax. Nevertheless, CCL is expecting major climate legislation to pass this year, either as part of the infrastructure plan or separately.
- Lobbying
Amelie and Judy reported that we met with Liz Payne from Rep. McMorris Rodgers' office earlier this week. Bill Engels, Ian Clark and Aaron Flansburg were part of the lobby team. Liz was familiar with the issues and acts we brought up (carbon pricing, border adjustments and the Growing Climate Solutions Act). CMR does not support carbon pricing (at this point). Ian and Aaron emphasized the urgency of action in the light of climate impacts on farming (the current drought) and the farmer's concerns about looming border adjustments with trade partners like the EU and Canada.
- CCL-Palouse
Judy invited people to join the leadership team. This team would advise our CCL chapter on the direction of the group. The team will meet about once a month, via zoom or in person. Contact Judy or Mary if you'd like to be part of this team.
- Facebook manager: Margaret volunteered to take on this task.

CCL Conference Reports

Linda joined a session on Sunday morning about social justice that gave her a new perspective on her own community and how social justice plays out in smaller communities such as Pullman. Mac reported from a session that provided helpful information on how to work with Republican legislators. Judy had a take-away that while conservatives are a minority in CCL, they are often very active members. They do not like being put in a box that homogenizes what it means to be conservative. Also, it was noted that it could be helpful to have a conservative CCL member joining lobby meetings with conservative lawmakers.

CCL—Palouse Reports and Actions

- Moscow and Pullman Chamber of Commerce updates
Mary had met with the new director of the Moscow Chamber of Commerce (Sam Martinet) recently. A lot of change is going on at the chamber right now, and no action should be expected for the next 3

months. But Sam was very interested and open to have CCL present to the chamber about climate legislation. Judy reported no news from the work with the Chamber of Commerce in Pullman, but a presentation of introduced legislation would be a good idea to present to the Pullman chamber as well.

- Pullman climate actions update

Kynan reported that CCL had met with the Pullman City Administrator Mike Urban. He was open to possible creation of a commission on climate action, working on actions like installing more electric car charging stations in Pullman and more solar panels. He is also supportive of the survey CCL is preparing for Pullman residents. He subsequently facilitated the upcoming presentation by CCL to the city council on June 22. Judy, Kynan and Marilyn are working on the presentation (~15 min long). More CCL members can attend the meeting; let Judy know before Tuesday if you are coming (Amelie will join). The meeting will be in person at the city hall.

- Publications

Simon and Pete each published a letter in the Daily News since our last meeting. In the Washington Association of Wheat Growers' newsletter, an article about CCL and the ag forum held in February was published.

- Grassroots

Simon has been tabling at the Moscow Farmers' Market and would like to have company, even if only for a short time. Judy requested ideas for other tabling opportunities this summer? Apart from getting new members, the goal is also to have folks sign up for the monthly calling campaign (no need to be a CCL member to take part).

- Grasstops

Mac reported that he, Simon and Judy met with two government affairs managers from Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories recently. They had a cordial conversation about potential legislation and challenges SEL saw with it. The managers are interested in more information. It's possible that emissions-reduction actions taken by a competitor may move them to consider similar actions. Mac asked for help in researching climate actions etc. by other companies, particularly in Schweitzer's industrial sector.

Double our Impacts!

- Double our Monthly Calling Campaign members and calls. Sign up for Monthly Calling Campaign: www.cclusa.org/mcc and ask two friends or family to sign up. Make that call when the campaign reminds you!
- Submit LTE's or an op-ed now on "Why Carbon Pricing?" or other topics. See topic ideas at [LTE topic ideas document](#) and cclusa.org/lte-topics. See how to's for letter writing at cclusa.org/lte
- Customize this op-ed <https://community.citizensclimate.org/resources/item/19/431> from Mark Reynolds or use ideas from it for your own op-ed!

Continuing Individual Actions

--Log actions on CCL's Action Tracker: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/actions/home>

--Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R. 2307 -

Send a postcard to President Biden to let him know of broad support for carbon pricing and the EICDA (President Biden, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20500)

President Biden is hesitant on imposing anything that amounts to increasing the tax burden for low-income and middle class households. Bring it home that carbon fee and dividend is not a tax!

--Send information for Facebook posts to Adrienne Marshall: amarshall813@gmail.com

--Share CCL messages on your social media – How about a selfie of you lobbying, with your family, in front of our dry, dry Palouse, or other thing you care about and say why you support a price on carbon. Check out this CCL Community [“Social Media for Volunteers and Chapters”](#) topics page!

Next meeting Thursday, July 15 from 5:30 to 7, location TBD

We briefly discussed the logistics of a hybrid meeting (in-person with zoom option). We’ll try a hybrid for our July meeting. Amelie, Judy and Mary will come early to the next meeting to try out the technology. Ask Paul to bring a microphone (Amelie can bring a laptop and speakers). Identify someone who will zoom in and can join early for testing.