

## **Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby Minutes**

**Nov. 18, 2021, 5:30 pm** on Zoom

**Participants:** Bill Engels, Mac Cantrell, Mark Havens, Lynn Weaver, Judy Meuth, Steve Flint, Mary DuPree, Azdren Coma, Linda Jovanovich, Simon Smith, Elizabeth Nielson, Patricia Glazebrook, Trish Hartzell, Margaret Davis, Paul Spencer, Tom Benemann, Kathy Dawes, Kent Rinne, Lily Premo, Amelie Schmolke

### **Patricia Glazebrook reports from the Glasgow COP 26 climate conference**

- The final output of the conference was called the Glasgow Climate Pact
- We are currently at 1.1 °C temperature increase above pre-industrial
- Goal: under 1.5 °C to avoid worst impacts of climate change
- Conference started with a big roar, but the outcome ended up being somewhat weak
- The phasing out of coal (suggested at the outset of the conference) is now a much slower phasing down of coal
- Stopping deforestation seemed to progress, but unclear how effective the agreements are
- Adaptation to climate impacts: requires money for countries (e.g., from the green climate fund) but little resources have been made available so far; goal to finance also green development in the global south
- By 2030: carbon emissions reduced to 45% (of current emissions); the current plan/output from the conference is not on track for that
- Developing renewables is not financed in this country to the same level as subsidies for fossil fuels
- Getting greenhouse gases out of the atmosphere: most effective is reforestation; new technologies are not proven at this point
- Nuclear: could presumably fill the gap between phasing out fossil fuels and covering energy needs with renewables but the investment into nuclear in the past decade or two did not provide that benefit (and all this money has not gone towards renewable energy)
- Paris commitment: \$100 billion per year should have gone into the funds by the rich countries; this has not happened (or at much lower level); those commitments have been asked for again
- All parties have agreed to commit to what they had for Paris again
- Some countries are starting to lose islands to rising sea levels; folks from islands at risk were reporting what this means for them
- Scotland: put 100 million pounds into the funds, committed to put in another 200 million into the funds; the funds are used for countries experiencing the most devastating impacts of climate change
- Ask for Just Transition: respects sustainable development goals and does not put poor populations at further disadvantage
- Ocean management and protection has been a recent topic

- Many commitments/promises were 'empty', e.g., France committing to phasing out coal (they mainly rely on nuclear for their energy production anyway)
- Mary: Will the promised meeting in a year actually happen?  
Patricia: It seems that the urgency is agreed to, so probably; corporations need to take action, and they are not at the table
- Mac: reminds us not to give up: the actions are accelerating even if the results of the conference were not where we need them to be
- Patricia: The global south already experiences the impacts of climate change to a high level, much more than us and this is forecast to accelerate
- Patricia is part of an organization of women for climate action, very much focused on the global south
- Azdren: if and how were organizations such as CCL included in conversations and actions?  
Patricia: Gets discussed, mainly by countries from the global south; the global north generally does not seem really interested; climate refugees are not recognized; health is also not considered at all
- Judy: non-profits can be helping on the ground, e.g., helping refugees, pressuring the governments on action and the corporations, push governments back into the driver's seat

### Announcements

- Changed message for Monthly Calling Campaign to  
House members: ask for support of the Growing Climate Solutions Act (bipartisan action); back off of ask for carbon pricing (at least with conservative Members of Congress)
- Braver Angels debate on climate change Dec. 8, 5:30-7:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/debate-climate-change-debate-id-ba-alliance-registration-206956050117>  
Subject of the debate: should the private sector take action on climate change and government back off?

**Takeaways from the CCL November conference**—share important ideas, insights you got from the conference. View conference sessions:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXjILMNokmN69SEOy8eHMf3NEbC0k6L0P>

- Judy: Session lead by Jenifer Wightman (Mitigation strategies in agriculture): About 10% of greenhouse gas emissions in the US come from agriculture. Presented on the possibilities to bring down these emissions; high detail: it depends on farming system, region, etc.
- Trish: saw the same presentation, recommends to watch this session (see link above)
- Mac: highlights strategy sessions by CCL leadership - how may things change due to the reconciliation bill? It will probably change CCL's strategy dramatically (likely in a few months from now)

- Mary: what happens if carbon pricing makes it into the reconciliation bill? CCL would have to address emissions that are not covered by it and future carbon emission goals.

### Update on Congressional action

Reconciliation bill: at this point, only one last vote would be needed as of today; the final bill may include a carbon price

#### Actions:

- **Email President Biden and Democratic Senators** at [cclusa.org/white-house](https://cclusa.org/white-house). and tell them to include a carbon price in the reconciliation bill under negotiation.

Still important at this point, helps increase the pressure on them to include carbon pricing

Further individual actions that everyone can take:

- **Generate media for carbon pricing**
  - **Write letters to the editor and op-eds this month and next** calling for a price on carbon with carbon cash back (dividends) in the budget reconciliation. Great ideas and other CCL resources for writing are at [LTE topic ideas document](#), [write letters](#), [latest op-ed templates](#), [Opinion Columns](#)
  - **Share CCL posts on social media** – On your favorite social media, find CCL’s account, and then look for a CCL post about carbon pricing. Pick one, like it, comment on it, and share it including the hashtag #PriceOnCarbon and your MOC’s social media handles. [Ten Social Media Actions to take RIGHT NOW to support a #PriceOnCarbon in Budget Reconciliation](#)
- **Do CCL Phone or Text Banking for carbon pricing** [text and phone banking with CCL](#)

Judy: many people still indicate in polls that they do not hear about climate change on media they consume. It is very important for us to be present with this topic and to also talk to friends and family about climate change. The local level is important!

### CCL—Palouse Reports and Actions

- Growing our chapter: Judy, Trish
  - Judy: attended a session at the CCL conference how to grow local chapters; lots of sign-ups (interest) but only about 10% of people who initially sign up ultimately become active
  - Recommendation: connect new folks with a simple email, offering to connect the person with an active member of the local chapter; have several one-on-one meetings/phone calls; in our regular meetings, talk (at least once in a while) about the overall organization and its goals, so it is easier for new people to understand what we are talking about
  - Trish: has been sending out welcome messages to new sign-ups including links to the CCL new member page; except one, no one responded so far to any of them; would it be useful to send all of them emails with small actions they can take, e.g., take part in the calling campaign?

- Simon: At the Moscow winter market, there is no opportunity to set up a booth, so we do not currently have an opportunity for new sign-ups
  - The latest presentation to students at UI suggested interest of students; also, TicToc videos might spark interest
  - Mark: around the holidays, e.g., alternative gift giving could be something we could promote; we could also encourage New Year's resolutions related to climate change (commitment card to small actions)
  - Mary and Judy: work with a ~~group~~ current members on engaging new people
  - Kathy: include high school students in the TicToc project; keep in mind to sign up for the alternative giving market next year (too late for this year)
- Nov. 15-19 Lobby Week
    - WA
      - Amelie: very positive and engaged meeting with Liz Payne who works for Rep. McMorris Rodgers; our primary ask was for the congresswoman to support the Growing Climate Solutions Act (GCSA); Liz asked questions about it that we answered
      - Judy: we presented to Liz about the costs of climate change; we keep working on building a good relationship with Rep. McMorris Rodgers and her office
    - ID
      - Margaret: group talked to Matthew Keenan from Rep. Fulcher's office; one ask to Rep. Fulcher during the meeting was for him to join the conservative climate caucus; second ask was the GCSA; the meeting was cut short, and a follow-up meeting is planned
      - Mac: meeting with Sen. Crapo is coming up on Nov. 19
- Update on climate events in Idaho, new Idaho Climate forum:
    - Mary: Idaho Climate Economic Impacts report from the UI McClure Center will be released on Dec 6, a very important report we should look out for.
    - Idaho Climate Summit: had happened in 2017 (organized by UI and organization from Boise); no follow-up planned – who is organizing the next big Idaho climate summit? This is particularly important in Idaho and having representation from Northern Idaho. Mary sees the need for a large role of our CCL chapter in this.
- Pullman and Moscow climate actions update
    - Simon: the Pullman Climate Change Survey intended to collect information about how Pullman residents see climate change and action locally; initial outreach mainly through a leaflet that went out with the Pullman Disposal bill (~4000 households); response was small; Simon went to several households to ask for their responses; Kynan is currently working on analyzing the responses (multiple responses were from web bots that have to be filtered out first)
    - Judy: high school clubs, clubs and athletes at WSU helped get the word out, resulting in fair participation in the survey; the results will be presented to the Pullman City Council, Mayor and the Chamber of Commerce

- Azdren offered his expertise in survey design and analysis for future surveys (or for the analysis of the current survey). He gave the link to the WSU free survey clinic <https://sesrc.wsu.edu/surveydesignclinic/>
- Publications – Judy  
Judy: We had four LTEs in the Daily News in the past month. We are productive publishers!

#### CCL Palouse Chapter Finances

- Mary: we have money in the bank for our local group: how should we spend it?
- Trish: invite young folks for coffee at a coffee shop to talk about climate change
- Mac: offer to pay a youth group to help them meet up (e.g., pizzas)
- More ideas are welcome: please contact Mary

#### Continuing Individual Actions

- Log actions on CCL's Action Tracker: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/actions/home>
- Send information for Facebook posts to Margaret Davis ([maddvm101@gmail.com](mailto:maddvm101@gmail.com))
- Check out CCL Resilience Hub – Build resilience to stay the course through the highs and lows of climate work <https://community.citizensclimate.org/topics/resilience-hub>

**Next meeting Thursday, Dec. 16, 5:30 to 7pm, probably by Zoom**