

MINUTES May 21, 2026, 5:30-7:00 pm – Palouse Citizens’ Climate Lobby

1912 Center’s Fiske Room, Moscow or via Zoom

(Zoom link and contact info for individuals mentioned below are at the end of this Agenda)

Values Statement: We are committed to working towards fair, effective, and enduring policies to address climate change, and to a process that is inclusive, non-partisan, and respectful of diverse points of view.

Attending: Judy Meuth, Kent Keller, Marilyn Von Seggern, Simon Smith, Steven Flint, Mary DuPree, Lynn Weaver, Joyce Leonard, Dan Leonard, Paul Spencer, Bill Engels, Patricia Ratcliffe (Spokane).

Announcements

- **Messaging for Impact: Permitting Reform Wrap-up:** CCL Webinar, May 28, 5-6 PM: where we are with permitting reform this will be informative even if you haven’t been to the others. <https://community.citizensclimate.org/events/item/24/20728>. Probably will be recorded.
 - Mary and Judy spoke of the power that public utility commissions have. The AARP lobbies those commissions and this may present an opportunity: Idaho has an active AARP and maybe we can put our heads together. Utilities can charge more if they have new infrastructure. This incentivizes building rather than being efficient. The commissions are mostly taking direction from legislators. AARP provides a counter voice.
- **Energy Growth and Environmental Responsibility:** May 29, 7pm, 1947 Crestview, Moscow. David Prestwich, Engineering Director, Schweitzer Engineering Lab. LDS church has an environmental task force – this talk will focus on how we can grow energy responsibly. It is open to the public.
- **BRIDGE Trainings:** Streaming and recorded <https://community.citizensclimate.org/topics> . These are ongoing trainings. All trainings are recorded and provide easy ways to learn how to influence people.
- **Summer Conference and Lobby Day in Washington DC:** July 26-28, 2026 . These are always empowering. We have funds to help people get there.
- **Electric Transportation Fair – CCL Palouse and PCEI:** Probably Friday, Sept 11, 4:30-7:30. We’ve talked to PCEI again. Individuals and dealerships will bring vehicles and bikes. PCEI has agreed to do it again at the same time as another PCEI event.
- **Fulcher telephone town hall June 3 from 5 pm.** 833-998-1718. Can just dial in to participate.

TAKE ACTION: Contact Congress to support Saving Our Sequoias Act clusa.org/sos. This is asking for specific forestry practices to protect sequoias. It is currently In the Senate; has just passed in the House.

Updates and Opportunities

1 Success!

- **Earth Day events** – Marilyn & Simon, Judy: Pizza for the Planet was scheduled for April 22 but postponed to the Friday after due to weather. Simon tabled there. That event has a challenge attracting many people. Earth Jam at UI went well. There were 12 new sign-ups.
- **CCL Weekly Briefing highlights CCL Palouse!!** <https://community.citizensclimate.org/bulletin/2101/596> At bottom of the last e-mailed bulletin there were pictures of the EEE fair (2026) and the 2025 EV fair.
- **The IEA announced we are officially in the “Age of Electricity”** – Judy: From Dana Nuccitelli, when Iran erupted it was predicted that coal consumption would go up. Instead, only China upped coal by 2%; the

rest of the world decreased coal use by 3.4 % and increased wind and solar by 15-17 % in a month. The International Energy Agency announced that we are in the “age of electricity”. In Denmark, 99% of new vehicles are electric. Globally, solar grew 27% last year.

2 Whitman County renewable energy updates: Wind, solar, batteries – Judy, Simon.

After Whitman County adopted a restrictive wind power ordinance, Harvest Hills is now moving its wind project forward through the state process, finishing EIS assessments using state guidelines. They have leased all the land they need and Avista has signed on. There will be a public hearing in Colfax sometime in the next few months. Those public comments will go to the state. It is best to attend as individuals. Most of the leased land is the same as in the original proposal with some slight changes. Harvest Hills may come to our July meeting to give an update. Whitman County is now working on solar and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) policy. Last month we had Nora Harren of Greenlight America talking about the Whitman County solar ordinance. Greenlight is preparing a short education presentation we can use. In general people in the US want BESS but are worried about fires. Texas is leading the transition to renewables, has many battery systems and have not had fires. It is safe, quiet, and requires less land than people think. Nora will host a meeting May 27th at 4 pm: Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/mqf-idow-fxy> .

3 CCL Monthly Call – Youth Action sponsored by CCL – Mary

The monthly call discussed youth action sponsored by CCL national. Among their highlighted efforts: 1. The great school electrification challenge; a youth action team competition to come up with an electrification plan. The winners in Cincinnati persuaded the entire school board to accept their plan. 2. Washington State has a youth CCL group that cooperates with CCL adults. This year they had 21 face-to-face lobby meetings with state legislators, and the students led the lobby meetings. 3. The winners of a climate get-out-the-vote competition led by the University of Michigan created a detailed canvassing model and held 272 in-depth conversations about climate. They recruited over 100 volunteers to engage who weren't CCL members before. Gwen Hanson of the Bellevue CCL who led to Washington lobby group could come as a speaker via Zoom.

4 Trusted Messengers for Lobbying – Judy

C

We are getting ready to lobby in July. Members of congress (MOCs) don't move unless they have a personal commitment. They need three things: 1, a strong commitment, 2. undeniable support in their constituency, and 3. Political safety. Can we find at least one person that will give cover to the MOC? CCL suggests that we come up with these trusted messengers. It could be a business person, someone in the same church, or a political leader (e.g. mayor) Leonard suggested Tom Lamar, Haley Lewis or Kathy Dawes. Other suggestions include Eric Odberg and Aaron Flansberg(farmers), the head of Northwest River Supply, Mary Schweitzer, Meter (a company), Alex McGregor, Avista and/or Inland Power leadership. The idea is to pick one or two possibilities, make an appointment and begin a relationship and tell them that we want them to present a letter from them on permitting reform.

5 Environmental Voter Project: <https://www.environmentalvoter.org>

This is ongoing all the time right now. They're phone banking and you can help with that or with postcard writing. They energize environmental voters who don't normally vote and have been very successful. The voters become consistent voters. The postcards provide information on where and when to vote.

6 Tree planting along Penstemon Path – Judy

A new trail at Idlers Rest goes through land that Trish Hartzell donated to the land trust. Leonard talked to Trish about planting trees. Leonard has a source for trees and is asking if anyone wants to organize the tree planting.

7 Book Group on *Climate Wayfinding* by Katherine T. Wilkinson <https://www.climatewayfinding.earth/>
Leonard would like to lead a group to talk about it.

8 UI Arboretum fund for electric landscaping equipment

Leonard talked to the arboretum about electrifying their mowers, etc. They agreed to set up a fund to take donations for this purpose.

9 Climatize – Invest in community-scale clean energy projects <https://climatize.earth/>

This group invests in community projects around the country and you can join and invest. Check out the web site.

10 Communication Exercise – (near end of agenda) – Judy

Ongoing Palouse CCL Initiatives

- **Lobbying Congress** - Ian (Senator Risch ID), Judy (Rep. Baumgartner, WA)
New highway bill funds all highways, bridges, etc. It will set a fee on EVs like the gas tax that goes to that fund. The tax hasn't been raised for years and the proposed fee on EVs is more than what a gas car driver would pay.
- **National CCL Initiatives: local team leaders:**
 - **Carbon Pricing:** Carbon Border Adjustments— Margaret Davis (lead)
 - **Building Electrification and Efficiency**—Mary DuPree and Mac Cantrell (leads)
 - **Healthy Forests**—Leonard Garrison (lead)
 - **Permitting Reform**
- **Pullman City** –Marilyn Von Seggern, Stephan Flint. Comprehensive plan, Environmental resiliency plan - nothing new.
- **Moscow City** – Mary DuPree. CAWG seems moribund. We need to talk to the Sustainable Environment Committee. They had a plan but it's not being acted on. Mary added a plea for a Saving Green article. One about the universal benefits of solar and wind farms. This would be timely as Whitman County has a timeline to put together a draft solar ordinance to keep projects at the county level,
- **Chipman Trail needs to be repaved** The trail between Moscow and Pullman will cost \$2 million to repave but there are no funds to accomplish this. Whitman County will accept donations and the individual can designate that the donation will help fund the trail. The Latah Trail Foundation might help fund the Idaho part of the trail. We could put info on our table.
- **Kiwanis Club** - Simon will talk about disinformation on the 18th of June in Pullman on South Grand
- **Tabling** – Simon Smith
- **Agriculture and rural issues**—Judy Meuth, Bill Voxman, Kathy Dawes
- **Publications** – Judy Meuth; Website – Joe Pallen; Facebook—Margaret Davis
- **Presentations** – Simon Smith, Judy Meuth

Continuing Actions

- Watch the **CCL National Monthly Mtg** on the 2nd Saturday of the month <https://>

citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-speakers/

- **CCL's Live Informational Session:** Every Wed at 5 pm on Zoom. Learn more about CCL's work. <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/informational-session/>
- Log actions on CCL's Action Tracker: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/actions/home>
- Send photos and info about CCL and our activities to Margaret Davis

COMMUNICATION SKILLS EXERCISE: - Judy

Moral reframing is a well-researched communications approach to help people engage with ideas they might otherwise resist. Take the example of permitting reform. You might say: *"Permitting reform helps deploy clean energy faster and reduce climate pollution."* That's true — but it might not resonate with everybody.

Depending on someone's moral foundation, you could highlight other things permitting reform can do, like:

- Reduce bureaucratic barriers (Liberty)
- Strengthen American energy independence (Loyalty)
- Create predictable rules for building infrastructure (Authority)
- Reduce harmful pollution (Care)

Choose one of the six moral foundations (Liberty, Loyalty, Authority, Care, Fairness, Sanctity). Creating a 2-4 sentence pitch for clean energy permitting reform using a moral foundation/value that is outside of how you normally frame climate change solutions.

Next meeting June 18, 5:30-7 pm Community Congregational Church, Pullman

Contact Info: Leonard Garrison lgarrisonf@yahoo.com, Judy Meuth judymeuth@gmail.com... (other contacts removed)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85948476493?pwd=9oBlwOswUuteymndoJST9UonkX1Jj0.1>

Meeting ID: 859 4847 6493

Passcode: 939133

+12532158782,,85948476493#,,,,*939133# US (Tacoma)

+12532050468,,85948476493#,,,,*939133# US