

MINUTES June 18, 2026, 5:30-7:00 pm – Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby

Community Congregational Church 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, Mary DuPree, Margaret Davis, Steve Flint, Bill Engels, Leonard Garrison, Shannon Scott, Ian Schlater, DeDe Wassmuth, Dan Leonard, Simon Smith, Kathy Prout, Bill Voxman, Patricia Radcliffe, Haoyu Chen, Gwen Hanson, and Marilyn Von Seggern

Announcements

- **BRIDGE Training:** Advocacy Detective – Researching Your Audience
<https://community.citizensclimate.org/BRIDGE/Unit-2/Training-2>
- **Summer Conference and Lobby Day in Washington DC:** July 26-28, 2026. John Trombold from Spokane is going. We are not sure who is going from Idaho; probably someone from Boise.
- **Electric Transportation Fair – CCL Palouse and PCEI:** Probably Sept 11, 4:30-7:30
- **CCL's Live Informational Session:** Every Wednesday. Invite new folks or friends to attend and learn more about CCL's work. This might help with recruiting students.

TAKE ACTION: Tell Congress: Fully fund the Forest Service

<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/get-loud-take-action/forest-funding/>

The appropriation bill for 2027 is being developed; now is the time to let them know.

Updates and Opportunities

1 Success!

Permitting Reform Progress.

Ten to 15 members of congress are in negotiations about permitting reform. Hopefully the summer conference will help to educate and influence their thinking

Last year CCL sent more than 7,000 messages to fully fund the Center for Atmospheric Research.

2 Whitman County renewable energy updates: Solar, batteries – Judy, Simon, Steve

We are working with Nora of Greenlight America. Whitman County hired a consultant to help the planning commission develop a solar and Bess ordinance. At a meeting with the commission last night, only 4 members of the public were there. There was no evidence of

resistance to solar but the meeting seemed to jump around making it hard to tell what direction the commission is going. They discussed utility, commercial and residential/community solar projects, but not where to fit in an installation on a family farm. The 1500-foot set back has no rationale. At a previous meeting a farmer was giving an opinion, just came up with a number, and no one challenged it. The published minutes are on the planning commission's website (https://www.whitmancounty.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Minutes/_06172026-872). 11,300 acres would be eligible for solar but that's a tiny fraction of the Whitman County area. These regulations will also apply to Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). Greenlight has an analyst who will help get a more accurate picture. It would help if two or three people write letters to the editor to let people know what's going on. People want solar! Greenlight has a lot of resources. Yakima County just passed a reasonable solar ordinance; their commissioners are all Republican.

3 CCL Monthly Call: Wildfire Resilience – Mary

4 CCL Youth Advocacy – Gwen Hanson & Haoyu Chen, WA state CCL Youth Group

Gwen Hanson and Haoyu worked with a CCL youth group who in January went to Olympia to meet with state legislators; subsequently, legislation concerning transmission lines got passed. A 'Follow the Legislator' project involved investigating what a legislator does to prepare for policy decisions. Haoyu joined the group in 7th grade because he was interested in the opportunity to go to Olympia. He was recruited by another student. Ways to recruit students include library events, having adults speak at high school, and as soon as a student signs up, reach out immediately, and be prepared to have something for them to do. Ways to engage students include planning for the trip to Olympia, planting trees, clearing rubble. Students can develop leadership skills by learning how laws are made, organizing events, and tabling. CCL National Youth Action Team has a web site (<https://youth.citizensclimatelobby.org/>). To get students involved early, ask a middle school teacher if CCL can present in class. Gwen can share a presentation. Have students pick out a legislator to follow on social media (ID students could do that).

Ian: Ian is happy to help, although he's unsure of the time that he will be in the area. Ian was part of the climate justice league during his freshman year of high school when they lobbied Moscow City Council about the Climate Action Plan (CAP). In Idaho, working at the city level is more impactful than at the federal or state levels. Having it be student-led is important. Providing students with a leadership role or title for college applications is helpful. In Idaho it may be farther to travel to Boise than for Washingtonians to travel to Olympia. It also helps to figure out a mission. Ian, Judy and Leonard can discuss this later. We should identify a Moscow high school teacher; Mary will try to identify a contact. Leanne Erickson may help.

5 Trusted Messengers for Lobbying – Judy

6 Carbon Pricing Update – Margaret

At CCL, there is now a Carbon Pricing Action Team

(<https://community.citizensclimate.org/groups/home/3102>).

The April meeting featured Danny Richter who talked about the history of Carbon Fee and Dividend (CFD) in CCL and politically. In 2009, the main focus of CCL was carbon pricing and dividend, meaning a tax on producers of fossil fuels based on associated carbon emissions. The tax or fee would increase over time. The revenue would go to households to counteract the economic impact of the increased prices. Since then, the political climate for CFD has changed. Democratic administrations (Obama and Biden) chose not to pursue CFD, and the current political climate is such that even former champions of CFD are not encouraging CCL to talk about it. Currently proposed carbon pricing bills aren't ideal because they don't return dividends to households or have other limitations. Top issues constraining design include the current administration, affordability, and that the dividend is unlikely to be 100%.

Danny's hypothesis was that the entire political establishment will have to be forced into considering CFD by a shock: geopolitical (carbon club, trade restrictions), a fiscal shock (debt or the dollar losing reserve status (higher interest rates on debt)). It behooves CCL to be ready! Build on existing strengths of volunteers, expertise on carbon pricing, have effective plan, incorporate flexibility, educate people.

CCL's recent survey of its volunteers got 551 responses. Headline findings: the group hardest to persuade about CFD is the general public. The ideas most challenging to communicate are: CBAM, carbon tax v. cap and trade, bipartisanism. The major objection to CF&D: "it's a tax". The biggest hook: the dividend. What volunteers want to learn: evidence on how well carbon pricing is working and how to pass carbon pricing. The most valued experts are political strategists and climate economists. The VP of government Affairs at CCL spoke about what we've accomplished in 17 years: public awareness, trust engagement, credibility, policy. CFD is unpopular in Congress, even champions don't talk about it now, there are affordability concerns. 2029 is the next potential congressional opening. CCL is starting a new education series of webinars starting this summer, partnering with Resources for the Future (<https://www.rff.org/>). This series will cover: 1) Economics of Carbon Pricing (CP), 2) Affordability and consumer impacts, 3) Emissions outcomes/policy effectiveness, 4) Political durability, 5) Lessons learned from international CP systems.

7 Legislative Update – Ian

Forestry appropriations action: The administration is trying to relocate forest service. CCL is advocating for sufficient funding for staffing and research, especially if it's required to move.

Ocean research: The administration is removing deep ocean monitoring. June 2 Russ Fulcher's CLEAN act passed in the House. This geothermal bill allows yearly lease sales instead of only every 2 years. Two days ago, Senators Tom Cotton (R-Ark) and Katherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev) introduced a bill that prevents the president from pulling an energy project permit once the project has been permitted. There is also a House bill that says if an agency slows permitting down, it gets fiscally knocked; the senate bill doesn't have that bill.

8 Summer Social for our August meeting – Judy

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

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

Ongoing Palouse CCL Initiatives

- **Lobbying Congress** - Ian (Senator Risch ID), Judy (Rep. Baumgartner, WA)
- **National CCL Initiatives: local team leaders:**
 - **Carbon Pricing and 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
- **Moscow City** – Mary DuPree
- **Tabling** – Simon Smith
- **Agriculture and rural issues**—Judy Meuth, Bill Voxman, Kathy Dawes
- **Publications** – Judy Meuth; Website – Joe Pallen; Facebook—Margaret Davis
 - Saving Green, LTEs
- **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

1. Which of these six moral foundations (Liberty, Loyalty, Authority, Care, Fairness, Sanctity) does your MOC highly value?
2. What blind spots do we have regarding our MOCs?
3. If you had to identify one connection point between your MOC and climate solutions today, what would it be?

For example, depending on a person's moral foundation, connections regarding permitting reform might be:

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

Next meeting July 16, 5:30-7 pm, 1912 Center, Moscow

Contact Info: Leonard Garrison lgarrisonf@yahoo.com, Judy Meuth judymeuth@gmail.com,
(Other emails addresses removed)

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 859 4847 6493

Passcode: 939133

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