

# Citizens for Clean Energy, Inc. (CCE)

[www.cce-mt.org](http://www.cce-mt.org)

## Minutes for June 9, 2020 Meeting

**Location:** AT&T Conference Call in Great Falls, MT 59404

**Welcome:** Rich Liebert, Chair, called the conference call meeting to order at 7 p.m. Nine CCE, Inc. supporters were present on the line for the meeting; a quorum was present. Rich welcomed everyone with a quote from Winston S. Churchill, "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."

**Secretary:** Kathy Gessaman summarized the May 12th CCE meeting minutes. **Cheryl Reichert moved to accept the May 12, 2020 CCE, Inc. electronically distributed minutes. Shannon Wilson seconded.** Rich Liebert asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes; there were none. **The motion passed.**

**Treasurer:** Kathy G. reported \$50 was donated to Montana Public Radio, complying with the motion passed at the May 12th CCE meeting. A letter of support for KGPR was enclosed with the check (#1031). Rich L. said all donations with the Great Falls area zip code are funneled to KGPR.

Kathy noted that CCE was using the KGPR conference call line and suggested CCE make another donation to KGPR for the use of the line. **Kathy Gessaman moved to donate \$50 to Montana Public Radio to counter the costs of the AT&T teleconference service. Cheryl seconded.** Discussion: Cheryl suggested CCE use <https://www.freeconferencecall.com/> if the group needs to hold the next CCE meeting via conference call. **The motion passed by voice vote.**

**Webmaster:** Visit the CCE & Bio-fuels website presently at: <http://www.cce-mt.org/>. The group suggested the new website link to the City's web page and have current events on a pull down tab with a separate page for each event.

**Communications Secretary:** Please email articles of general interest and notices about CCE activity to Kathy G. at [cce.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cce.secretary@gmail.com).

### Unfinished Business:

**Initiative 187:** David S. said he didn't have anything new to report on I-187. David said he'd send a link for the latest I-187 article: [https://missoulian.com/opinion/letters/sign-initiative-to-establish-renewable-electricity-policy/article\\_28fb33cc-919a-516f-850f-2c4c271dcebb.html](https://missoulian.com/opinion/letters/sign-initiative-to-establish-renewable-electricity-policy/article_28fb33cc-919a-516f-850f-2c4c271dcebb.html)

You can read about Initiative 187 and download forms to sign at the following link: <https://www.mtcares.org/initiative-187/#>

**I-187 signatures must be in your County Election Office by 5 p.m. on June 19, 2020.**

**Energy Sustainability Committee:** Ken Palisin, Chair of the Energy Sustainability Committee, said his committee met to discuss how to work with the City of Great Falls to address climate change since Resolution 10333 was sidelined by COVID-19. The group plans to respond to Commissioner Mary Moe's email about R-10333. The committee would like to maintain a working relationship with her and the City so they can stay involved with helping Great Falls become more sustainable and energy efficient. The group discussed Governor Bullock's Climate Solutions Council and suggested CCE members review the task force's interim recommendations for ideas for long term goals for CCE to follow up on. The following link has a calendar of MT Climate Solutions Council Zoom meetings the public can join and links to downloadable materials: <https://deq.mt.gov/DEQAdmin/dir/Climate>

The committee hoped to get Great Falls in alignment with the Governor's Climate Solutions Council while realizing the City claims it has no extra money to spend. The group discussed the issues and suggested the City report to the public on how they were meeting or implementing the McKinstry study results, apply the goals in the Governor's interim recommendations on climate to the City, reevaluate the whole climate sustainability concept, and study what the private sector has to offer.

Cheryl noted the need to protect rooftop solar projects and net metering.

**Government:** Ken P. discussed contacting MEIC at: <https://meic.org/2020/05/submit-comments-on-northwestern-energys-gas-procurement-plan/> to learn how to submit comments to the PSC objecting to the costs and risks the new proposed natural gas infrastructure poses to Northwestern Energy ratepayers; MEIC provides some talking points.

**Legal:** Rich L. said Judge Morris denied the remedy proposed by Earthjustice for the Coal Lease Moratorium lawsuit. Rich said Earthjustice is putting together a supplemental complaint that CCE will hear more about in a few weeks.

**Nominations Committee:** Kathy G. said the current slate of nominated Steering Team members are the officers who are Rich Liebert, Chair; Robert Nicholson, Vice-Chair; Kathleen Gessaman, Secretary; and Mary Nicholson, Treasurer. The nominated Steering Team Members at large are Aart Dolman, Michael Enk, and Shannon Wilson; one open position. Appointed Steering Team Member: open position of Webmaster. The Steering Team has a total nine members; there are two openings on the Steering Team. **Lita Sharone moved to nominate Ken Palisin and David Saslav to the slate of Steering Team members. Kathy Gessaman seconded and the motion passed by voice vote.**

Rich L. adjourned the teleconference meeting at 8:14 p.m.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Please check your email and the CCE, Inc. website for additions or updates.

- Aug. 22 – Preservation Cascade Bridge Walk - watch announcements for times.
- TBA – Watch emails for more information.

**Update:** The next CCE, Inc. meeting time and place will be announced at the end of summer. Please email agenda items to Rich L. at [wwranch@3rivers.net](mailto:wwranch@3rivers.net).

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