

# Citizens for Clean Energy, Inc. (CCE)

[www.ccemontana.org](http://www.ccemontana.org)

## Minutes for September 14, 2021 Meeting

**Location:** Zoom Meeting in Great Falls, Montana

**Welcome:** Rich Liebert, Chair, called the Zoom meeting to order at 7 p.m. Six CCE, Inc. supporters were present at the Zoom meeting; a quorum was present. Thank you David Saslav and Melissa Smith for setting up the Zoom meeting.

**Secretary:** Kathy Gessaman summarized the June 8, 2021 CCE meeting minutes. **Melissa Smith moved to accept the June 8, 2021 CCE, Inc. electronically distributed minutes; Shannon Wilson seconded.** Rich called for discussion; **the motion was approved.**

**Treasurer:** Shannon Wilson reported on expenses for the previous month. Credit card charges of \$59.95 for Mecca Hosting fees on 7-28-21 and \$11.95 for the CCE domain name at Mecca Hosting on 7-26-21 for a total of \$71.90. David S. asked about moving files from the old website to the new one to save money. Kathy said she would give David Jerry Taylor's email because there was a complicated problem with the archived files. **Kathy Gessaman moved to accept the treasurer's report and Rich Liebert seconded; the motion was approved.**

**CCE Website/Communications:** Please visit the new CCE, Inc. website for the latest updates on CCE activities. <https://www.ccemontana.org/> The original CCE website address continues to be active as an archive along with current LENR info: <http://www.cce-mt.org/>. Send articles of general interest and notices about CCE activity to Kathy G. at [cce.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cce.secretary@gmail.com).

Please check out the new website to view any new links such as the Earthjustice link to a petition to put a moratorium on new coal leases on Federal land; the petition was also sent to CCE supporters. David asked if it was worth boosting a link like this and Shannon said there is no boosting ability at this time.

The deadline to sign the Earthjustice petition to the DOI/BLM is Sept. 20, 2021:  
<https://earthjustice.org/action/demand-a-moratorium-on-new-coal-leases?>

### Unfinished Business:

**Energy Sustainability Committee - Aquatic Center (ARC):** Rich L. asked David S. for an update on the ARC. David said there was no change on the ability to install solar panels and David didn't think solar would be added to the ARC after it is built. David reported the Milwaukee Station had new solar panels installed and the new system should pay for itself in six years.

Rich noted the new Indoor Aquatics and Recreation Facility (ARC) ground breaking ceremony was taking place at Lion's Park on Wednesday, Sept. 15th at 2:00 p.m. Rich said he planned to chat with the military representatives and the architects.

### New Business:

**Commercial Property Sustainability (C-PACE):** Rich noted if the county implemented the C-PACE program, the city would probably not have to take any action. Rich spoke with County Commissioner Ryan about getting the ball rolling for low interest loans for new and old properties.

The group discussed having CCE join Northern Plains another 501(c)(3) organization because they are very involved in C-PACE and perhaps some of their members would be interested in joining CCE. **Melissa Smith moved to use the \$50 she was donating to CCE to pay for a one year membership to Northern Plains; David Saslav seconded.** Discussion: Melissa said she was willing to fund a trial membership with Northern Plains to see if association with Northern Plains increased CCE's membership. **The motion was approved.**

[For more information on C-PACE, please visit: [https://northernplains.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/CPACE\\_factsheet\\_FNL\\_2021.pdf](https://northernplains.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/CPACE_factsheet_FNL_2021.pdf)]

## Reports:

**Grassroots:** Rich said KGPR (FM 89.9) sends out public service announcements for CCE, Neighborhood Councils, and other nonprofits; KGPR reports local activities for no charge including the meeting time and location.

- Carolyn Craven discussed several meetings this month where people could discuss their concerns about the proposed slaughterhouse complex near Great Falls: The Great Falls Development Authority is having a public meeting on Sept. 15th, the County ZBOA is meeting on Sept. 16th but there is no opportunity for public comment, and Neighborhood Council #5 is holding a candidate forum at their regular meeting on Monday, Sept. 20th at 7 p.m. Watch your emails for more details on these activities and election news about candidate forums for City Commission.

- Kathy G. said she would check with Joe Dauner, Environmental Manager at Calumet Montana Refining, LLC, about attending our October Zoom meeting to discuss Calumet's Montana Renewables bio-diesel project.

**Legal:** Rich did not have new information on the Coal Lease Moratorium lawsuit at this time.

**Nominations:** Rich asked CCE supporters to volunteer to serve on the Steering Team. There are presently seven people serving on the Steering Team and the maximum is nine CCE supporters.

The next CCE, Inc. Zoom meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 7 p.m. Watch your email for Zoom meeting instructions. Please email agenda items to Rich L. at [wwranch@3rivers.net](mailto:wwranch@3rivers.net).

**David S. moved to adjourn and Kathy G. seconded; the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.**

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

- Sept 15 – Ground breaking ceremony at Lion's Park at 2 p.m. for 'ARC'
- Sept 15 – GFDA public meeting GFC-MSU room B101 5:30-7 p.m. to discuss the local economy
- Sept 16 – MEIC 'virtual' forum on Natural Gas, 6:30-8 p.m. (with breakout room for CCE)
- Sept 20 – Deadline for public comments on DOI/BLM coal lease program
- Sept 20 – Candidate forum at NC5 at their regular meeting at 7 p.m.
- Oct 12 – CCE Zoom meeting at 7 p.m.
- Oct 19 – Cascade County Planning Board meeting in Family Living Center at Fairgrounds
- Oct 21 – MEIC Zoom meeting 5:30–6:30 p.m. Register: <https://meic.org/dont-fall-for-gas-event-series/>
- Nov 2 – **Vote** – Election for City of Great Falls Commissioners and Mayor

***“The greatest tragedy is for somebody to do nothing because they thought they could only do a little.” Edmund Burke***