

Citizens for Clean Energy, Inc. (CCE)

www.ccemontana.org

Minutes for March 8, 2022 Meeting

Location: Zoom Meeting in Great Falls, Montana

Welcome: Rich Liebert, Chair, called the Zoom meeting to order at 7 p.m. Nine CCE supporters attended the Zoom meeting; a quorum was present. Rich welcomed Emily Auld, a representative of Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC), who was invited by Lita Sharone. Thank you, David Saslav and Melissa Smith, for setting up the Zoom meeting.

Lita introduced Emily who is excited about opening a Great Falls chapter of NPRC. Emily discussed her background she's from New York city and moved to Great Falls after college and worked at Giant Springs, Missoula, a season in Yellowstone, and presently lives in Helena. Emily has lived in Montana for over 2 ½ years. As part of the NPRC Membership team, she plans meetings and events in a four-county area including Cascade, Teton, Chouteau, and Pondera. A solar campaign and promoting C-PACE are a couple of NPRC's current projects for Great Falls. Members of NPRC set the agenda for what activities they want to promote in their communities and Emily helps facilitate the activities.

Secretary: Kathy Gessaman reviewed the February 8, 2022 CCE Zoom meeting minutes. **Melissa Smith moved to accept the February 8, 2022 CCE, Inc. electronically distributed minutes; Lita Sharone seconded.** Rich called for additional discussion; **the minutes were approved.**

Treasurer: Shannon Wilson said she paid Sandra Guynn for the 2022 annual website maintenance and Weebly hosting fees totaling \$396.00 (approved at the February meeting) and for the Microsoft 365 Email Essentials from GoDaddy (two business emails: info@ccemontana.org and admin@ccemontana.org) for \$47.76 (approved at the January meeting). Kathy G. submitted the 2022 Annual Report to the Montana Secretary of State and paid the \$20 fee using the CCE debit card. Shannon noted the \$200 Dr. David W. Baker Memorial Student-Science Foundation grant money was deposited into the CCE account.

Shannon asked if CCE would sponsor her hotel room for the Montana Upper Missouri River Basin Drought and Human Health Workshop which will be held at Montana State University in Bozeman on April 12th – 13th. **Kathy G. moved to reimburse Shannon's hotel fee for \$135 when she attends the Upper Missouri River Basin Drought and Human Health Workshop at MSU in Bozeman. Ken P. seconded. The motion was approved.**

[<https://www.drought.gov/events/upper-missouri-river-basin-drought-and-human-health-workshop>]

CCE Website/Communications: Please visit the active CCE, Inc. website for the latest updates on CCE activities at <https://www.ccemontana.org/>. The original CCE website address continues to be used as a historical archive along with current LENR info at <http://www.cce-mt.org/>. Send articles of general interest and notices about CCE activity to Kathy G. at cce.secretary@gmail.com. Please check out the new website to view links to current events.

CCE Facebook: Shannon Wilson is the administrator of CCE's Facebook site and David is a co-administrator. Please visit the site at <https://www.facebook.com/Great-Falls-Citizens-for-Clean-Energy-CCE-110217491438621/> Shannon said about \$37.17 of the \$50 allocated for boosts on Facebook has been spent. About 800 people were reached by a boost for the CCE meeting. There were some negative comments from "trolls" and Shannon said it is best to just ignore the negative comments.

Unfinished Business:

SIP - 2022 Science Fair: Mike Enk, Chair of the SIP Science Fair Committee reported on the Great Falls College–MSU Regional Science and Engineering Fair held this morning (March 8, 2022). Around 155 projects were presented by students from grades 5–8 and 65 high school projects were presented by students from grades 9–12. The students were mostly unmasked. Mike said there weren't enough judges to use the more involved judging process so the 22 environmentally related projects were examined briefly by Mike, Lita S., Kathy G., and Ken P. The monetary

awards were smaller but more students were recognized. Every student project examined by CCE judges received an Outstanding Participation Award. Mike said the awards will be sent to school science fair coordinators when he gets the list with the schools the students attend from GFC-MSU. Kathy and Shannon will help get the post office money orders. Mike described a couple of interesting projects like the young woman who studied 6 ways to enhance soil so plants could survive drought conditions (the organic mulch helped plants adapt better), several students studied microplastics in the environment, one student reused scraps from a 3-D printer, most students focused on local problems. Mike said he and Lita had a good discussion with Rai Hahn, President of the Dr. David W. Baker Foundation about Dr. David Baker and how he helped get students involved in science.

Rich thanked the CCE team and said KRTV had a nice interview on the science fair. Rich added the Great Falls Public Schools (GFPS) need to get involved in STEM or the science fair again. Shannon said she is on the Great Falls Citizens School Academy and she'll ask why a STEM event is not being held by the GFPS any longer.

C-PACE: Rich said County Commissioners would be voting to adopt a county-wide C-PACE program at the Tuesday, March 22, 2022 Cascade County Commission Meeting at 9:30 a.m. Rich invited all to attend the meeting.

Solarize Central Montana: Solarize Central Montana is a 9-month campaign by Central Montana Resource Council to help community members from Fergus and Judith Basin Counties get more solar energy.

New Business:

City – County Growth Policy: Rich said the County won't be reviewing the growth policy this year. Carolyn Craven said the City and County are supposed to review the growth policy every 5 years but the County wants to delay the growth policy review until they can examine the growth policy and the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) between Malmstrom Air Force Base and Cascade County at the same time. Check out an article by Jenn Rowel about the County Planning Board meeting at: <https://theelectricgf.com/2022/02/21/county-opts-not-to-review-growth-policy-floodplain-regulation-review-underway/>.

Earth Day Friday, April 22, 2022: Rich said he would work on the Earth Day Proclamation.

Reports:

Grassroots: Carolyn said Great Falls Rising recorded the presentation celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Montana Constitution at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyEXoB_tU28&t=7s

Rich said KGPR had a podcast with Gerry Jennings and Arlyne Reichert. The podcast can be found at <https://kgpr.org/> look for, "Voices & Views ~ Arlyne Reichert & Gerry Jennings, The Story of the MT Constitution."

The next CCE, Inc. Zoom meeting was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 7 p.m. Watch your email for Zoom meeting instructions. Please email agenda items to Rich L. at wwranch@3rivers.net.

Kathy G. moved to adjourn and David S. seconded; the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

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

- Mar 15 – City of Great Falls Commission meeting, Tuesday, 7 p.m.
- Mar 22 – Cascade County Commission, 9:30 a.m. (*MT C-PACE public hearing*)
- Apr 12 – CCE Zoom meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Apr 22 – Earth Day

“Success is not final; failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts.”

Winston Churchill