

## MINUTES Sept 17, 2026, 5:30-7:00 pm – Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby

Fiske Room, 1912 Center in 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:** Paul Spencer, Simon Smith, Steve Flint, Mary DuPree, Margaret Davis, Bill Engels, Bill Voxman, Mac Cantrell, Kent Keller, Keith Stormo, Judy Meuth, and Kathy Prout.

### Announcements

- **Inclusion Conference: Solidarity in Practice:** Sept 18-19, 2026. **Climate justice and building solidarity.** <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/climate-change-conferences/inclusion/>
- **Carbon Pricing Series – Following the Research to Lead the Politics** – Oct 1, 5:00 pm Pacific. <https://community.citizensclimate.org/carbon-pricing-series>
- **Friends of the Clearwater ED Kyran Kunkel at our Oct 15 CCL meeting (tentative)** – an accurate accounting of carbon emissions from forest management practices. They are going to communities in Idaho and looking for partners to promote community solar.
- **Fall Virtual Conference Dec 4-5 and Lobby Week Dec 7-11** <https://community.citizensclimate.org/events/item/23/21533>
- **CCL's Live Informational Session:** Every Wednesday. Invite new folks or friends to attend and learn more about CCL's work.
- On Monday, the EPA announced that it will eliminate its rule limiting greenhouse gas emissions from coal and gas power plants, claiming that will save \$370 million but that conflicts with Biden administration estimates on the billions that would be saved if emissions limits are retained. The current administration doesn't count health, property, agriculture, business, and other costs of climate change.

### Updates and Opportunities

#### 1 **SUCCESS!**

- **July Lobby Meetings in DC and locally** – Judy
  - During the DC lobby days, CCL engaged with 432 capital offices, 80% of congressional offices and 78 % of all house offices, and that doesn't include all other meetings within districts.
- **Lentil Parade** – Simon

- Attention getting went well, maybe not for right reasons! The walking device broke down and we had to drag it, slowing down parade behind it, but it was a successful attention-getter and the crowd watching gave us a warm reaction.
- **Electric Transportation Fair – Steve**
  - The EV fair was a great success with 350-400 attendees. There were 10-15 different kinds of vehicles including a Pullman electric city bus and two cybertrucks. It seemed that a lot of interested people were already owners of EVs, but there were some people new to EVs who were interested too. We didn't make money but that's okay we still have \$3000 in bank. We will come closer to breaking even when Avista pays. B and L Bikes were busy the whole time. Spin scooters did not have as much attention.

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

Progress seems stuck – meetings were canceled due to the harvest, and this week's meeting was cancelled again because the contract with the consultant company hired to help develop the ordinance has expired. The next meeting on Oct 7 will start the review process to look at setbacks from roads, buildings, Kamiak butte, etc. Nora Harren of Greenlight America is working on scheduling a meeting with us for Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4-5 PM; contact Judy to be on the Zoom for that. Nora developed a comment form that you can use to send comments to the Whitman County Commissioners and the Planning Commission. If you know anybody in Whitman county, please ask them to send comments to commissioners to move away from restrictive rules like those imposed on the wind farm development that made that project go through the state, thus preventing any input from the county. Judy will send the links. This needs positive support because there is strong opposition. Steve will circulate the link for viewing comments. Judy will connect us with information from Nora.

## 3 **CCL Monthly Call – Mary**

The monthly call combined news from groups around the country then a focus on getting out the vote. Among the volunteer news there was a shout out to our excellent tabling, and successes with Letters to the Editors that got positively responded to by Members of Congress. With regard to election engagement, it's important to talk to candidates so they know who CCL is, even those candidates who lost. Working on the Environmental Voter Project is important. Our CCL postcard writing campaign for our states to get out the vote on environmental and climate issues will benefit by going through our roster (we have >990 names) and correlate that with voter records. Then we can send a postcard to low propensity voters on our list. Washington and Idaho CCL have already accessed those lists.

## 4 **CCL Youth Advocacy, Green Schools – Mary**

The Green Schools program creates teams in junior and senior high schools to involve active students and to get kids involved earlier than their junior year in high school,

when they will only be local for another year. The national Green Schools organization provides support to school districts that apply to establish districtwide green schools. Boise has applied and gotten certified. The process involves the school district creating a sustainability action plan. There is a 50-page handbook in which the national organization describes its goals, and major enterprises that the school district can take on, including the areas of curriculum, facilities, innovation and creative activities. Do we want to initiate this process to help our school districts take it on? Although we can help we can only be partners. Mary will send a link for follow-up.

The Pullman High School Environmental Club may want to be involved and Sierra Club Idaho is also interested in this.

## **5 Carbon Pricing Update – Margaret**

CCL in partnership with Resources for the Future (RFF) has developed a series of seminars on carbon pricing. This is to educate us for future efforts to lobby for a carbon price. The presenter for the first one was Marc Hafstead, Fellow and Director, Carbon Pricing Initiative of RFF. If we get feedback from the public on carbon pricing, CCL would like to hear about it. RFF has a carbon pricing calculator that can be useful <https://www.rff.org/publications/data-tools/carbon-pricing-calculator/> (updated as of 2019) a bill tracker <https://www.rff.org/publications/data-tools/carbon-pricing-bill-tracker/> (2021) and an overall explainer series <https://www.rff.org/publications/explainers/>.

Marc talked about 1) climate change and greenhouse gas facts, 2) climate change policy options: theory and evidence, 3) carbon price design options and 4) using economic models to evaluate options.

Policy options include emissions pricing: cap and trade, carbon tax or regulation. Each has advantages and disadvantages with a carbon price being the most efficient option. Economists like carbon pricing because it is flexible (allows market to work), encourages innovation, equalizes incentive, and creates revenue.

Carbon pricing design options include what price to put on emissions, and the point of regulation (upstream, first purchaser, or downstream). The latter is rejected by most.

Model based evaluation: unfortunately there is no best model. It should take into account effectiveness, cost, distribution cost. Marc's book Confronting the Climate Challenge by Goulder and Hafstead Dec 2017 explains a lot of these pros and cons.

The next seminar in the series is on Oct 1. "Affordability and distributional impacts".

**6 Legislative Update – Judy.** The House and Senate are not doing much publicly before the election, but the good news is that a permitting reform bipartisan bill on interstate transmission permitting was recently proposed in the House. It may end up being rolled into a bigger plan likely during the lame duck session.

## 7 GOTV!

### ➤ Palouse CCL Postcarding

In October, we will send cards to CCL supporters in Washington state and Idaho who are also low-propensity voters. Let us know how many cards you'd like to address! Washington State will get them Oct 1 and we need to send them by Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. Idaho dates are uncertain. CCL is printing them; our job is to address them and stamp them. We all agreed to get together to do this.

### ➤ Environmental Voter Project Phonebanking: <https://www.environmentalvoter.org/get-involved>

Almost daily opportunities to contact potential environmental voters! No experience necessary – sign up, get instructions, and you're ready to go! They have one almost daily. You can sign up for times and dates that work for you, and it takes about an hour. Go to the link on the agenda.

### ➤ League of Women Voters of Pullman and Moscow – They Register voters, educate voters, and help with candidate forums. They always need people to help register voters and with candidate forums and educating voters.

Pullman <https://lwvpullman.org/>

Moscow <https://my.lwv.org/idaho/moscow>

### ➤ CCL's Election Engagement Action Team - More election season options such as connecting with candidates, hosting voter education events, more phone banking. Training people to have voter education events go to the above link for that information.

## 8 Letters to the editor on wildfire costs – Judy

## 9 Penstemon Trail tree planting – Judy

Trish Hartzell owns land near Idler's Rest. She is interested in tree planting and we might be able to help her to plant native trees. The high school environmental club might be interested. Leonard and Trish will determine the date, likely in late fall.

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

### Ongoing Palouse CCL Initiatives

- **Lobbying Congress** - Ian (Senator Risch ID), Judy & John (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
  - Moscow Pullman Daily News
    - You call this fiscal responsibility, Risch?
      - Leonard Garrison 7/18-19/26
    - Bank on wind and solar power
      - Leonard Garrison 7/18-19/26
    - Outdated claims, selective examples
      - Leonard Garrison 7/25-26/26
    - Things Change
      - Kent Keller 8/1-2/26
    - BESS could help prevent fires
      - William Engels 8/22-23/26
    - When it comes to EVs, recompense comes in many forms
      - Leonard Garrison 8/29-30/26
    - Confront climate change now
      - Leonard Garrison 9/5/26
  - Spokesman-Review
    - The cost of climate change
      - Leonard Garrison 9/3/26
  - NOTE: An LTE about how the current administration fails to count the health costs of climate change would be timely. CCL encourages us to respond to other LTEs and publications.
- **Presentations** – Simon Smith, Judy Meuth

### **Continuing Actions**

- Watch the **CCL National Monthly Mtg** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:** Moving conversations from division to dialogue. -Judy

Looping is a form of deep listening that lowers people's defenses and helps build understanding. The idea is to reflect not just someone's words, but the feeling and need underneath them. With a partner, take turns moving through the exercise below (6 minutes).

1. Person A chooses one of the statements below, which are common objections to climate policy, or come up with your own. Read it aloud, then stay in character and expand on it in 1–2 sentences, giving short, human answers. Starting statements to choose from:  
    "This is going to cost us jobs."  
    "This is going to make things even more expensive."  
    "This just isn't going to help my community."
2. Person B practices "looping" using these steps:
  - Listen: no interrupting, no rebuttal.
  - Reflect: "It sounds like you're worried/frustrated/concerned that \_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_ matters to you."
  - Check: "Did I get that right?"
  - (In a real conversation, after a genuine "yes," Person B could then proceed to ask curious, open questions.)
3. Swap roles and complete the same steps.

**Next meeting Oct 15, 5:30-7 pm, Community Congregational Church, Pullman**

**Contact Info:** Leonard Garrison [lgarrisonf@yahoo.com](mailto:lgarrisonf@yahoo.com), Judy Meuth [judymeuth@gmail.com](mailto:judymeuth@gmail.com),  
[Other contacts removed for privacy]

### **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