



**Pacific Northwest Center of Excellence for Clean Energy (PNCECE)  
Fall Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
November 4th 2016, 0900-1230 hrs  
1217 Mellen St, Centralia, WA**

**Clean Energy Advisory Board members:**

Pat McCarty, Chair, Tacoma Power  
Troy Nutter - Phone, PSE  
Jeremy Gall, Avista Utilities  
Daniel Kay, Lewis County PUD  
Kairie Pierce - Washington State Labor Council  
Jim Lowery, Centralia College Trustee  
M.L. Norton, Centralia City Light  
Matt Matayoshi, Lewis Economic Development Council  
Glenn M. Pierce, Energy Northwest  
Todd Currier, WSU Energy Program  
Bob Topping, RETC

**Clean Energy Advisory Board Members not in Attendance:**

Sean Murphy, Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council  
Bob Guenther, IBEW Local 77  
Jay Pickett, Northwest Territories Power Company  
Keith Gulley, Seattle City Light  
Mike Kelly, Grays Harbor College  
PJ LeCompte, Bonneville Power Administration  
Shana Peschek - Construction COE  
Micah Goo, Centralia City Light

**Additional guests:**

Alice Massara, Tacoma Power  
Alan Hardcastle, WSU Social and Economic Sciences Research Center  
Jennifer Taylor, PNCECE Consultant  
Dena Horton, SW WA Office of Senator Cantwell  
Brian Young, Washington Department of Commerce

**Education:**

Bob Mohrbacher, Centralia College  
Rulon Crawford, Centralia College  
John Steidel, Centralia College  
Barbara Hins-Turner, PNCECE  
Anthony Valterra, PNCECE  
Scott Wagemann, PNCECE  
James Hovis, PNCECE  
Louise Petruzzella, Phone, Shoreline Community College

## **9:00 - 9:15am – Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Minutes - Pat McCarty, Chair**

Introductions and Approval of minutes: Todd Currier moved to approve minutes, motion seconded by Karie Pierce, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

## **9:15 – 9:25 – Dr. Mohrbacher, Centralia College Update**

Dr. Mohrbacher introduced himself to the board and expressed his support for the PNCECE and its activities. He described positive changes going on at Centralia College, including, new faculty/staff and the new Student Commons building. Dr. Mohrbacher described his views on making Centralia College “Student Ready”. Topics included entrance exams, worker retraining, non-traditional students, improving student performance, increasing STEM students, and class standards.

## **9:25- 10:25 – College Reports**

### **Shoreline Community College, Louise Petruzzella**

Louise described the solar training program at Shoreline Community College. The program offers a certificate of proficiency, associate’s degree, entrepreneurship classes, and building science technology.

### **Bates Technical College – JBLM Power and Construction, Barbara Hins-Turner**

Barbara provided an update on the status of the Power Pathway program at Bates. She mentioned struggles with last year’s program, including math abilities and hiring difficulties. Camo2Commerce has recently encountered a funding problem with this program and has indefinitely delayed the start of the next class. The conversation included PG&E’s pullback from the next class and program focus, and the inclusion of input from Shana Peschek, Construction COE.

### **Grays Harbor College – Rulon Crawford**

Rulon Crawford presented on the status of Grays Harbor Colleges Energy Program. The major development is that Grays Harbor is no longer offering an energy program. The current 2cd year students will finish the program, but they will be the last cohort.

### **Centralia College – Rulon Crawford, John Steidel, CC, James Hovis**

Rulon Crawford presented on the status of the Centralia College Energy Program. Topics included low student enrollments, younger students the new hydro class. The hydro class is being offered fall quarter under a temporary course outline and is tentatively be offered online winter quarter to Avista apprentices. The fall class recently toured Mossyrock Dam. Rulon was very grateful for Randy Stearns and Tacoma Power for the opportunity. The conversation included synergies with the Mechatronics program at Centralia Program.

James Hovis provided an update to the Centralia College Model Hydro project. Over the summer, Centralia City Light donated time to the project in the form of a site survey. James

and Travis Kinney met with students from the Applied Physics and Engineering Club (APEC) on campus to start this year's work on the project. APEC students will work with a Professional Engineer to create official plans.

The Board discussed the value of GPI to the Centralia College Energy Program. Barbara asked for the input from the board on this issue, considering that costs are increasing with the launch of GPI+. Jeremy Gall shared that Avista recently reviewed their own use of GPI comparing it to other systems and decided to contract with GPI for employees other than apprentices. PSE manages their own GPI license for staff trainings and is happy with the service. Tacoma Power is building GPI into the design of their new apprenticeships. Barbara asked the board to consider the value of using GPI in college classes and incumbent worker training. Dan Kay, Lewis County PUD will explore GPI's offerings and report back to the board.

### **10:25-10:45 – RETC East Solar and Storage Project – Bob Topping**

Bob shared a new project that RETC East, Horn Rapids site which is owned by IBEW Local 77 is partnering on with Energy Northwest. The project is being funded by a Department of Commerce grant awarded to Energy NW. The project includes solar generation and state-of-the-art battery energy storage and plans to be operational in 2018. Brian Young, Clean Tech Sector Lead for Commerce described the unique portion of this project in the context of the clean energy fund and cited the workforce development portion of the project as promising. Bob proposed a partnership between RETC and the PNCECE to manage the training program at this facility. Colleges working with the PNCECE and RETC would benefit by gaining access to the facility, journey level trainers, and internship opportunities. Barbara agreed that this was a great opportunity to expand the PNCECE's partnership. Barbara asked for the Board's support to explore this opportunity. Karie Pierce motioned to support Bob and RETC to further define the partnership, Todd Currier seconded the motion, and the motion was carried. Pat asked Bob to report back on the progress at the next Advisory Board meeting.

### **10:45 - 11:00 – Break**

### **11:00 – 11:15 - Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2016 – Dena Horton**

Dena presented on the Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2016. In April 2016, the Senate passed a bi-partisan energy bill sponsored by Senators Cantwell and Murkowski. Dena reviewed some of the bill contents, such as technology and workforce investments, environmental protection, and national Center of Excellence model. The bill also repeals some fossil fuel subsidies, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, funds renewable energy research and building science research. Bob Topping mentioned the need to support domestic advanced manufactures from foreign completion to encourage development and research. The bill is currently in committee being revised for introduction to the House of Representatives. Dena noted that the billed may be stalled by the "lame duck" session.

**11:15 - 11:30 - Update on WISE Dept. of Labor TAACCCT Grant – Anthony Valterra, Project Mgr. & Scott Wagemann, Data Analyst**

Anthony updated the Board on the status of the WISE grant. This update included a report on the recent Department of Labor (DoL) audit. The audit went very well and the project received high praise from the auditors. The auditors were especially pleased with the partnerships built out of the PNCECE and Centers of Excellence.

Anthony also reported on a presentation he and other grant representatives gave at the National Council for Workforce Education Conference in Atlanta. Anthony also described an ongoing struggle with staffing turnover throughout the grant consortium partnership.

Scott Wagemann presented on the WISE grant data sources and data system. He described challenges with data consistency across the grant. Anthony described the complex and non-intuitive data definitions and rules under the DoL TAACCCT rules.

**11:30 - 11:45 – CoE Strategic Planning – Jennifer Taylor**

Barbara described the need for a Strategic Plan and introduced Jennifer. Jennifer outlined the Strategic planning process to date and its goals and objectives. Jennifer will be facilitating a session with PNCECE staff and partners before the end of the year. A follow up meeting will be held with some of the advisory board members early in 2017. The planning team identified includes Pat McCarty, Troy Nutter, Bob Topping, Jeremy Gall, Todd Currier, Dan Kay, Kairie Pierce, Alan Hardcastle, Bob Guenther, and Glenn Pierce.

**11:45 – 12:00 - Director's Report - Barbara Hins-Turner**

Barbara reviewed PNCECE operations, including JBLM Transition Summit, Careers in Energy Week, and the CTE Skills Showcase. 1) The JBLM summit included 300 transitioning veterans. Brian Young and Louise Petruzella moderated the session. 2) Careers in Energy Week was held for the 4<sup>th</sup> year Oct 17-21. PNCECE procured the Governor's Proclamation and Avista, Tacoma Power and Washington State Labor Council coordinated events. The total number of participants was over 1,400 with the majority of 1,200 attending the Spokane Construction Career days coordinated by Kairie Pierce and Shana Peschek. 3) The Career and Technical Ed showcase will involve 25 teams of high school and community college building tiny houses on the capital lawn in Olympia on March 27. The houses will then be used to provide transitional housing for the homeless in Seattle. The project will provide students with an opportunity to get hands-on experience while promoting career and technical education to the legislature.

Barbara also announced the dates of June 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Centralia College's new Transalta Commons. The Centers of Excellence for the Clean Energy, Construction, and Advanced Manufacturing Summit will partner this year as a WISE grant deliverable.

Barbara shared that the State Board of Community and Technical Education is conducting a Center site visit scheduled for Feb 2 2017, 9am-1pm. She asked that some board members participate. Pat McCarty, Kairie Pierce, Dan Kay, and Todd Currier agreed to attend.

**12:00pm –12:30 Good of the Order, Adjourn**

Kairie Pierce announced the U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship expansion grant recently awarded: *The Washington State Department of Labor & Industries was awarded \$2.7 million to fund **Project RAISE**, a robust effort to coordinate state agency resources, recruit new employers, and advance Registered Apprenticeship opportunities for disadvantaged populations. Project activities will include modernization of the information technology and data collection systems, and increasing the state's capacity to support apprenticeship expansion and engage stakeholders.*

Meeting Adjourned