Center of Excellence for Clean Energy
Spring Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2018, 9:00 – 11:30 am
1217 Mellen St, Centralia

Clean Energy Advisory Board Members:
Troy Nutter – Chair, Puget Sound Energy
Micah Goo - Centralia City Light
Bob Guenther - RECT
Daniel Kay - Lewis County PUD
Travis Kinney - Lewis County PUD
Kairie Pierce - Washington State Labor Council
Brian Young – Washington Department of Commerce
Jeremy Gall - Avista Utilities
Sean Bagsby – Regional Education Training Center
Brian Odell – Chelan County PUD

Clean Energy Advisory Board Members not in Attendance:
Matt Matayoshi - Lewis Economic Development Council
Sean Murphy - Pac. Mtn. Workforce Development Council
M.L. Norton - Centralia City Light
Jay Pickett – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Todd Currier – Washington State University - Energy Program
P.J. LeCompte - Bonneville Power Administration
Jim Lowery - Centralia College Trustee
Alice Massara - Tacoma Power
Glenn M. Pierce - Energy Northwest
Jackie Rae - Snohomish County PUD/IBEW 77
Bob Topping – Regional Education Training Center

Educational guests:
Alan Hardcastle - Washington State University - Energy Program
Louise Petruzella – Shoreline Community College Clean Energy Program
Rulon Crawford – Centralia College

Additional guests:
Jennifer Taylor - PNCECE Consultant
Ryan Davis – Corporation for a Skilled Workforce

Ex-Officio:
Barbara Hins-Turner - PNCECE
James Hovis - PNCECE
9:00 - 9:10am – Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Minutes – Troy Nutter, Chair

- Call to Order – Troy Called the meeting to order
- Safety Moment – Troy started the meeting with a warning about road spray. This road debris including vehicle fuel, sand, water, and salt, which can create a film on a vehicle’s windshield and impair visibility.
- Roll Call – Troy took attendance of the attendees

9:10 – 9:45am – Leadership in the Trades Project – Alan Hardcastle, WSU Energy Program

- Alan Hardcastle proposed a new project to create a Leadership Skill Profile for energy utility foreman. Alan and the Washington State University - Energy Program has accepted a contract with the PNCECE to develop this Skill Profile by June 15. Alan described the importance of foreman’s job and need for this research. He proposed a one day focus group to outline the critical work functions, key activities, knowledge and skills of the foreman’s job. Alan described existing research into similar jobs, including WISE grant funded “Leadership in the Trades”, which focused on construction foreman. The project also plans to incorporate existing leadership training from Utilities, Colleges, NWPPA, and WEI. Alan asked the board to support this project by sharing any materials they may have inform this research, and to send a qualified senior foreman to the one day skill profile discussion.
- Troy and Dan agreed on the importance of capturing the knowledge and wisdom of the outgoing senior foreman. This knowledge would be invaluable to new foreman. Bob Guenther, a former utility foreman, agreed that this training would be useful to new foreman, including navigating the management – union divide.
- Brian Odell mentioned that Chelan County PUD has created and implemented a foreman training/testing program.
- Board members/organizations agreeing to support the project include: RETC, Avista, PSE, Lewis County PUD, Centralia City Light, and Seattle City Light. Other organizations with interest include: Chelan County PUD, Energy Northwest, Clark County PUD, and BPA.

9:45 – 9:50am – RETC East Update Bob Guenther

- Bob provided an update to the board on the status of the joint IBEW 77, Energy Northwest, and RETC project near Richland, Washington. The project intends to build a 4 MW solar facility, 1 MW Energy storage, and training center on 77 acres. The Richland city council will vote on the project next week.
- Brian Young stated that the Department of Commerce now has an additional $11 million for the clean energy fund and grid modernization projects. RFP’s will be out this summer.
9:45 – 10:00am – Communication Plan, Jennifer Taylor, Taylor Consulting

- Jennifer briefly presented the first draft of the PNCECE communication plan. Jennifer described communication plan needing to work within the PNCECE’s limited staffing and resources. Working with PNCECE staff, Jennifer has updated the PNCECE website, added a clearer “about us” page and created a draft infographic that summarizes the PNCECE’s role. Jennifer is requesting feedback on the graphic and communication plan, with a completion date of June 15th.

10:00 – 10:15am – Video Project - Kairie Pierce, WSLC

- Kairie presented a project funded by the Department of Labor and Industries. The project created a series of videos to highlight occupations within Washington State. The series included a video on Chelan County PUD’s Hydro Dam Divers (shown in meeting).

10:15-10:30 – Break

10:30 – 11:00 am – Corporation for a Skilled Workforce (CSW) – Ryan Davis, CSW

- Ryan introduced the CSW is, what they do, who they work with, and his new role as President/CEO. CSW is a national non-profit, with about 20 employees. CSW works to increase competency based education and credentialing, provide assistance with strategies to drive workforce development to better meet the needs of industry, and to “move communities forward through systems change and collaboration”. Ryan also described $145 Million in “apprenticeship funds” that will soon be made available by federal government. The funds are on a tight timeline and are part of the fiscal year ending in 9/30/2018.

- Kairie Pierce stated that the WSLC will not support non-registered apprenticeships.

11:00 – 11:15 am – Avista High School Project – Jeremy Gall, Avista

- Jeremy presented a new program operated by Avista Utilities in the Spokane area, “Energy Paths, A Student Career Experience”. The program will run July 9th - August 3rd 2018 and be located at Spokane Valley Tech. This a free program offered to a small group of high school students from the area. The students will participate in a free 4-week learning experience designed to introduce students to the energy utility industry. The program will offer hands-on learning, facility tours, job shadowing, and industry experiences.

RETC Post Traumatic Growth Program – Sean Bagsby, RETC

- Sean presented a new training program offered through RETC to the board. RETC offers free trainings to veterans, families, caregivers, and others affected by Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. The training teaches that PTSD is an opportunity for growth. The
program is funded through grants from the Walmart Foundation and the Windows of Hope Foundation.

11:15 - 11:20 – Rulon Crawford – Centralia College Energy Program

- Rulon updated the board on the status of the Centralia College Energy Program (CC-EP) and the new Hydro Energy class. Enrollments in the complete CC-EP have continued their downward trend of recent years. However, an increased number of apprentices from Avista continue to enroll in the first year of the program, and apprentices from PSE have enrolled in related supplemental instruction at CC.

11:15 - 11:30 - Director’s Report - Barbara Hins-Turner

- Barbara presented an update on the Department of Labor WISE grant. The grant is now in its 15th of 16 quarters, and will end on September 30th, 2018. The current status of WISE outcomes data is available at: http://cleanenergyexcellence.org/projects/wise/wise-statistics/.

Good of the Order, Adjourn

- Troy asked the board for changes or corrections to the meeting minutes from 9-22-2017. With no changes requested, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Lunch