Members Present:
Kairie Pierce, Washington State Labor Council
Brian Young, WA Department of Commerce
Alan Hardcastle, WSU Energy Program
Todd Currier, WSU Energy Program
Jeremy Gall, Avista (Chairing for Troy)
Cecile Bamer, Wahkiakum Health and Human Services
Alice Massara, Tacoma Power
Bob Guenther, RETC
M.L. Norton, Centralia City Light
Louise Petruzella, Shoreline Community College
Dan Kay, Grays Harbor PUD

Ex Officio
John Steidel, Centralia College
William Westmoreland, Center of Excellence for Clean Energy
Jake Fay, Centralia College

Absent
Troy Nutter, Chair, Puget Sound Energy
P.J. LeCompte, Bonneville Power Administration
Jay Pickett, Corps of Engineers
Micah Goo, Centralia City Light
Brian Odell, Chelan PUD
Travis Kinney, Lewis PUD
Ben Feliz, Clark PUD
Sara Bowles, Tacoma Power
Open, Pacific Mountain WDC
Rulan Crawford, Centralia College

10:05am - Call to Order & Approval of the December 2019 minutes
   Introductions and attendance.
   The minutes were approved as written.
   The proposed Charter was discussed, and Alan Hardcastle gave important feedback the minimum number of board members. It was suggested we change the minimum to 11, with 6 forming a quorum. It was adopted with those proposed changes.

10:20am - Operations Update
   PNCECE Executive Director William Westmoreland informed the board that 2020-2021 budget was approved with a 15% reduction. State revenues will be the driver for the final determination on the budget cut. More to come on the budget in January 2021.
The COE Coordinator position has been approved by the college and has been posted internally at the college. The position will open broadly on 11/17/2020 if not filled by that time. The position is a part-time classified position with benefits.

10:35am - Centralia College Guided Pathways Update
Guest John Steidel, Centralia Instructor, introduced the Guided Pathways model and how it will impact Skilled Trades at the College. As a practice, Guided Pathways combines like programming to establish a common set of courses for a selection of degree pathways to increase efficiencies and provide additional options for the student while saving them time and money.

Beginning Fall 2021, the first year for students in Mechatronics, Welding, Energy Technology, Diesel Technology, and Electronics, Robotics & Automation will share a common course set. After the first year, students will then progress into their chosen occupation. Additionally, there are multiple successful exit points for the students - such as after the completing the first year the students will have several occupational certificates - which could boost their potential to find a job and increase their earnings.

10:55am - Website Update
The Center website has undergone a significant update. In June, the site received a much needed technical update to the foundation template. The update implemented a new mobile-first template which enables optimal viewing on mobile devices, while maintaining a great experience on a desktop platform.

As a part of the update, the sites content has been organized into three distinct audiences - Industry, Educators, and Career and Education. This audience segmentation allows the Center to curate content specific to the audience and guide visitors through the site.

The Careers section of the site has been updated to replace the Careers Matrix which was not compatible with mobile devices. The content as been tagged with and organized under four key areas - Hydroelectric, Solar, Wind and Distribution. Viewers can now see where an occupation fits within the industry. These pages have also been updated to include links to the O*Net listing, related skills standards, sample job descriptions and an occupational overview.

Other content areas updated included the About, and News & Events pages. The Program section of the site, which is a comprehensive list of all available College Programs in Washington has also been updated with 2020-2021 academic year information. The Center has planned to rework the Job Board, but feedback from today’s meeting indicated that in it is highly useful in its current form. Based upon this feedback, the Center will only give it a cosmetic update to match the rest of the site. Scheduled for December, this update will complete the Website Update project.

11:15 - Open Discussion Declining Enrollments in Energy Occupations
Feedback from the employers is that demand for skilled labor in the sector remains strong. Driven mainly from retirements, the pandemic has done little to dampen the need for new hires. Some areas of their operations have seen contractions. Most are starting to eliminate hiring freezes put in place as the pandemic ramped up, starting to hire again as operations normalize.

There wasn’t much feedback in terms of enrollments, so this discussion will continue at the Spring meeting.
11:25am - Strategic Plan

With time running short, William purposed using Survey Monkey to update the Strategic Plan. The update will be mainly around the 4 Objectives and the activities related to meeting the objectives. With a limited budget for the foreseeable future, the Center has decided to rely on posting the Plan on the COE website to save printing costs.

The survey will be out soon.