



Pacific Northwest Center of Excellence for Clean Energy

Governance Board Meeting
Washington State Labor Council 3rd Floor Conference Rm. #330
906 Columbia Street, Olympia, WA

June 20, 2012 2:30 pm – 4 pm

Diane Quincy (facilitator)
Deborah Buterbaugh, U.S. DOE
Brian Dale, WDVA
Ryan Davis, RETC
Karen DeVenaro, Seattle City Light
Mike Fort, ISU
Mike Hanson, Avista
Alan Hardcastle, WSU
Jilliene McKinstry, Gonzaga
Kairie Pierce, WSLC
Pete Saflund, Saflund Institute
Kevin Schneider, PNNL
Dennis Skarr, WDVA
Bob Topping, Chemeketa Community College
Centralia College: Marla Miller, Vicki Oakerman, Geina Studeman
PNCECE: Monica Brummer, Barbara Hins-Turner, Jamie Krause

Call to Order and Introductions, Diane Quincy, Avista Utilities

- Adoption of April 10, 2012 minutes. *Approved with no changes, Alan H./Kairie P.*

Grant Principal Investigator Update, Barbara Hins-Turner



PNCECE Model: Barbara displayed the cloud poster (left). The DOE smart grid grant is close to the end of year two. She defined the Governance Board as industry, education and labor partners who provide oversight for the management of the DOE project and ensure the project deliverables are met. She invited comments.

- *Bob Topping – There was so much emphasis on curriculum; the cloud really represents how we work; graphic easily illustrates that.*
- *Diane Quincy: There are a lot more hands-on committees and behind-the-scenes work which isn't represented.*
- *Bob T: We're really at a tipping point. People don't know where to go. People get the graphic and it's meaningful.*
- *Barbara HT: During year two, PNCECE added anchor*

universities, secured Idaho and Montana, and rolled out the Smart Grid Manufacturing Taskforce – these aren't included on the cloud poster

Project Evaluation, Pete Saflund, The Saflund Institute

Pete's Background: Pete holds an engineering degree and attended OSU community college leadership program. He has a cabin miles from the grid and has installed own power system. Pete's work experience includes: working for Harris and GE as a systems integration engineer (interface and applications work); as a college dean; as a NSF grant evaluator; and as a specialized evaluation designer.

A copy of the evaluation report was distributed to attendees and it will be added to SharePoint and the PNCECE website for those who are interested in reviewing it.

This report is ethnographic and is about people. We want to know why the Center of Excellence (COE/Center) works. He referred to the center as the *Magnetic North*

Saflund (we) used structured interviews, interviewed 17 people, and focused on four broad categories: 1) history and purpose, 2) value of COE globally, 3) value of COE specifically, 4) description of the value exchange between the subject organization and the Center.

Positive outcomes: there are 10 targeted occupations; the center provides new perspective and illuminated skills and needs in a compelling and useful way for educators and employers; write once – teach many = efficiency (every person isn't required to sit on every advisory board); there is a non-duplication of effort; everyone has value.

There is a durable set of standards, career information, and best practices

- *COE inspires relationships; develops confidence and trust; provides vision beyond immediate need; disseminates training, standards and definitions; provides threat-free and collegial environment in which to discuss problems and solutions*
- *There are two closely regulated, conservative and risk-averse entities – education and utilities – trying to bring about changes on multiple fronts; the Center is an exponent – it finds ways to facilitate changes couldn't be achieved by individual partners by themselves.*

Industry sees and appreciates the on-going need for partnership with community colleges – likelihood of reduction in company sponsored training for all but specialized or IP protection. The COE holds a diverse constituency together; has influenced programs in 24 community and technical colleges; and fosters more portable employees and investment in people.

The website is an important resource; career lattice is an important on-ramp tool; leverage to other work

- *We're not losing control but gaining partners; It is "ours" not mine and yours; Thanks to strong mature partnerships, this center has helped produce more numbers than expected.*
- *What makes the mojo – it's about the work not about ourselves.*
- *You haven't excluded; you've simply shaped.*

Ryan D.: I feel motivated for year 3 now. It defines the exponential effect.

Alan H.: Sustainability. This evaluation shows that we are useful and need to continue doing what we're doing – needs to move onto the next level.

Bob T: The work is the value. Value to stakeholders and value to sponsors there's as much value going each direction – which creates great synergy.

Jillene M. remembers the thought that “this isn't going to work – between industry and education” but it has and it's exciting.

Alan H: What are some things we need to pay attention to? Challenges?

Pete S: Look at the utility side: how do we talk to the utility partners; there weren't many systemic reasons (not enough money)... Look at website, capture Google analytics; how do people use the website; what value are they getting; tie into student outcomes; number of courses; number of people who finish courses; economic facts; value of program for region's economy.

Action: Create a subcommittee to write a proposal for the focus of the next report: **Alan, Bob, Barbara and Jamie volunteered to create a proposal. They agreed to invite Troy Nutter to participate.**

Project Manager Update, Jamie Krause

Overview of Year 3 workplans was reserved for later in the meeting when the full budget package would be presented to the Board.

Training numbers end of March 2012: target: 1,250; 2,814 actual training; new hire target 234; 127 hired as of March 31, 2012. The project is definitely on target to meet the training and placement goals.

Fiscal Report, Vicki Oakerman

Financial Update: Vicki submitted the project fiscal report through 5/30/12: the project is 22 months complete. Overall, the 3 year grant budget is 61% expended. Percent of year 2 budgets expended to date, 68%. June and July are big months with the summit and other projects that will be invoiced between now and July, so expenses will reflect an increase during these months.

Match: \$2.9 million. 97% of pledged match for year-2 has been submitted to date. Partners are meeting and exceeding in many areas. The match training that Bob T. and Jamie K. are doing really helps the partners with finding those funds. Match and expenditures need to be reported by June 30, 2012.

The project Budget Committee met on June 4 to review Year 3 subrecipient proposals and workplans. Diane Q. provided an overview of the process. Partners submitted a written response to a Request for Information (RFI) let by the PNCECE in late April 2012. Year 3 proposed subrecipient workplans and budget estimates were reviewed by project staff and recommendations were prepared for review by the Budget Committee. This year we had a host of amazing projects and opportunities presented by our sub-recipients. Some of these projects will have to wait for another time and funding source and others that more directly met the metrics of the smart grid project were moved forward. We were faced with cutting approximately \$500,000 from this year's budget requests to align with the remaining funds available.

On a staffing note, Bob T. retired from Chemeketa June 1. They pushed to get deliverables done and Chemeketa will not be actively participating in year 3. Bob will be working for the RETC this next year. Among his duties will be continued support for the smart grid Manufacturing Taskforce;

development and delivery of smart grid related training—including match training—and serving as co-chair of the Curriculum Development Subcommittee.

Budget Committee, Diane Quincy

Adoption of Year 3 Budget Recommendations. Staff has done the work to make the budgets balance with available funding. **Action:** Questions/concerns: none; Diane called for a motion to adopt staff recommendations for Year 3 subrecipient budgets. Ryan D. moved the budget recommendations be adopted as presented. Seconded Mike H., *Year 3 budgets were adopted with no further discussion.*

Upcoming meetings

Governance Board (no summer meeting) – October 16, location TBA
Careers In Energy Week, Oct. 15 - 19

Additional Comments

Deborah Buterbaugh, U.S. DOE program manager, started with 52 projects. Two dropped out. She now oversees 50 sites. This is her second site visit. The key to successful projects is relationships with industry partners. Deborah noted she was impressed by the level of partnerships and collaboration with industry and education.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.