



**Pacific Northwest Center of Excellence for Clean Energy (PNCECE)  
Spring Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
April 7th 2017, 0900-1230 hrs.  
1217 Mellen St, Centralia, WA**

**Clean Energy Advisory Board Members:**

Pat McCarty - Chair, Tacoma Power  
Alice Massara - Tacoma Power  
Troy Nutter - PSE  
Jeremy Gall - Avista Utilities  
Kairie Pierce - Washington State Labor Council  
Jim Lowery - Centralia College Trustee  
Glenn M. Pierce - Energy Northwest  
Todd Currier - WSU Energy Program  
Bob Topping - RETC  
Bob Guenther - IBEW Local 77  
PJ LeCompte - Bonneville Power Administration  
Jay Pickett - Northwest Territories Power Company  
Shana Peschek - Construction COE  
Micah Goo - Centralia City Light  
Brian Young - Washington Department of Commerce  
Jackie Rae - Snohomish County PUD/IBEW 77  
Todd Currier - WSU Energy Program  
Travis Kinney - Lewis County PUD

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

Daniel Kay - Lewis County PUD  
Keith Gulley - Seattle City Light  
M.L. Norton - Centralia City Light  
Matt Matayoshi - Lewis Economic Development Council  
Sean Murphy - Pac. Mtn. Workforce Development Council

**Additional guests:**

Alan Hardcastle, WSU Social and Economic Sciences Research Center - Phone  
Jennifer Taylor - PNCECE Consultant  
Nick McFarland - Centralia College Student  
Cecile Bamer – Construction Center of Excellence

**Ex-Officio:**

Barbara Hins-Turner - PNCECE  
Scott Wagemann - PNCECE  
James Hovis - PNCECE  
John Steidel - Centralia College

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

Introductions – Pat welcomed new members – Jackie Rae works for Snohomish County PUD/IBEW 77 and assisted with the Customer Service Representative Skill Standards. Cecile Bamer, formerly Utah Energy, and Seattle City Light, is now Outreach Coordinator for the RAISE Grant at the Construction Center of Excellence. Brian Young from the Department of Commerce, is the Clean Tech Sector Lead.

## **9:15 – 9:45 – College Reports**

- Construction Center of Excellence – RAISE Grant  
Shana Peschek described the recently awarded a Department of Labor RAISE grant, which aims to coordinate apprenticeship efforts and expand apprenticeship opportunities in Washington State. Cecile Bamer was hired as Outreach Coordinator for the grant operations. Bob Guenther asked if the Workforce Development Councils are working on the RAISE grant, and suggested that this grant be leveraged with the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council POWER grant. Kairie responded that they are aware of the grant - RAISE partners include the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee, and Labor & Industries (lead).

Shana and Kairie Pierce described the Career and Technical Education Showcase of Skills held on March 27 at the Capitol Campus coordinated by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board. Student teams of high school and college construction programs built tiny houses for a homeless encampment in Seattle. Twenty high schools from across the state and Bates Technical College competed in the event. High schools from Puyallup and Raymond took home the top prizes.

- Centralia College Hydro Project – Student Project  
Nick McFarland, Centralia College pre-engineering student presented a model hydro dam project that he has been developing with a small team of pre-engineering students, Travis Kinney, James Hovis, and a professional engineer. The model will be built on the Centralia College KNOLL. This year the student team turned rough conceptual drawings into professional level 3D computerized drawings. Nick described dam features, project challenges, and lessons learned. The team intends to continue the project next school year. Jim Lowery remarked that this project is a great continuation of a project started by previous Energy Technology students at Centralia College.
- RETC East Project Update  
Bob Topping, RETC, updated the board on the status of Horn Rapids Solar Project. The project is currently negotiating energy takeoff agreements. RETC is working with the PNCECE on developing educational programs and partnerships.

## **9:45- 12:00 – Strategic Planning – Jennifer Taylor**

Jennifer updated and discussed the development of a new Strategic Plan(see attached summary). Much of the advisory board has already met with Jennifer and Barbara in a series of focus groups. Jennifer presented the draft Strategic Plan to the Board. The Board discussed the draft Strategic Plan. Kairie Pierce requested that labor be included in the list of Center partners. The plan adopts the “Four

Core Expectations” set forth by the SBCTC, in addition to four focus areas specific to the next three years of the PNCECE. The board reviewed and provided feedback for the Four Strategic Areas of Focus. The discussion included an idea for the board to develop a thorough job description/skill standards for a COE Director and Advisory Board members. The board discussed the challenges relating to the PNCECE’s funding situation. Suggestions to address this issue included diversifying a portfolio or funding sources, requesting more funding from the state, and pursuing private funding sources such as the TransAlta Coal Transition Fund or private donors. The board discussed the possibility of the PNCECE generating its own revenue as a way of self-funding. The board also discussed the role of the PNCECE in developing high quality curriculum, skilled workforce, and quality candidates for the energy industry. Bob Guenther expressed an interest in coordinating workforce training programs in organized labor with each other. Jennifer Taylor will incorporate the feedback from the board will be incorporated into the next version of the strategic plan.

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

Barbara provided an update to the board on PNCECE activities (attached).

#### **12:20 –12:30 Good of the Order, Adjourn**

- Approval of minutes: Troy Nutter moved to approve Fall Advisory Board minutes, motion seconded by Bob Topping, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.
- Bob Guenther described a potential project to grow poplar trees in Lewis and Cowlitz counties, then to convert tree pulp to energy.
- Pat McCarty announced his retirement from Tacoma Power, effective June 30<sup>th</sup> and he will step down from being chair of the Board. The Board held a discussion on the process to choose a replacement for Pat as Chair. Barbara mentioned that Steve Milistefr, BPA served as the 1st chair and Pat McCarty, Tacoma Power has served the past few years in this leadership role. Barbara asked the board if they would like to nominate a new chair; Jim Lowery nominated Troy Nutter, PSE. Jim noted Troy's leadership and tenure at the PNCECE during the WIRED grant, the DoE Smart Grid Grant, and now the WISE TAACCCT grant boards. Pat McCarty seconded the motion and Kairie Pierce endorsed him on behalf of labor. Pat called for a vote which carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 12:30



## Pacific Northwest Center of Excellence for Clean Energy Strategic Plan 2017 - 2020

### Vision

Washington will be viewed as a national model in developing partnerships among business, industry, labor and education for the purpose of enhancing economic and workforce development initiatives to meet the current and future needs of the industries critical to the state's economic vitality.

### Mission

Our mission is to support the transition to a cleaner energy future through the development of a highly skilled workforce that meets the needs of industry.

### Core Expectations

**Economic Development Focus:** Serve as partners with various state and local agencies, regional, national, and global organizations to support economic vitality and competitiveness in Washington's driver industries

**Industry Sector Strategy Focus:** Collaboratively build, expand and leverage industry, labor and community and technical college partnerships to support and promote responsive, rigorous, and relevant workforce education and training.

**Education, Innovation and Efficiency Focus:** Leverage resources and partnerships to create efficiencies and support development of curriculum and innovative delivery of educational strategies to build a diverse and competitive workforce.

**Workforce Supply/Demand Focus:** Research, analyze and disseminate information related to training capacity, skill gaps, trends, and best practices within each industry sector to support a viable new and incumbent workforce.

### **Objective 1. *Effectively communicate the value of the PNCECE***

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Summary: Develop a Communication Plan to share the mission and value of the PNCECE with a wider audience.

- Address communication plans for each year of the strategic plan.
- Include a newsletter and/or blog listing progress on goals, grants, stories about graduates and other PNCECE news to share with industry, stakeholders and potential sponsors. Actively seek to expand the audience.
- Include multiple methods to communicate the mission of the PNCECE.
- Include a portfolio of strategic initiatives designed to attract resources to the PNCECE.
- Include methods to expand outreach: Inform college programs what the PNCECE and Centralia college can offer.

### **Objective 2. *Implement effective succession planning***

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Summary: Expand and diversify relationships that will ensure the future continuity of the PNCECE and its Advisory Board.

- Work with College Admin., Advisory Board and partner colleges on a succession plan for the Exec. Director (ED).
- Ensure succession of the Advisory Board. Expect Board members to designate an alternate within their organization.
- Clearly identify roles of the ED, Advisory Board and Advisory Board Members. Look for opportunities to distribute portions of those roles to others (program participants, industry, labor).
- Expand relationships so they are not ED-dependent. Include Advisory Board members, industry, labor, collaborators, other colleges, and administration.

### **Objective 3. *Ensure long term funding viability***

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Summary: Diversify funding to ensure the stability and success of the PNCECE in the future.

- Identify industry needs and potential grant or foundation opportunities and prepare a crosswalk between them.

- Develop and document a system that includes scanning, prioritizing and pursuing diversified funding that aligns with our mission.
- Explore a donor base of unobligated funds and alternative funds.

**Objective 4. *Develop a highly skilled workforce***

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Summary: Provide effective industry-recognized curriculum to develop candidates for the energy industry.

- Develop methods to identify and communicate available candidates to potential industry end users. Incorporate this information into a newsletter and/or blog and the website (see Objective 1).
- Build the student base. Attract the right students.
- Expand PNCECE core resources for serving the student and industry base.
- Bridge the gap between industry, education and labor.
- Develop an industry sector strategy. How will the PNCECE stay ahead of the constantly changing needs of industry?
- Develop a plan for 2-year engineering students to go on to Bachelor's degree programs.

## Director's Report – April 7 Advisory Board Meeting

### **SBCTC Center of Excellence Site Visit, Feb 2, Center of Excellence**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU to those that participated in the Center of Excellence site visit – Kairie Pierce, Todd Currier, Alice Massara, Micah Goo, Bob Topping and Travis Kinney**

The biennial Center of Excellence (COE) site visit included a team of 3 representatives from SBCTC, Pierce College VPI, Bates Technical College Associate VP, and Lower Columbia College Mgr Career Services. Others in attendance included Dr. Mohrbacher, John Martens, COE and WISE grant staff, and COE Advisory Following a presentation by Barbara Hins-Turner, Anthony Valterra and Scott Wagemann the group was divided into 3 groups for Q&A and discussion. The results included excellent comments on the strength of the advisory board, COE strategic planning process, and grant work.

### **Hiring for Hydro, Feb 22, Portland, Oregon**

Barbara Hins-Turner, Rulon Crawford, John Steidel, James Hovis and Anthony Valterra attended the first Hiring for Hydro event sponsored by the Hydro Research Foundation. The Center of Excellence coordinated attendance for Centralia College Energy Technology and Walla Walla Community College Power Operations students and faculty. Seven Centralia College Energy Tech students attended and Wayne McCray, (2<sup>nd</sup> year student) was honored with an achievement award which included \$250 funded by the Hydro Foundation. **The conference provided 45 students from ten colleges in the Pacific Northwest the opportunity to participate in an educational workshop about careers in hydropower and then a special recruiting session.** The event gave students a chance to learn more about the industry and to make valuable contacts in the hydro power industry.

### **CyberWatch West Visiting Committee, California State University San Bernardino Campus, March 13-15**

Barbara Hins-Turner served on the Visiting Committee for Whatcom Community College's NSF CyberWatch West (CWW) Site Visit for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year. Other committee members included **Steven Parker**, President, Energy Sector Security Consortium, **Diane G. Miller**, Director, InfoSec Operations & Cyber Initiatives, Northrop Grumman, **John Sands**, Principal Investigator, National Center for Systems Security and Information Assurance (CSSIA) – Acting Chair, and **Michele Robinson**, Program Manager, California Department of Technology. The project was assessed on its achievements in expanding the CWW partnership to community colleges in 14 western states. The project has made great strides over the past year and the committee noted they are well positioned to become a nationally recognized CyberWatch organization.

### **June 1 and June 2 – 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Energy and Construction Best Practices Summit, TransAlta Commons**

Planning efforts are continuing on the 12th Annual Energy & Construction Best Practices Summit, scheduled for June 1-2, at the TransAlta Commons building. The theme for this year's summit is "Solutions for a Multi-Generational Workforce" featuring Dr. Mark Taylor, an award-winning speaker recognized internationally as an educator, expert, and consultant on the forefront of transformations in educational practice and workplace management. Chris Reykdal, Superintendent for Office of Public Instruction, Dinner Keynote - Day 2 will feature a focus on partnerships in apprenticeship programs for the energy and construction industries.

More information and Registration link can be found at: [http://cleanenergyexcellence.org/summit/Cleaning\\_House\\_Take\\_a\\_publication!!!!](http://cleanenergyexcellence.org/summit/Cleaning_House_Take_a_publication!!!!)