



**Greenhouse Gas Energy Conservation Team  
Meeting Minutes  
April 14, 2011, 12:00 - 2:00 pm  
City Council Chambers, 140 W. Pine**

**Members:** Ben Schmidt, Chair, Brian Kerns, Dan Daily, John Freer, Alexander Sievers, Katie George, Julie Osborn

**Members Absent:** Owen Weber, Ross Keogh

**Others Present:** Solomon Martin, Lea Bossler, Bob Giordano, Chase Jones, Amy Gordon

**Facilitators:** Susan Anderson (Sustainable Business Council), Gary Bakke (Chamber of Commerce)

**I. Announcements:**

Chase Jones, Office of Planning & Grants stated Amy Gordon is a new member on the Energy Core team and she will be working with members from the GGEC and the Mayors Climate Change & Sustainability Advisory committee. The goal is to draft a municipal climate action plan for the City of Missoula.

Amy Gordon said she started her position on Monday, and at the same time she will continue her education in Energy Technology and Organizational Communications.

Ben Schmidt mentioned if any GGEC members are interested in participating on the team; contact Ms. Gordon in OPG as she will be coordinating the committee. There is not an application process and it will not be in a formal setting.

Brian Kerns mentioned Earth Day and his participation through previous years. He noted there is not enough time to plan an event for this year, but there will be more opportunities in the future to participate in the scheduled events.

**II. Public comments on items not listed on the agenda:**

None

**III. Approve meeting minutes:**

The Minutes for March 10, 2011 were passed unanimously.

**IV. Administrative:**

**A. Team Coordination Efforts & Operational Framework with other Groups**

Mr. Schmidt noted the Mayor requests the GGEC team work with Amy Gordon on projects. The City Council asked the GGEC team to create a white paper to help educate residents on how to install portable solar panels on their homes. There are tax rebates available and they would like them posted on the City website for easy access.

**V. Non Action Items:**

**A. Mullan and Reserve Street Presentation**

Bob Giordano stated he has been tracking the Cities vehicle accident reports and noted the City reports approximately 2500 accidents per year. There are eight accidents per day, but majority of them are fender benders and hit & runs. There is one injury per day and a severe injury every other day with a couple of fatalities per year. He is concerned for safety and reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions.

Mr. Giordano presented a powerpoint presentation regarding the Reserve St. & Mullan Rd. intersection, and he discussed the improvements that are scheduled for this summer. He mentioned a trail system could run from the Reserve St. Bridge, along the river to Russell St., to help reduce traffic congestion.

Portland Oregon has provided areas called "Greenway Streets" and their purpose is to block off sections in residential areas for non motorized transportation. They do not restrict access to people's homes and they seem to work well. This could be an option for Missoula to consider.

The roundabout at Higgins & Beckwith reported two accidents since it was installed, and he discussed the advantages of roundabouts.

**B. University of Montana Student Intern Guidance**

Mr. Schmidt stated the City Council is interested in the LED street lighting project. Mr. Kerns discussed the intern's progress, and Mr. Schmidt discussed a pilot project.

**VI. Action Items:**

**A. Grey Water Presentation - To reduce water flow to the Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Lea Bossler an UM student presented a powerpoint presentation regarding greywater. Greywater is not blackwater and does not come from the sewage waste system or kitchen sink waste water. She discussed a household water usage chart and the percentages of an average household water usage.

Solomon Martin, UM student mentioned the State legislature requires the municipalities create guidelines to allow greywater in their communities. He showed a powerpoint presentation and discussed the operation of a greywater system. He mentioned the Missoula Federal Credit Union has installed a unit, but information is not available at this time.

He said grey water systems have potential to contaminate ground water and soil if not used properly. The rule is to use bio-degradable soaps and detergents and be aware of what is being poured down the sinks such as bleach and other bio-hazards.

Grey water cannot be stored for more than 24 hours or it will grow biological contaminants.

Grey water cannot be used for agricultural use and food crop including fruit trees. It is intended to water flowers and lawn care from May through September. He mentioned there is an on-going debate regarding fruit trees, but to date, greywater is not allowed to irrigate fruit crops.

There is a City/County Health Board meeting on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the proposed changes to Regulation #1 and adopt the Alternative Systems manual for grey water usage in Missoula County. He asked the GGEC for support to help pass the vote.

Mr.Schmidt moved to support the City/County to adopt an ordinance and allow the use of grey water for irrigation or land purposes.

Jill Albin, Clark Fork Coalition Communications Manager mentioned the legislature passed a bill to create tax abatement for grey water systems and it will decrease the home appraisal value for taxes.

The team discussed the language in the motion.

Mr.Schmidt moved to support the City/County to adopt the grey water ordinance.  
John Freer seconded the motion.  
The motion passed unanimously.

B. Green Power Missoula Program Changes

The team discussed changing the current contract terms.

Mr. Kerns moved to resolve and allow changes in the existing contract with Sterling Planet to change the commission's percentage from 20% of net profits to 5% of gross revenue.

Mr. Schmidt seconded the motion.  
The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kelly Elam*

Kelly Elam  
City Clerk Office