

Jefferson County Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting
June 12, 2019 • 4:00 p.m.
Fye Griffin Conference Room, Jefferson County Courts & Admin Building

Jeff Wong, Chair, call meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Sustainability Members:

Rachel Emmer, Jeff Wong, Alex Pray, Erich Harris, Kimberly*

*Members attended via phone

Other attendees:

Jabez Meulemans, Jefferson County Sustainability Coordinator

Leslie Dehlkemper, Jefferson County Commissioner

Steve Snyder, Jefferson County Legal

Casey Tighe, Jefferson County Commissioner

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Approval of Minutes - May 2019

Quorum was not met; minutes will be approved at the July meeting

Introduction with Commissioner Dahlkemper

Commissioner Dahlkemper provided her background and interests in sustainability at large. The sustainability commission provided an overview of their roles, responsibilities, and areas of interest within the county. This started with an overview of recent projects with partners in energy (PIE), general community outreach, and involvement with Jabez and JeffCo facilities. Commissioner Dahlkemper along with Commissioner Tighe and Steve Snyder were present at the rest of the meeting to provide perspective and feedback on ongoing sustainability commission work.

PIE MOU renewal

Jabez has been working on a draft MOU for renewal/extension with Xcel Energy's PIE program. The new MOU will closely mirror the focus areas, expected funding, and timeline of the original MOU. The expectation is \$3k over 18 months that includes support from Brendle Group.

The county (Steve Snyder) and Xcel Energy have both provided feedback on the draft version. The next step is to brief the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and receive formal approval to execute. It was determined that this briefing could be delegated to county staff, likely Deborah Churchill or Jabez. Jeff and Jabez to coordinate on direction forward to ensure the MOU is approved in a timely manner. Jabez has also received 400 energy conservation kits from Xcel to distribute to JeffCo residence. These will be distributed at future events.

2018 Summary of Activities

Frank has provided the draft discussed at the last meeting to Alex. Alex will share on google drive to the

rest of the commission to receive comments before this document is finalized. Sydney is working to create infographics to provide a more visually appealing version of this document.

Communication Plan and Sustainability Tips

Kimberly submitted the first sustainability tip to Deborah to be added to the website on June 11th. This tip has already been added to the sustainability commission website. It will be included in the June edition of Engage JeffCo. Kimberly and Alex are working on the communication plan including an outreach calendar. A backlog of sustainability tips will be created to be included in Engage JeffCo on a monthly basis.

WebEx Meeting Proposal

Steve Snyder provided input from a legal perspective on the proposed policy for remote meeting participation. There are no county policies that the proposal would be in conflict with and it doesn't conflict with open meetings. From a practical side there is concern that this will hurt communication; there is some language in Robert's rules that may provide guidance.

Additional questions were brought up outside of the original proposal's scope including the following: Should this only be for volunteer boards and commissions or all within the county, does recording the meeting provide value to the public, should there be an option for the public to call in.

The consensus was reached that additional testing would be needed with multiple remote members to determine the burden and practicality.

Treasurer on Funds Allocation

Erich started a discussion of how the funds provided by the county to the commission would be allocated. He will be coordinating with Deborah about the logistics of retrieving funds. It was determined that the money would be best spent to support events put on by the commission and marketing materials for commission events and initiatives. On a monthly basis Erich will provide an update and an opportunity to discuss the use of funds in the coming months

Annual Sustainability Award

Erich overviewed the idea of sustainability award(s) for the county commissioners present. Erich has developed a draft of the criteria for the awards that he will be providing to Alex to share with the whole commission. Erich and other interested members would be tasked to review submissions and come up with 1 county staff/employee/department award winner and 2-3 community citizen/business award winner.

Commissioner Tighe mentioned that the county has department recognitions for various things, but nothing on sustainability and nothing on the employee level. Jabez could be tapped to review county employee for nominations. The announcement of the county award(s) could be part of a larger BCC program or integrated into the HR employee appreciation that takes place in August.

Energy Resource Conservation Policy Update

Rachel found that the existing policy was written in 2008 by Wade Yates (now with facilities). In looking into a basis of an update Rachel has reached out to SWEEP and Conservation Colorado. Moving

forward it may make sense to align this policy with broader state level goals especially with several new pieces of legislation being passed at a state level. Additionally the existing policy is intended to be internal for county use. It was proposed that this policy or a similar policy could be outward facing. The next step in exploring could be to find comparable counties and determine if multiple policies would be appropriate. Jabez is involved in some of these conversations on a municipal level.

Waste Management and Benchmarking

With Syndey Hamilton not present, there was only a brief discussion of the work and difficulties that have already been found in quantifying waste in the county. It was mentioned that Representative Cutter is involved in some Zero Waste initiatives and may be a valuable resource and/or ally in these efforts

Residential Outreach Programs

Jeff has continued to reach out to contacts from the PIE wrap up including CSU Extension and Planning and Zoning. There is interest in long term water planning from P&Z and changes to the comprehensive plan. It is not yet clear what the sustainability commission's role would be, but this will continue to be explored

Next Meeting on July 10th, 2019

Meeting adjourned 5:35 p.m.