

MINUTES FOR THE CLIMATE POLICY COMMISSION

November 14, 2019 4 to 6 p.m.

Siskiyou Room, 51 Winburn Way

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tonya Graham at 4:02 p.m. Commissioners Rick Barth, Julian Bell, Zander Huston, Ray Mallette, Gary Shaff, Talia Shea, and Les Stone in addition to Staff Liaisons Stu Green and Adam Hanks were present. Commissioner Christopher Brown was absent.

2. Consent Agenda

2.1. October 10, 2019 Minutes

Bell/Barth moved to approve the minutes as written. Further discussion: none. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Announcements

3.1. Next Meeting: December 12, 2019

Graham announced the next regular scheduled meeting on December 12, 2019.

3.2. Other Announcements from Commissioners

Bell informed the Commission that the International Energy Agency (IEA) released a report a few days ago.

4. Public Forum

Huelz Gutcheon, Ashland, OR – would like to see a climate emergency declared, no new natural gas connections, an electric shuttle within Ashland, a broadcast of electric and gas usage to residents so they can see what is being used in real time. He would also like to see infrared cameras available for the Council to monitor their own houses.

James McGinnis, Ashland, OR – is the chair of the Conservation and Climate Outreach Commission (CCOC). He announced that the CCOC passed a motion last night at their meeting to ask the Council to look into declaring a climate emergency for Ashland.

Marion Moore, Ashland, OR – is the co-chair of the CCOC and has been working on outreach to the community about the Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP). She handed out Climate Action cards (see attached) that have been approved by CCOC. Moore also spoke to declaring a climate emergency, which would mean that climate action would be a priority and budget spending and cuts would reflect that.

Mallette announced that the electric vehicle (EV) charge is up and running at Mount Ashland.

5. Reports/Presentations

Green announced that the Electric Department had previously purchased trucks with all electric bucket components. This will prevent the truck idling while parked and the bucket is operating.

6. Old Business

6.1. Election of Vice Chair

Mallette nominated Barth to serve as Vice Chair as he has a background with CEAP and is a fellow engineer. Barth accepted the nomination. Mallette/Stone moved/seconded to have Barth as Vice Chair. Further discussion: none. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

6.2. Schedule and Access Points of City Master Plans

Commissioners viewed the document outlining the master plans and their schedule for updating. Discussion surrounded:

- The need for the Electric Department to have a master plan, which would include policy items;
- Four master plans are coming for review in the 2019/2021 biennium (Stormwater, Transportation System, Wastewater Collection System, and Talent, Ashland, Phoenix Intertie (TAP));
- Housing element of the Comprehensive Plan being recently updated and its CEAP incorporation;
- Possible input on plans (Wastewater Plant Facilities Assessment and Water Master Plan) which are completed, but awaiting Council approval;
- Update on the solar allowance for the Water Treatment Plant being brought to Council on November 19; and
- Emergency preparedness for the City's utilities.

Barth requested any drafts that staff is working on for the upcoming plans. Hanks stated that they might be able to create a more detailed schedule, but the current plans will be the place to start with the review.

6.3. Review of Priority List

- Completing Prioritization of Work Tasks for next 12 months

Graham presented a prioritization spreadsheet created by Hanks (see attached). She would like to see the Commission pick out what items could go to Council in January without a lot of research needed by the Commission. Items all Commissioners were in support of moving to Council included:

- Direct staff to start a Comprehensive Plan for the Municipal Electric Utility (this could come back to the Commission for review once a draft is completed, but the Commission needs to further discuss with staff its involvement with the Electric Utility Comprehensive Plan);
- Incorporate CEAP into all plan updates at the City;
- Require Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions measurements and considerations in all City Capital Improvement Projects (CIP);
- Encourage/require evaluation of climate impacts in all relevant Council/Commission/Ad Hoc committee work and decisions; and
- Implement efficiency recommendations from the City facilities water audit and implement energy efficiency efforts throughout City facilities and vehicle fleet.

Discussion also surrounded starting the development of a plan to eliminate natural gas use in Ashland in five years by asking Council to place a moratorium on new natural gas hook ups. After discussion about possible research and outreach to stakeholders needed the Commission decided to wait and work on it internally first.

6.4. Commission Organization: How shall we organize ourselves in order to complete the prioritized actions?

Three groups were formed:

1. Utilities (including energy switching programs and incentives)

Members: Barth (as organizer), Mallette, Shea, and Stone

2. Built Environment (including transportation and energy switching programs and incentives)

Members: Bell (as organizer), Brown (nominated by Green), Graham, Shaff

3. Administrative

Members: Barth, Graham (as organizer), Huston, and Mallette

Organizers are in charge of coordinating meeting times and places.

7. New Business

7.1. Email Contact Form

An update about how the public can contact the Commission via a form on the website was given.

8. Wrap Up

8.1. Items to be added to next agenda

Green gave a quick update that the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is holding a vote on Energy Code changes. The City has some members of the International Code Council (ICC) who will be voting. These votes help the ICC give a recommendation to the State of Oregon who can decide to adopt those codes.

Graham would like to see all the working groups meet at least once between now and the December meeting. She would also like to see the groups have a prioritized list for the December meeting.

Chair Graham adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Taylor, Executive Assistant

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**for Individuals
to Mitigate/
Adapt to**

**CLIMATE
CHANGE**

**ONE TIME
ACTIONS**

Prepared by

Conservation & Climate Outreach Commission

- **Be Prepared**—for emergencies.
- **Electrify**—vehicles, HVAC systems, water heaters, dryers, ranges. Natural gas is a fossil fuel, stop using it.
- **Find Energy Star**—certified products.
- **Stop or Cut Back on Airline Flights.**
- **Upgrade**—refrigerators (after 10 years of use), HVAC systems, washing machine (front loaders more efficient).
- **Install Solar Panels**—or participate in community solar via Virtual Net Metering (ashland.or.us/vnm)
- **Install LED Light Bulbs.**
- **Have an Energy Audit**—of your home to see if weather-stripping and insulation are adequate; install, repair or replace as needed. Go to ashland.or.us/energyprograms for audit information.
- **Switch** to electric or manual landscaping tools.
- **Install Low-Flow**—water valves for showers and other water faucets; pick up a free set at Public Works Department, 51 Winburn Way.
- **Have a Water Conservation Audit**—and make suggested changes. Go to ashlandsaveswater.org for suggestions and tips.
- **Collect and Use Rainwater**—for landscape watering.
- **Install Double-Pane Windows.**
- **Install Blinds or Drapes**—to insulate windows.
- **Plant More Trees.**

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**for Individuals
to Mitigate/
Adapt to**

**CLIMATE
CHANGE**

**DAILY
ACTIONS**

Prepared by

Conservation & Climate Outreach Commission

- **Drive Less**—stay home, walk, bike, ride the bus, and/or ride share.
- **Avoid Idling**—cut engine after 10 seconds and drive smoothly at lower speeds to reduce fuel use.
- **Share, Repair and Mend**—rather than buy.
- **Use Less**—like a LOT less stuff.
- **Support Local**—both made & sourced products; search for local farms and grower's markets.
- **Find Used**—products.
- **Look for High Quality**—durable products that last longer.
- **Minimize Plastic**—including any packaging.
- **Adjust the Thermostat**—to 67° F for heating, 76° F for cooling.
- **Eat Less Meat and Dairy Products.**
- **Eat Foods in Season.**
- **Compost**—food scraps and yard trimmings
- **Laundry**—stop or decrease use of a dryer (line dry); use cold water.
- **Lower the Temperature Setting**—on the hot water heater.
- **Stop Using Single Use Plastic Products**—such as water bottles, soda cups, shopping bags, etc.
- **Wash and Re-Use Plastic Bags**—if you feel you need to use them.
- **Select Recycled Paper Products**—tissue, towels, printer paper, etc.
- **Opt Out of Catalogs**—check out catalogchoice.com.
- **Opt In**—to paperless billing.
- **Ask for No Receipt**—decline receipts or choose paperless options.
- **TALK TO OTHERS**—What are you doing? What needs to be done?

Work Group Category Planning		Topic Area	Related CEAP #	Objective/ Outcome	CPAC Deadline	Other Commissions	External Stakeholders
1	Comprehensive plan for the Municipal Electric Utility	Energy	BE 1-1	Plan adoption by Council	Summer 2020		
2	Development of a plan to eliminate natural gas use in Ashland in five years	Energy	BE 1-2	Resolution		Planning	SOU, ASD, Business, Chamber
3	Establish specific goal for bicycle mode share and modify the existing transportation system to ensure that bicycle network is suitable for use by all ages and abilities	Transportation	ULT 2-1	TSP content	Spring 2021	Planning, Transportation	
4	Incorporate CEAP into all plan updates at the City	Education	CC 3-2	Recommendation to Council		Planning, Transportation, Wildfire, AWAC	
5	Require GHG emissions measurements and considerations in all City Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)	City Process		Resolution	Fall 2020		

Work Group Category Policy		Topic Area	Related CEAP #	Objective/ Outcome	CPAC Deadline	Other Commissions	External Stakeholders
1	Develop New Construction Policies	Energy	BE 2-1	Resolutions, Program updates		Planning	
2	Ban gas (two stroke) lawn/landscape maintenance equipment (exclude chain saws)	Energy	BE 1-2	Resolution			SOU, ASD, Business
3	Develop Funding Policies for CEAP utilization/implementation	Budget		Ord/Res/Budget			
4	Support renewable energy and efficiency measures in City CIP	Energy	BE 1-4	CIP/Budget			
5	Encourage/require evaluation of climate impacts in all relevant Council/Commission/Ad Hoc committee work and decisions	City Process	CC 3-3	Recommendation to Council		All	
6	Put pressure on supply chains to become decarbonized	Consumption	CM 1-1	???			
7	Explore water conservation improvements	Water	NS 3-2	Resolutions, Program updates		AWAC	

Work Group Category Program		Topic Area	Related CEAP #	Objective/ Outcome	CPAC Deadline	Other Commissions	External Stakeholders
1	Expand and revise electrification/renewable energy incentives	Energy	BE 1-2, 1-3, 2-1, 2-3, 2-4	Resolutions, Program updates			
2	Creation and defined uses for customer voluntary electric rate tier	Energy	BE 1-3	Resolution	Spring 2020		
3	Develop Climate Adaptation loan program for existing buildings	Energy/Fire	BE 2-1	Program, budget		Wildfire	
4	Require Building energy performance score program for existing buildings	Energy	BE 2-2	Resolution			
5	Incentivize extreme temperature tolerance in buildings to transform buildings to be better suited for increased temperatures in a way that targets those who will be impacted most by temperature increases	Energy	BE 5-1	Resolution?			
6	Develop incentives for the purchase of both new and used bicycles (including e-bikes)	Transportation	ULT 2-1	Program, budget			
7	Implement efficiency recommendations from the City facilities water audit and implement energy efficiency efforts throughout City facilities and vehicle fleet	Energy, Water, Transportation - City Only	NS 3-2, BE 3-1, ULT 5-2	Budget			