

Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board - Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 10, 2025

City Council Briefing Center

Meeting called to order at 2 PM by Brian Henning

Public Comment: Citizens are invited to address the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board on any topic not on the agenda. 3 Minutes each.

- None

Attendance:

- Board Members Present: Brian Henning, Kathryn Alexander, Bob Lutz, Larry Luton, Happy Avery, Elyse Hochstadt, Kerry Brooks, Kevin Fagan, Lea Molina, Hala Zahalqa
- Board Members Not Present: Kit Parker, Amanda Parrish
- *Quorum Present:* Yes
- Staff Members Present: Jon Snyder, Tirrell Black, Emily King, Maren Murphy, Logan Callen, Lance Dahl, Elizabeth Schoedel, KayCee Downey, Nicole White, Sarah Sirott, Marcia Davis, Chris Averyt, Angie McCall, Kelly Thomas, Colin Quinn-Hurst, Kirstin Davis

Minutes: Minutes from 3/13/2025 approved unanimously as amended.

Briefing Session:

- **Chair Report** - Brian Henning
 - Brian had nothing to report.
- **Secretary Report** - Jon Snyder
 - Jon had a few things to report.
 - First, Jon discussed the membership of the board. Unfortunately, Doctor Matt Hollon has a conflict with the meeting time due to his clinic schedule that we were unable to resolve. He has stepped down from the board. With that, we have three vacancies. The goal had been to get a youth member on the board, and Jon is glad to say that we've succeeded with that. This week we submitted two new members to Council to go through their process. The first is Ryan Arnold who comes to us from Avista Corporation. He has a very interesting background in sustainability work. The second is Claire Cooney, who is a student at Gonzaga, and will be fulfilling our first youth member role on the board. Their next steps will be to do an interview with City Council, and they will then be voted on, then they will be joining us here. We still have one open slot, but Jon's intention is to keep that slot open probably through the rest of this year while we're still going through the climate planning process.
 - Another thing Jon wanted to talk about was that board member Bob Lutz had some interesting questions about our water contract with Airway Heights. Jon wanted to provide some information on that. The City has had a water-providing relationship with Airway Heights since the 80s, and that changed a bit with the PFAS issues in 2017. Our 2018 water supply agreement has the ability to have a new relationship with Airway Heights and has been extended multiple times. In February 2024, the Spokane City Council approved an amendment to the agreement for a small amount of additional water associated on a buy in charge to help them with their water issue. At the time we were able to expand the agreement from about 14 hundred gallons a minute up to a total of about 46 hundred gallons a minute. We're not expecting to reach those levels for maybe six to eight years, but it added some new capacity for them, understanding the constraints that they were under from the PFAS issues. Jon wanted to present this during the secretary's report just to give an example

that if issues like this come up and you feel it would be helpful to your work on this board for certain pieces of information, Jon will try to get that information and can provide it during his reports, or it can be included in the packet. These items can also be future presentations to the board. If you have questions about different city services related to sustainability, we don't always have to have a full-blown agenda item, but Jon can try to get you that information.

- Lastly, we have some time constraints for our climate work regarding the comprehensive plan. This may require the board to do a mid-May meeting. Maren Murphy spoke to this - the regular May CRSB meeting is a little too early to bring results for the climate risk and vulnerability assessment. We're just finishing up our workshops and focus groups, and we want to make sure we can integrate that feedback from the lived experience as well as we'll be going through our internal staff review. However, the June 12th meeting is a little bit late. Our grant materials for phase one are due to the Department of Commerce on June 15th, which means there would be limited opportunity for feedback. So, the request is to consider a virtual meeting, potentially on May 22nd, which would help the team to get through their process and would get a draft to the board for review. The team could come back in June as well and have a final discussion before everything is submitted to Commerce. Materials for review would be sent out about a week in advance. This would be an optional online meeting on May 22nd beginning at 3:15pm and ending at 4:45pm. Look out for the calendar invite for that meeting. If people are unable to attend, Jon will accept any written feedback and can pass that along.

Current Agenda: The current agenda was approved.

Informational, Discussion and/or Action Items:

- Climate Planning Update
 - Presentation provided by: Maren Murphy, Planning
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
- GHG Emissions Inventory Reporting
 - Presentation provided by staff member: Logan Callen, Public Works
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
- Wild Urban Interface
 - Presentation provided by staff member: Lance Dahl, Deputy Chief Spokane Fire
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.
- Sustainability Action Plan, Continuing Discussion
 - Presentation provided by staff member: Jon Snyder, Secretary
 - Questions asked and answered.
 - Discussion ensued.

Motion (on the table from March meeting)

 - *I [Larry Luton] move that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (CRSB) empanel a standing Sustainability Action Plan Committee with the charge to develop climate and sustainability action recommendations for consideration by the CRSB.* Seconded by Elyse Hochstadt. Deliberation ensued.
 - *Kathryn Alexander motioned to amend the motion to change committee to workgroup.* Seconded by Elyse Hochstadt. The motion passes unanimously, 9-0-0.
 - *Kerry Brooks offered a friendly amendment to strike the word "standing" from the initial motion.* Accepted by Larry Luton.

- *Elyse Hochstadt motioned to amend the motion to say: The Chair and Vice chair of the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board (CRSB) empanel a Sustainability Action Plan Workgroup with the charge to consider the Sustainability Action Plan and the past work of the Sustainability Action Subcommittee Steering Committee in order to develop climate and sustainability action recommendations for consideration by the CRSB. Seconded by Kathryn Alexander.*

The motion passes unanimously, 9-0-0.

The amended motion passes unanimously, 9-0-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:44 PM.

Next regularly scheduled Climate Resilience and Sustainability Board Meeting is on Thursday, May 8, 2025.