

Energy Resources Council Meeting (ERC)

Minutes

August 21, 2015

Energy Innovation Center

7:30 a.m. – noon

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Chairman Paul Lang.

ATTENDANCE:

ERC Members Present

Paul Lang, Sen. Jim Anderson (Natrona), Carl Bauer, Sen. Eli Bebout (via phone), Tom Botts, Rep. Tom Lockhart, Indy Burke, Dave True and Jeane Hull

ERC Members Absent

Dick McGinity, Cindy Crane, Dave Emery and Rob Wallace

SER Staff in Attendance

Mark Northam, Mary Byrnes, Diana Hulme, Don Roth, Rob Hurless, Abby Scott, Trish Steger, Catherine Harris, Richard Horner, Pam Henderson, Emma Jane Alexander and Rachel Ferrell

Others Attending

Chris Boswell, Brett Befus, Michael Pishko, Kipp Coddington, Wyoming State Representative Jim Blackburn and Judy Blackburn, Wendy Lowe

MEETING ITEMS BY DETAIL:

Approval of Agenda

Action: A motion was made by Rep. Lockhart to accept the agenda as presented and seconded by Mr. Bauer. Motion passed without objection.

Approval of March 2015 Minutes

Action: A motion was made by Rep. Lockhart to accept the agenda as presented and seconded by Ms. Hull. Motion passed without objection.

SER Personnel/Organization Update

Summary: Dr. Northam introduced new staff members: Kipp Coddington, Director of Carbon Management Institute, Steve Carpenter, Director of Enhanced Oil Recovery, Richard Horner, Deputy Director of Emerging Projects and Technology. He also announced Rob Hurless would be transferring from the School of Energy (SER) to Enhanced Oil Recovery and become the EOR Business Development Director. Cath Harris, Executive Business Manager has resigned and Rachel Ferrell, SER accountant, has been promoted to business manager and will assume the responsibilities vacated by the former executive business manager.

DIVISION UPDATES

Academic

Summary: Dr. Roth informed the board a new reporting mechanism, the Student Dashboard, has been developed to track student statistics for the SER. A copy of the dashboard was made available to the council. Dr. Roth and Student Advisor, Pam Henderson reported 90% placement for FY15 graduates. 112 scholarships have been provided. 41.8% of SER students carry a GPA equal to or greater than 3.0 and 29.7 are on the honor roll. Dr. Roth provided a written report on the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES). (Report available upon request)

Research

Summary: The draft annual report of the In-Situ Recovery of Uranium Research Program and the Advanced Coal Technology Task Force has been submitted to The Joint Minerals, Business, and Economic Development Interim Committee. Copies were provided to the ERC. There is less than one year to complete the research for Rare Earth Elements research program as the deadline is June 30, 2016. To date the \$250,000 matching funds are not available. SER will request an extension on the deadline. Ten proposals were received and three awarded to the following recipients: Carbon Management Institute, Susan Swapp– UW Geology, and Idaho National Laboratory, INL/CAES. Ms. Hulme indicated some centers of excellence were not performing well in terms of matching funds and self-sufficiency. To address this SER is creating a new mechanism to fund the centers. Going forward SER will only offer \$50,000 start up and will consider contributing additional funds if justified.

3D Visualization Center

Summary: Ms. Alexander reported the number of users for the 3D Visualization center continues to grow and demonstrate a wide diversity of users across campus including but not limited to:

School of Arts, Wyoming Humanities, Civil Engineering, Architectural Design, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, Geophysics, Carbon Management Institute, Enhanced Oil Recovery and others. The center has partnered with the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES).

Outreach

Summary: Important events for SER include: International Advanced Coal Technology Conference in Jackson, Wyoming, October 6 & 7, 2015, and the Shanxi Low Carbon Development Summit, September 16-17, 2015. Ms. Byrnes provided a copy of the SER event calendar for FALL 2015. A draft copy of the SER Annual Report 2015 was circulated for review by the ERC. Changes and suggestions are to be emailed to Ms. Byrnes by September 4, 2015.

CMI

Summary: Mr. Coddington reported the recent activities of Carbon Management Institute (CMI) and provided a copy of the CMI roadmap for the future. Currently CMI is wrapping up four grants including the final CERC I report. Several new grants are underway, including a Department of Energy (DOE) grant which if awarded will fund CMI's operation for the upcoming year. The staff are developing phase II of CERC, and publishing technical papers. Several staff changes have occurred including the retirement of Al Diess and the hiring of a new reservoir engineer, Evan Egenolf. Mr. Coddington briefly addressed the roadmap stating the institute would complete a new vision statement, identify areas of expansion of carbon management beyond CO injection and storage in saline reservoirs, as well as to seek opportunities for expanded collaboration with educational institutions, multilateral entities, governmental agencies and the private sector.

Comments: Mr. Bauer assured the ERC that carbon capture would continue to be a primary part of the CMI mission and SER was developing ad hoc teams to specifically address utilization and capture/storage. Mr. Botts requested special attention be devoted to any revisions of the mission statement.

Special Projects

Summary: Mr. Horner provided a Power Point presentation: **Carbon Engineering.** (copy available by request)

Fundraising Status & Future Plans

Summary: A compiled giving report was presented to the ERC for their review and discussion. Brett Befus, Director of Corporate Development addressed the giving trend summary and

explained the giving trends for SER. To date, SER has been very successful in raising funds for facilities, equipment and endowments. New endeavors will include a push to secure funds for sponsored research. Mr. Befus noted the need to begin development of small gifts should be a consideration for SER. He also encouraged SER to continue to invite high level guests to visit the Energy Innovation Center as this has proved to be a very successful model.

College of Engineering

Summary: Dr. Pishko provided an update on the College of Engineering. Chemical and Petroleum Engineering has hired two professors of practice. The Engineering Scholars' Program has successfully recruited several honor students. Two new centers of excellence have been developed: Produced Water and Advanced Coal Combustion. A coordinator has been hired to assist with the K-12 stem program with the intent to establish a teacher program. Collaboration with junior colleges has been sought to improve enrollment and there has been a concerted effort to engage industry on many different levels including the professors of practice recruitment and developing scholarship programs with internships or apprenticeship. Dr. Pishko concluded his report by announcing the schematic designs for the new Engineering building were complete.

High Bay Update

Summary: The High Bay Research facility is under construction. It located across the street from the UW steam plant. Although construction is slightly delayed, completion is still expected to be complete by October 2016.

SER Budget Current

Summary: The FY15-16 budget will be underspent due to a loss of faculty and the vacancy of the Enhanced Oil Recovery Director. Additionally, the Centers of Excellence have failed to spend funds. Faculty and staff vacancies are being addressed and as reported by Ms. Hulme a new funding model is being developed for the Centers of Excellence to avoid this issue in the future.

SER Budget FY 17-18

Summary: The budget request for FY 17-18 has been submitted. It is a slightly reduced request due to reduction in the costs for EORI staff, reduced start-up funding for centers and no funding request for the Tier I initiative.

EORI Update

Summary: Mr. Hurlless reported the transfer of the Enhanced Oil Recovery office to Casper, Wyoming is well underway. Several staff members, mostly research scientists, will remain in the Energy Innovation Center in Laramie, Wyoming. The build out of the new office will not be complete until early February.

New Business/Directions for Next Meeting

Summary: The meetings dates for the November joint meeting of the ERC and the UW Board of Trustees (BOT) will tentatively be November 17-20, 2015. Ms. Steger will provide final dates once the BOT confirms their agenda. The ERC meeting schedule for 2016 will be March 10 & 11, May 19 & 20, August 18 & 19, and November 15-18.

Adjournment

Ms. Hull made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Rep. Lockhart. Motion passed without objection and the meeting concluded at 12:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Paul Lang
Chairman

Tom Lockhart
Vice-Chairman