

Minutes of the University of Wyoming Energy Resources Council
February 23, 2007

Council members present:

Ron Harper – CEO& General Manager, Basin Electric Power Coop, (Council Chairman)
Keith Rattie – Chairman, President & CEO, Questar Corporation
Bobby Shackouls – Chairman (retired), Burlington Resources Inc.
Tom Stroock – CEO, Alpha Development Corp; former US Ambassador
Rob Wallace – Manager, Government Relations, G.E. Energy
Ex officio, UW President Tom Buchanan
Ex officio, RIENR Director Harold Bergman

Council members absent:

Mark Davies – General Manager, Rio Tinto Energy America
Senator Charles Townsend
Paul Lang – President Western Operations, Arch Coal Inc
Representative Tom Lockhart (Council Vice Chairman)

Welcome and Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Ron Harper called the meeting to order. Tom Stroock motioned and Bobby Shackouls seconded that the agenda and minutes be accepted. The motion was passed unanimously. (Agenda-Appendix A) (Minutes 1/26/07-Appendix B)

Update on Director Search

Dr. Carol Frost gave an update stating nine people have been invited to campus for a first interview and eight will have been here by March 9, 2007. On March 23 a maximum of seven names will be asked to go public which will determine who will move on to the on campus interviews as the next phase.

UW President, Tom Buchanan, interjected that on March 23 when the ERC and BOT meet together, they will go into executive session, and the candidate information will be introduced, but not released to the public. A short list will be formed, and those candidates will be invited for on campus interviews. Council members and Trustees are invited to attend the interviews, but it is understood that their schedules may preclude their presence at all interviews. Buchanan assured the council that UW would do whatever they could for members to spend time with candidates through means like tele or video conferencing in order for them to be satisfied with candidates. It was concluded that the ERC would receive the dates of on campus interviews as soon as they become available, so they could make plans to be here if possible.

Update on hiring of four Distinguished Faculty

Frost stated these searches were ongoing with strong candidates applying, and two candidates for the coal conversion chair have already been to campus.

Update on Academic Activities

Dr. Andy Hansen stated that the high school summer institute was well under way due to the excellent work of Pam Henderson, and that they are in hopes of 16 students attending, having four high school teachers attending, and the possibility of four team camp leaders. Two UW faculty will also be involved. Some of the activities during this two week institute will include visiting Laramie River Station, a wind farm, and going to Winter Park.

Update on Outreach

Frost updated the council on the coal gasification workshop that WRI has put together which will be in Casper, Wyoming on February 28.

Update on development of Research Centers

Frost updated on the possibility of organizing SER research centers around particular energy research areas. She referred the council to a draft document circulated as an attachment to the agenda that described a number of proposed centers. These centers would be flexible and organic groups that would not necessarily be permanent. One of these centers would focus on coal conversion. Tom Stroock requested that the ERC make recommendations on these centers, so this will be an action item for the March 23 meeting.

Update on Legislative Session

Rick Miller gave an update on the session, focusing on HB0301, clean coal technology. Miller stated that if passed, a taskforce made up of the Energy Resource Council would review and evaluate methods to enhance research into clean coal technology. While the ERC is related to UW, they are a separate entity from the school in carrying out the oversight of this assignment. Thus, the ERC can send a public message that not just the university, but private industry has a vision with clean coal research.

Update on Fundraising

Ben Blalock gave an update, stating good relationships were being formed with ConocoPhillips and Anadarko. He included that with NCAR's decision to pair up with UW; major industry is excited to be talking about partnerships with UW.

Update on Industry Survey

Keith Rattie addressed an issue he had incurred from surveying oil and gas industry leaders of UW's credibility due to the closing of the Petroleum Engineering department ten years ago. Myron Allen addressed this issue by stating that at the present time the Petroleum Engineering department has added three new faculty in the last three years, and the program is now flourishing.

It was decided that Frost would work to develop a plan for holding focus groups in industry. The purpose of the focus group meetings is to inform industry constituents about what SER is accomplishing and to solicit input on how SER might help meet industry professional workforce and scientific and technological needs. It was decided this would be an action item for the March 23 meeting.

Financial Report

Chairman Harper questioned how the monies for the four distinguished faculty had been dispersed, and Allen explained the monies went to the colleges for hiring and start ups.

Action Items

- 1) Review of development of research centers.
- 2) Review of industry focus group plans.

Upcoming Meetings

Frost stated that information would be sent out for the March 23 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Harper, Chairman

Appendix A

Agenda – February 23, 2007 Energy Resource Council Meeting

- 1) Review of minutes from 1/26/07
- 2) Update on the search for the Director
- 3) Update on 4 professorship searches
- 4) Update on academic activities
 - High School Energy Summer Institute
- 5) Update on Outreach
 - Coal Gasification workshop Feb 28 in Casper
- 6) Update on development of research centers
 - Overview
 - Coal conversion technologies center
- 7) Update on legislative session (if Rick Miller is available)
 - House Bill 0301, Simpson and Nicholas, clean coal technology
- 8) Update on Fundraising – Ben Blalock
- 9) Update on industry survey—Keith Rattie
- 10) Financial Report – Attachment
- 11) Upcoming meetings
 - Mar 23, with trustees and EORI commission

Appendix B

Minutes of the University of Wyoming Energy Resources Council January 26, 2007

Council members present:

Mark Davies – General Manager, Rio Tinto Energy America
Ron Harper – CEO & General Manager, Basin Electric Power Coop, (Council Chairman)
Paul Lang – President Western Operations, Arch Coal Inc.
Keith Rattie – Chairman, President & CEO, Questar Corporation
Tom Stroock – CEO, Alpha Development Corp; former US Ambassador
Rob Wallace – Manager, Government Relations, G.E. Energy
Ex officio, RIENR Director Harold Bergman

Council members absent:

Representative Tom Lockhart (Council Vice Chairman)
Bobby Shackouls – Chairman (retired), Burlington Resources Inc.
Ex officio, UW President Tom Buchanan

Welcome and Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Chairman Ron Harper called the meeting to order. Keith Rattie motioned and Mark Davies seconded that the agenda and minutes be accepted. The motion passed unanimously. (Agenda-Appendix A) (Minutes 11/30/06-Appendix B)

Update on Director Search

Dr. Carol Frost gave an updated summary stating that 19 applicants met the qualifications; ten were from industry, six were from academia, and three were from National Labs. Out of those, four were brought to UW for in person interviews with the search committee. Out of those four, two were from industry, and two from academia. Four more interviews are being scheduled for the upcoming month. Frost invited the council to consider combining their next in-person meeting in March with possibly sitting in on some of the interviews. Council members expressed that their busy schedules could make it difficult for them to participate fully. The question arose again as to what is the involvement of the council in the search. Council member, Keith Rattie, re-stated from the November 30, minutes that the conclusion to this question is that the council will only be involved at the final stage of the search process.

Update on Industry Survey

Ron Harper reviewed the task taken on by council members at their November meeting of compiling contact names and phone numbers of energy industry leaders with the purpose of working together with Professor Burke Grandjean of Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center (WYSAC) to produce a telephone survey of four questions. These questions would be used to assist in determining the kind of qualifications energy companies are looking for in graduates, and to determine the kind of needs energy companies have. By conducting this survey the council could help create opportunities to help UW produce strong energy industry leaders and programs to assist the energy industry. It was decided that Frost would get Grandjean connected with Rattie to establish four questions to be presented to the council at the February 23rd meeting.

Update on hiring of four Distinguished Faculty

Frost stated that these searches were ongoing with strong candidates applying.

Update on Fundraising Activities

Chris Spooner, from the UW Foundation gave an update by reviewing the recent \$12 million given to UW's School of Energy Resources. Encana Oil & Gas has pledged \$5 million, Nielson & Associates has gifted \$5 million, and Shell Exploration & Production Company has gifted \$2 million. These gifts are eligible for state matching funds.

Spooner also stated that there has been an ongoing relationship with ConnocoPhillips, Ultra Petroleum, and Anadarko Petroleum with the hopes of financial support.

Update on Academic Activities

Frost summarized by stating that the High School summer institute is well under way, along with the recruiting of teachers. There have been seven approved matching grant fund proposals, along with a campus wide curriculum development, and a request for graduate assistantships to do research. Frost answered Rattie's question about the status of the Petroleum Engineering program, by stating that it restarted last year with 20 students to graduate a year from now with an anticipated 100 students in the program within the next eight years.

Update on Legislative Session and NCAR

Rick Miller was available to give an update on both of these topics, so they were discussed out of sequence. Miller summarized the House Bill 0301, clean coal technology, by stating that the School of Energy Resources is working with faculty members in forming a public policy debate. The bill proposes utilizing the Energy Resource Council as a task force to review and evaluate methods to enhance research into clean coal technologies, and to create a facility to carry this out. Miller urged the council not to be upset as to how the appropriation comes out, since the idea is to fund a process of moving forward with clean coal technology. He encouraged the council to support the bill.

Miller also stated that there is a great deal of enthusiasm and excitement about NCAR building its super computer in Wyoming, but addressed two challenges with NCAR:

- 1) It is difficult for people to grasp the benefits of what it will mean to them since they won't see those benefits initially.
- 2) It is difficult to have a large ticket item in the middle of the legislative session, and try to envision the outcome and impact it will have for the state.

The council offered their congratulations and Rattie stated that the ERC has a role along with UW, and this will be defined as the situation develops. Miller added that one of the reasons for UW to be involved will be to address issues with energy, and to attract scientists to UW.

Chairman Harper announced that Senator Chuck Townsend would be replacing Senator Bill Hawks on the Energy Resource Council and it will be announced at the appropriate time.

Update on Outreach

Frost updated the council on the current activities:

- 1) The School of Energy Resources new brochure.
- 2) The WIA report.
- 3) WCC Energy Resource Management project.
- 4) Biogenic methane Webinar on February 27.
- 5) ASMR sponsorship in Gillette in June.
- 6) Ron Oxburgh speaking at UW on January 29 from the speaker series.

Chairman Harper noted the Coal Gasification seminar is scheduled for February 28.

Update on Financial Report

The financial report is Appendix C.

Upcoming Meetings

Frost stated that the Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute Board would like to meet with the ERC at their March meeting, and we would keep the ERC updated on this meeting. The ERC will also be meeting with the Board of Trustees at the March meeting.

Action Items

- 1) Chairman Harper will talk with UW President Buchanan about the ERC's involvement with the Director search and report on this at the February 23, 2007 ERC meeting, which will be a teleconference call.
- 2) Keith Rattie will speak with Burke Grandjean and work on a draft of four questions to be used in a survey of industry, and present them at the February 23 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Harper, Chairman