



Energy Resources Council

Minutes

May 29, 2020

ZOOM

7:30 AM – 10:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Cindy Crane called the ERC meeting to order at 7:34 AM.

ATTENDANCE

ERC Members Present

Cindy Crane, WY Senator Jim Anderson, Carl Bauer, Tom Botts, Dave Emery, Vello Kuuskraa, Mark Doelger, Charlene Russell, WY Representative Mike Greear and ex-officio members: Neil Theobald, Dave True and Randall Luthi

SER Staff in Attendance

Holly Krutka, Richard Horner, Scott Quillinan, Rachel Ferrell, Mark Northam, Pam Henderson, Emma Jane Alexander, Trish Steger and Fred McLaughlin

SER Faculty in Attendance

Mohammad Piri

MEETING ITEMS BY DETAIL

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Senator Anderson made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Carl Bauer seconded the motion. Motion passed without objection.

Approval of Minutes

November 2019 ERC Minutes

Motion: Senator Anderson made a motion to accept the November 2019 minutes with the following change: Page 7, EORI Report, billion not million. The January 2020 and the May Special 2020 minutes to be accepted as presented. Carl Bauer seconded the motion. Motion passed without objection.

Welcome & Introductions

Chairwoman Crane introduce the new ERC members: Mark Doelger, Charlene Russell and Randall Luthi. She requested that their biographies be emailed to all members.

Executive Director Report

Holly Krutka welcomed the board and provided her quarterly report. Due to the pandemic, COVID-19, most staff are working remotely. This has been working well and research is able to continue. She offered her gratitude to Dr. Northam for his assistance during the transition of leadership. She expressed some concern regarding building her network of relationships. This is proving difficult with the pandemic, but she is able to hold ZOOM meet and greets with faculty and deans every other day. Dr. Krutka expressed her gratitude to the team for the Center for Economic Geology Research (CEGR). The CEGR group is the recipient of a new CarbonSAFE grant and they have several other grant possibilities in the queue. Their hard work and efforts are definitely paying off. Dr. Krutka notified the council of ongoing grant administration challenges, mostly on the post-award end. All of the grants were behind in invoicing. Dr. Krutka determined that correcting this situation was a priority. To that end, she has been working with the Office of Sponsored Programs to alleviate and correct the backlog. She happily reported that as of this meeting all SER's financial reports and invoices were proceeding according to schedule. Some errors continue to exist, but they will be fixed in short order. The Office of Sponsored Programs has set biweekly meetings to make these corrections. EORI is investigating the possibility of outsourcing their grant fund management. The Office of Finance is agreeable to this approach. EORI is still awaiting news from the Department of Energy to determine whether their \$2.4M grant will be re-instated. Dr. Northam has prepped the Oxy (formerly the Anadarko) and the Wold Chairs. Job descriptions are under review for the Oxy Chair. An additional \$750k has been committed for the Wold chair. A new job description is under development. The ERC Exception and Review committee (EE&R) are asking for more volunteers. Any interested members should contact Chairwoman Crane. The EE&R committee will meet in June 2020 to review funding requests from Dr. Mohammad Piri and Richard Horner, SER Carbon Engineering.

Reports/Motions

*Full copies of all SER reports/PPT are available in the **May 2020 ERC Notebook** or upon request.*

- SER Finance– Holly Krutka and Rachel Ferrell
- Center for Economic Geology Research– Scott Quillinan
- Emerging Technologies – Richard Horner
- Center of Innovation for Flow Through Porous Media – Dr. Mohammad Piri

Legislative Update

The State of Wyoming is facing an uncertain economic future. Budget cuts should be expected. The legislature will hold a special session to discuss the deficit and to determine a forward plan. The Joint Minerals committee is actively seeking solutions to assist the oil and gas industries. Senator Anderson requested an outreach plan to assist with efforts to attain a national carbon storage test site.

Executive Session

Motion: Dave Emery motioned for the committee to enter into an executive session to discuss personnel. Senator Anderson seconded the motion. The committee entered executive session at 9:52 AM. The committee resumed regular session at 10:22 AM.

New Business

Chairwoman Crane requested that Outlook calendar invites be sent to all committee members for the remaining ERC meetings. She expressed her wish to hold the August meeting in-person and invited the council members to come early for tours of the Energy Innovation Center and the High Bay. If the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, Chair Crane would like the agenda to provide for the planned tours on Thursday, August 20, 2020.

Next Meeting Details

The next meeting of the ERC will be August 20th and 21st, 2020. Location TBA

Adjournment

Motion: Dave Emery motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Carl Bauer seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:27 AM.

Tasks For Follow – up

- Send Outlook calendar invites for the August and November 2020 ERC meetings
- Arrange for the August ERC meeting to be held in person and make arrangements for tours
- Include tours of the EIC and Highbay on the agenda for Thursday, August 20, 2020
- Provide biographies for new ERC members to the council
- Provide an outreach plan for a national carbon- storage test site
- Prepare job description for Wold Chair
- Add columns to Gift Report indicating allocated and available funds
- Prepare strategic planning ideas re: REE and critical minerals for future discussion

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Cindy Crane
Chairwoman

James Anderson
Vice-Chairman