



**Energy Services Coalition
Minnesota Chapter Meeting Minutes
Roseville Library
2180 North Hamline Avenue
Roseville, MN 55113
July 15, 2015 2015
1:00 – 2:30 PM**

Attendees:

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Peter Berger | John Kearney | Tyler Hoch | John Neville | Trish Curtis | Lindsay Wimmer |
| Lisa Thames | Jeff Jackson | Lee Hammer | Dawn Collazo | Peter Lindstrom | Madonna Rykken |
| Eric Rehm | Lissa Pawlish | | | | |

Meeting called to order at 1:05

Peter Berger

Intros

Old Business

Outreach Chair/Workshop Chair. No one responded to Lee to volunteer to take either of the two open positions. Pete Berger will schedule a call outside of the normal meetings to discuss filling those positions.

Discussion on a lunch and learn format either a breakfast meeting or a lunch meeting. Lindsay checked on whether or not state agency members can attend this type of meeting and found that they can attend without issue on the \$5.00 rule.

Membership

Jeff Jackson

Current Members: 20

Current Fund Balance: \$8,660.33

Outreach

(Open Position)

There was some discussion about duties of the position and some brainstorming of ideas for outreach activities:

- Outreach activities include finding speaking opportunities at AMC, LMC, MASBO, MASMS, CERTS,
- Can we do outreach in State agencies or the EE Committee for State owned Bldgs?

Workshop

(Open Position)

- Could we do a mini conference for DOC? If so, what topics would they be most interested in hearing about? Pete stated that DOC will want to talk about M&V and Steam Traps. The Energy Mgr/Sustainability Mgr, Alice Remillard is interested in pushing forward the idea of GESP.
- What level of management do we want at the presentations? CFOs? Facility Managers? Commissioners or their assistants?
- DNR would like to hear about ESPC for small buildings
- Military Affairs would like to hear about water savings
- _____ interested in ESPC in Distributed Buildings
- Focus will be on smaller groups

New Business

Peter Berger

- ESC Market Transformation Conference in Charlotte
Jim Arwood suggested that National ESC would waive the registration fee for 3 scholarships, if the Chapter would sponsor 3 scholarships (cost not to exceed \$2,250/each) to get more state agencies in attendance. Discussion of funding 3 scholarships followed with a motion by Trish Curtis to fund 2 scholarships, 2nd by Lee Hammer. Those scholarships to be offered to Pete Berger (since GESP was not funded this year) and Alice Remillard from DOC, who is championing GESP for her agency.
- With acceptance of the scholarship, Alice Remillard will attend the next ESC meeting held on September 17th to share her thoughts about the conference, what kind of workshop would be best for DOC and when it could be scheduled.
- Eric Rehm talked about the REV IT UP finance program for local government units, commercial, industrial and healthcare businesses who would like to do a project but don't have the funding available for the energy study and proforma necessary to access revenue bonds on renewables.

Financing is also available on the private side with a partner in local government. With a private issuance, rates will depend on the credit worthiness of the borrower. Commercial solar gardens will be using this financing a lot.

It is basically a revolving loan fund which will allow entities like the MN ZOO, who doesn't have the availability of funding within their budget to do an IGA. Commerce would provide them a loan and when the GESP program moves forward to a contract, those funds will be paid back to Commerce's fund. This has a 2 year term and is a 0% loan unless they don't move forward. If they don't move forward with a project, there will be a 2% interest charge.

- Pete Berger shared a presentation to Administration on the use of Capital Cost Avoidance, which outlined the new language in 16C.144 enacted in the 2015 legislative session. Highlighted that with low hanging fruit already harvested, what's left are high payback items that often exceed their natural life and will require capital contributions. With the state's commitment to reducing energy by 20% by 2020 and their commitment to the Better Buildings Challenge, this

language will provide another avenue for state agencies, cities, counties and K-12 to meet their goals.

- Lissa Pawlisch and Peter Lindstrom from CERTS attending the meeting today to meet the ESCOs and get a short intro to each.
- Lissa explained that CERTS connects people to resources to help them identify and implement clean energy projects within MN. Her team meets with local and regional CERTS groups as an outreach agent. They connect people, educate on clean energy and assist members in completing clean energy projects in their communities via their resources and connections.

Motion to adjourn by Jeff Jackson. Second by John Neville.