

## Green Committee Minutes

November 18, 2009 – 2:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Veitch; Supervisors Grattidge; Jackie Bokus, Kate Maynard.

Chairman Veitch called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Ms. Maynard the minutes of the October 28, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Veitch distributed a copy of the Green Committee Report and Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors to all committee members for their review and comments.

Mr. Veitch said he would give a more detailed explanation of each suggestion in the final report that will be distributed to all Supervisors.

The following recommendations and comments were made:

### **Short-Term Recommendations**

- 1. Undertake an Energy Audit on all County-owned facilities.**
- 2. Train staff on how to think 'Green' in their day to day activities.**
- 3. Install motion-sensitive light switches in all County buildings.**
- 4. Install 'net metering' devices on County buildings.**
- 5. Begin a program of mowing reduction on County properties.**
- 6. Expand and promote recycling education and compliance.**

Mr. Grattidge suggested eliminating the 'net metering' until such time that the county has something that can be fed into it. He questioned why the county would put 'net metering' in unless the county had the ability to generate power off of it. This tends to be more if you were able to put solar panels on the roof.

Mr. Veitch said it was suggested because it was relatively inexpensive to do and would already be there when solar panels were put in place.

Ms. Bokus suggested time of use meters. These are meters where the cost of power differs throughout the day. Ms. Bokus suggested investigating the idea further before making it a recommendation.

Mr. Veitch said they might be of use at facilities that are open around the clock such as Maplewood Manor, Sheriff and Jail.

Mr. Grattidge suggested that upon any new construction the order of a net meter would be appropriate. Then there would be something in place where there would be the ability to feed into the grid.

The committee recommended moving 'net metering' to the list of long range recommendations.

### **Intermediate Recommendations**

- 1. Replace lighting with LED street lighting on County properties.**
- 2. Replace County vehicle fleet with Hybrid vehicles.**

Mr. Grattidge suggested doing a cost analysis to see whether it makes sense to go to alternate types of vehicles. The purchase should be reviewed to see whether hybrid cars or alternative types of cars or fuel could be used.

Ms. Bokus said it might be worth looking into grease cars. They are not so efficient in the winter, but in the summer they work very well.

Ms. Maynard suggested expanding the energy audit to all county owned facilities and vehicles.

Mr. Veitch suggested changing the replacement of the county fleet to purchasing a hybrid vehicle as a test study.

Mr. Grattidge said the committee attended a demonstration on vehicle fuel manufacturing which is a very expensive process. However, a lot of diesel is used through the Public Works Department and over time that is a place where the county should be looking at what is available as far as new technology that should be considered.

Mr. Veitch said there are approximately 800 sq. miles of county land, and thousands of miles of roadway that county vehicles travel regularly.

Mr. Grattidge said the question is whether you replace lighting as a project or on a replacement basis as needed. Mr. Veitch and the committee agreed on a replacement program.

### **Long Term Recommendations**

- 1. Install Photovoltaic Solar panels on building roofs.**
- 2. Install Photovoltaic Solar array at County Farm property.**
- 3. Install a rainwater collection system for County DPW needs.**
- 4. LEED certification for all new County buildings.**

Mr. Maynard suggested an idea of education/demonstration with regard to the rainwater/stormwater collection process. This would give the county a chance to see how the process works.

Mr. Grattidge suggested looking into the cost effectiveness of having a LEEDS program for the county.

**The next Green Committee meeting will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 p.m.**

On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Ms. Maynard the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom