

Revitalize the Nevada ESC Chapter

Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2013

MEETING NOTES

Attendees

State Energy Office: Office of Energy Public Facilities Retrofit Program Team - Sue Stephens with consultants, Linda Smith, Chris Halpin, Chris McClurg

ESC National: Eddie Riddle

Using Agencies: Holly Luna, Mark Stanton, Sandor Duran, Dave Brice

Consultants: Brian Carlin, Andy Bayowski; Dale Sanderson

ESCOs: Greg Spears, Jack McGowan, Michael Kempa, Michael Enzler, Jim Knutson, Tom Bowen, Art Thompson, Jack Tate, Charles Johnson, Steve Frost, John McAllister, Steve Ferguson

Financiers: Tim Borger, Karen Pelzer, Michael Brunsman, Brad Koster

An informal conference call meeting was held with the purpose to activate the Nevada ESC Chapter that has been dormant for several years. Over 25 people participated from the public and private sectors, including many ESCOs and financing company representatives.

Purpose of the meeting

- Kick off a Nevada ESC Chapter
- Formalize and officially establish the Chapter within ESC
- Describe the process to elect officers
- Initiate the effort to form committees/working-groups

Overview of ESC

Eddie Riddle, Consultant to ESC, described the ESC:

- Public/private partnership, purpose, goals
- Structure of the organization (national board with state chapters, board categories of state energy office and other public representatives, ESCOs, financing companies, vendors, non-profit organizations, NASEO – National Association of State Energy Officials); a membership of individuals rather than companies
- Dues structure (dues for public and private sector members); Dues are required to participate in any voting.
- Policy on lobbying: As a non-profit organization (501c3), lobbying is not allowed. However, providing education is a good role.
- Visit the ESC website for details:
 - Home: <http://energyservicescoalition.org/>
 - Join the ESC: <https://www.energyservicescoalition.org/membership/join.aspx>
 - Code of Conduct: http://energyservicescoalition.org/about/Code_of_Conduct.pdf
 - Bylaws: http://energyservicescoalition.org/about/ESC_Bylaws.pdf

Background of the Nevada Chapter

This is the 3rd chapter organization effort in the state, so there's a good legacy to build on. In the mid-90s, Nevada was one of the early states to get involved in the Western Regional Coalition (ESC's origin). The energy office was as an enthusiastic advocate at that time, until priorities and staff changed. In November 2007, the energy office once again led the effort to start an ESC chapter. The first activity was a very successful workshop. We thank Michael Trovato and Don Woods for their chapter leadership. The Chapter later became inactive – again, because of staff and priority changes. The energy office is active again in establishing a chapter to help increase the use of performance contracting in the state.

Nevada's Public Facilities Retrofit Program

With DOE's assistance, the energy office is leading a performance contracting initiative through its Public Facilities Retrofit Program. Its purpose is to increase the use of performance contracting in Nevada's state and local governments. Core activities include education/outreach, technical assistance to state and local government and standardized procurement/contracting documents. The program team includes Sue Stephens, Energy Program Manager, Office of Energy; Chris Halpin, Celtic Energy; Linda Smith, 9Kft Strategies in Energy; Cara Carmichael, Rocky Mountain Institute, and Roger Wigfield, State of Washington Department of Enterprise Services. See:

http://energy.nv.gov/Programs/Public_Facilities_Retrofit_Grant/

Working together in Nevada – public/private partnership through a Nevada ESC Chapter

Potential chapter activities include:

- Outreach committee to support the planned activities of the Office of Energy (webinars, workshops, newsletters, trainings)
- Finance committee to establish sound financing strategies and a means to competitively select financing companies
- Data collection committee to collect data from ESCOs so we have up to date statistics on how many and what types of performance contracting projects are in process or completed
- Communications/website committee to distribute notices to chapter members and post information on the chapter website.
- Others committees as needed

Chapter Structure

Sue Stephens is the Energy Program Manager of the Nevada Governor's Office of Energy, and serves as state ESC chapter's the Co-Chair/Public Sector. A Private Sector Co-Chair will be elected along with a Secretary and Treasurer through an electronic nomination and balloting process to be held soon. Officer elections will be held electronically with an opportunity for people to nominate themselves or others. Dues are required for any active member – update your membership status so you're an official member of the Nevada chapter.

Moving Forward

Officer elections, Committee Chairs and Volunteers: Nominations form will be sent soon so you can nominate yourself or someone else for any officer positions or committee chairs, then an electronic election will be held. We should have officers seated by mid-November. We'll send out a notice of the results of the elections. The executive committee will convene immediately. Future meetings will have a quorum requirement and official minutes.

Next meeting: We'll plan to have a follow-up chapter meeting in mid-November – another phone meeting to meet the officers and establish committees to keep momentum, then another meeting within a month after elections are complete, depending on the decision of the newly formed Executive Committee.