

# MEETING NOTES

## EAST TENNESSEE CLEAN FUELS COALITION 70th Stakeholders Meeting ~ April 10, 2008

Where: Banquet room at the Copper Cellar on Cumberland Avenue

When: Regular meeting - 11:00am-1:00pm

Lunch: Ordered from the CC's mini-menu.

Attendees: 19 people attended (☺ - indicates new attendees)

1. Natasha Boeckmann- ETCFC
2. Jillian Gilbert- ETCFC
3. Jonathan Overly- ETCFC
4. Nancy Gray- GRSM
5. Micah Reynolds- KRC
6. Mike Whedbee- Retro Mow
7. David Myers- U.S. DOE
8. Scott Curran- UTK
9. Joelle Brink- UT Biofuels
10. Stephanie Murphy- Pilot
11. Trey Harrington- Pilot
12. Russell Moles- Beaty Chevy
13. John Harris- CAC
14. Laurence Seacrest- Basic Resources
15. Reed Detring- Big South Fork NRRA
16. Ken Wilson- private citizen
17. CJ O'Lenick- private citizen
18. Mark Penland- TN. Dept. Env. & Conservation
19. Bruce Fontecclico- Geo 4 Geothermal Energy

### MEETING CONTENT

1. Most people arrived around 10:50- 11:00 am, the meeting began at 11:20am
2. Went over items attached to agenda:
  - ▶ “Why Can’t We Quit.” from Newsweek:
  - ▶ “Gasoline consumption down as Americans take steps to adapt to high prices.” from KnoxNews.com
  - ▶ “EPA to Study Regulating GHG Emissions in Response to Last Year’s Supreme Court Decision” from WorldFuels.com
3. Introductions from everyone in the room.
4. Passed around latest Biomass Magazine
5. Went over new stations to be opened in East Tennessee; 4 -E85 stations to open, 4 – E85 stations already opened, 2 – B20 stations to open
  - ▶ showed image of East TN map with various colored dots indicating different stations offering alternative fuels
  - ▶ talked about stations that applied for the state grants to be able to offer alternative fuels
  - ▶ answered questions about where alternative fuels are or are not available right now
6. Briefly told everyone about the Run for Clean Air and that it was in two days on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Explained what it was, how it worked and what was involved for those who weren’t familiar with it.
7. Began a discussion about regional biodiesel production.
  - ▶ talked about how biodiesel supply is currently down; that price of soybean oil is going up which is causing the price of biodiesel to also go up; this drives home the point that we need to find other resources other than soybeans like animal fat
  - ▶ talked about Nu-Energie, a biodiesel research/production facility in the Tri-Cities area is now open; they’ve met all ASTM specifications and even have their own testing machines to perform on-site tests; currently

- giving tours of the facility; are willing to use whatever resource clients want them to use to produce biodiesel
8. Large discussion about striking some sort of balance that meets our environmental needs while doing it in a consumer friendly fashion
  9. Discussed Algae adventures
    - Jonathan talked to people with the state and wrote a proposal to work more with algae, that there should be funding given out to do more research with algae as a resource for biodiesel production; there is a company in the Netherlands, Biokings, that have a demonstration for sale at \$100,000; Jonathan's proposal suggests having the government pay \$200,000 to a four or five persons or groups to buy the demo infrastructure and working costs for a year; we just need one person or group to figure out what works best for the funding to be beneficial
  10. Talked about the ethanol supplies going up because there is more of it in the area due in large part to the efforts of the UT Biodiesel Initiative
  11. **Update from Stakeholders:**
    - ▶ **Reed Detring (Big South Fork NRRRA)** – accepted a promotion in Missouri to Ossark and will be moving there in June. This would be his last meeting.
      - Jonathan thanked him for being a part of the Coalition and all that he's done for the Park system and Coalition
    - ▶ **David Myers (U.S. DOE)** – stopped dispensing unleaded gasoline and is only distributing E85 at Oak Ridge operation sites; only 55% of their fleet can use E85, those who aren't compatible with E85 have to drive into town to fill tanks
    - ▶ **Russell Moles (Beaty Chevy)** – 2008 Malibu will be at the Run for Clean Air and Tahoe will be at EarthFest
    - ▶ **Laurence Secrest (Basic Resources)** – is getting a new car and asked those present about other hybrids that are available right now; Jonathan told him about fueconomy.com which is a website that has user inputs of their vehicles' fuel economy
    - ▶ **Ken Wilson (private citizen)** – really interested in idle reduction; in Iowa they will possible have a shortage in feedstock which is what he heard from a friend of his that works in ethanol production in Iowa; also heard from friend that they have doubled capacity to \$1.8 million in natural gas each month for the plant
    - ▶ **John Harris (CAC)** – is the program director for Beardsley Farm; they've just received a grant to buy a diesel pickup truck for the farm; had a grease kit donated to the farm and they plan on using it on the pickup truck; they already pick up compost from various restaurants and will soon also pick up leftover yellow grease, which will be used with grease kit to fuel pickup truck; also interviewed three people for ETCFC's two positions for next year and will hopefully have two people hired by the next week
    - ▶ **Tasha Boeckmann (ETCFC)** – made a plug for the Run for Clean Air and encouraged all to attend.
    - ▶ **Mike Whedbee (Retro-Mow)** –plans to debut RetroMow at the Run for Clean Air and Earthfest; just started Retro-Mow which will allow people to rent out his solar-powered lawnmowers but the goal is for it to be a equipment sharing cooperative; in discussions with Ted Buel and Christian at Camel Custom Tents to come up with tents to house the various machines, each tent would have PVs (solar panels) in the tents that would charge the equipment.
    - ▶ **Joelle Brink (UT Biofuels)** – Just got her VW diesel hybrid vehicle and she got a vanity plate customized for it to say Bio-Bea.
    - ▶ **Bruce Fontecclico (Geo 4 Geothermal Energy)** – Geo 4 Geothermal is looking to expand to Knoxville and also have a site in Chattanooga; trying to get businesses to start promoting geothermal businesses; geothermal units do not cost more than any other air conditioning unit, they have a better warranty, and are more efficient than other systems that run off of fossil fuels which means you save money; using technology from a company in Sweden with whom they are partnered with to make a more efficient geothermal unit with a looped system; can lower energy bill up to 75%; looking into finding ways to make the units more affordable
    - ▶ **Jill Gilbert (ETCFC)** – she has five more presentations left this year; looking into idle-reduction at schools; John Harris suggested the Boys and Girls Club; Tasha suggested talking to WBIR to make a on air "Green Tip" about idling-reduction
  12. The next meeting will be held on May , 2008, 11am @ the Copper Cellar on Cumberland Ave.
  13. Meeting ended at 1:28pm

*Meeting notes taken and written by Tasha Boeckmann.*