

# MEETING NOTES

## EAST TENNESSEE CLEAN FUELS COALITION 69th Stakeholders Meeting ~ March 13, 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: 16 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. Jim Davis- Tetra Tech
8. David Myers- U.S. DOE
9. Scott Curran- UTK
10. Joelle Brink- UT Biofuels
11. Jeff McCarroll- G.C. Coteric, Inc.
12. Laurence Secrest- Basic Resources
13. Russell Moles- Beaty Chevy
14. Bob Silvera- Jo-n-Bo Dist. Div.
15. Ted Buel- GT Designs, Inc.
16. Reed Detring- Big South Fork NRRA

### MEETING CONTENT

1. Most people arrived around 10:50- 11:00 am, the meeting began at 11:20am
2. Introductions from everyone in the room.
3. Went over items attached to agenda:
  - "Carbon Output Must Near Zero To Avert Danger, New Studies Say" from Washingtonpost.com
  - "Bacterium Gets Wheels Turning On Ethanol Fuel" from Washingtonpost.com
  - "Could We Really Run Out f Food?" from moneycentral.msn.com
  - "Despite Gas Hikes, Hybrid Sales Aren't Booming, Study Shows" from MediaPost
  - "Diesel Prices in the U.S. and Selected Countries: Cost and Taxes" from the U.S. Department of Energy
  - "Indian Carmaker Plans Diesel-Hybrid Pickup for the U.S." from Hybridcars
4. Showed various pictures of events that have taken place in the past month including: Earthfare's Chocolate Festival and bagging to raise money for ETCFC, Tanker Truck Alternative Fuel loading. Energy Independence Days in Washington D.C. (takes place every March where Clean Cities Program Coordinators meet), and EnviroCab: Prius taxis
5. Passed around a article from the Tennessean about how the state can take steps to save fuel in which Jonathan was quoted.
6. Informed everyone of the various gas stations around East Tennessee that have applied for the state grant to fund the installation of infrastructure for ethanol or biodiesel.
7. Went over ETCFC fiscal information
8. Explained what the Run for Clean Air was, how it worked and what was involved for those who weren't familiar with it and passed around postcards and flyers
9. Told everyone about AFV days and that the next one is being planned for October 2008 in Chattanooga
10. Described a new program that Jonathan is thinking about starting in the near future about educating school systems, specifically bus drivers, about idle reduction. Need to talk to the school boards in Knox County to approve program. Plan on having a 45 minute presentation to bus drivers to educate them on how to reduce their idling and then sign a pledge to reduce emissions through idle reduction

11. ETCFC plans on getting an intern to setup a program in Knox County higher education schools to help students and teachers to learn material about alternative fuels and turn around and teach it to other students, schools and organizations.
12. Had a discussion about rising oil prices (currently \$109); discussed how the public's buying habits have or have not changed due to the rising prices
13. **Update from Stakeholders:**
  - ▶ **Reed Detring (Big South Fork NRR)** – worked with Phil from Birmingham who gave him a deal on dryers to get rid of the moisture in the gas that has affected several vehicles; forklift now works; working to fix the Silverado; Murphy USA gas station has E10 in their gas now; had a handout about Scott County making biodiesel to put in tractors
  - ▶ **Bob Silvera (Jo-N-Bo Dist. Div)** – Ethos has been running in Roane County school buses for the past 1 ½ seasons with no problems; other local companies have begun using ethos and running tests; getting more people to begin using it by referring people to call others who are currently using it
  - ▶ **Russell Moles (Beaty Chevy)** – 2008 Malibu is out, but do not have any currently on the lot; plans on bringing one to the Run for Clean Air and Earthfest
  - ▶ **Laurence Secrest (Basic Resources)** – their biggest issue has been the soybean oil.
  - ▶ **Mike Whedbee (Retro-Mow)** –has 15 1970-1975 GM electric lawnmowers that run off of golf cart batteries that get recharged with solar power and plans to debut them 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
  - ▶ **Micah Reynolds (KRC)** – he and Mark Cannon created Liberty Agrifuels where they collect yellow grease from restaurants and then convert that to fuel and sell to anyone who wants to buy a 55 gallon drum; they are currently trying to get contracts with restaurants
  - ▶ **Jim Davis (Tetra Tech)** – looking into alternative fuel projects with TetraTech, specifically looking at solar power projects.
  - ▶ **Joelle Brink (UT Biofuels)** – working on education programs
  - ▶ **Nancy Gray (GRSM)** – South District Maintenance Fleets are still having problems; having a difficult time trying to find someone to talk to about helping them fix these vehicles; the Park is celebrating it's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009 and are looking for monetary sponsorships as well as “Green Partners” who will adopt a “green policy” to start in their own businesses; the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary is about celebrating this one point in time but to also develop stewardships for the next 75 years and coming up with ideas to ensure and protect the park
  - ▶ **Jill Gilbert (ETCFC)** – she has a lot of school presentations set up for the next couple of months and she should surpass her goal by the end of April; recently attended the Washington County Farm Bureau Alternative Energy Resources for Agriculture and Rural Small Business Workshop where she was informed of a grant for small businesses located in rural areas that will have alternative energy projects
8. The next meeting will be held on April 10, 2008, 11am @ the Copper Cellar on Cumberland Ave.

*Meeting notes taken and written by Tasha Boeckmann.*