

Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Agenda



Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Pursuant to the Town's Electronic Participation Policy, the meeting will be conducted both in person and via a virtual meeting portal. Members of the public may attend in person at the Community Center, located at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado 81432, or virtually using the meeting information below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89240960504?pwd=PFAR1Os2rl6aR30rC3VymfTAwaO4aX.1>

Meeting ID: 892 4096 0504

Passcode: 800345

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5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL Joyce Huang, Dana Ivers, Dave Jones, David Kehmeier, Kristina Lemon, Sheridan Ribbing, Terry Schuyler

WORK SESSION:

1. Discussion regarding a ribbon cutting event for the Ridgway Space to Create Resilience Hub Microgrid Project
2. Presentation and discussion regarding the final, adopted version of ***Resolution No. 25-06 Reaffirming Ridgway's Commitment to Climate Action, Establishing a Goal for Next Zero Carbon Emissions, and Establishing an All Electric, Net Zero Energy Use Policy for Housing Projects with Financial Investment from the Town of Ridgway***
3. Discussion re work plan items from the Town of Ridgway 2025 Strategic Plan

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

4. Minutes from the April 1, 2025 meeting

ADJOURNMENT

AGENDA ITEM #2

RESOLUTION NO. 25-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO REAFFIRMING RIDGWAY'S COMMITMENT TO CLIMATE ACTION, ESTABLISHING A GOAL FOR NET ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS, AND ESTABLISHING AN ALL ELECTRIC, NET ZERO ENERGY USE POLICY FOR HOUSING PROJECTS WITH FINANCIAL INVESTMENT FROM THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY

WHEREAS, the Town of Ridgway, Colorado (the “Town”) is a home rule municipality and political subdivision of the State of Colorado organized and existing under a home rule charter pursuant to Article XX of the Constitution of the State; and

WHEREAS, the Town has long been committed to sustainability and to preserve natural resources for current and future generations, and endeavors to be a leader in responsible stewardship of the environment; and

WHEREAS, the impacts of climate change affect everyone regardless of age, gender or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, addressing climate change equitably requires transition from fossil fuels to emission-free, renewable energy that is ecologically sustainable for all people, especially those most impacted by climate change today and those who will be most impacted in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ridgway Master Plan, adopted on June 12, 2019, contains **POLICY ENV-4.2: Renewable Energy**, which states: “Encourage the use of carbon-free renewable energy systems within the Town and support the goal of carbon neutrality for Colorado. Support the inspiration and innovation of those who live, work, and visit Ridgway to create a low-carbon economy and lifestyle that improves the health, shared prosperity, and long-term security of our unique mountain community.”; and

WHEREAS, on June 14, 2023 the Ridgway Town Council adopted the ***San Miguel and Ouray County Regional Climate Action Plan***, which has a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado has created a roadmap to reach 100% renewable energy by 2040, and in 2019, passed HB19-1261, which sets a statewide goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, carbon-free energy resources paired with energy storage, and microgrids, where feasible, are important strategies to build disaster resilience into our communities and will assist with disaster recovery; and ensuring equitable distribution of the benefits of these resources is imperative to adequately prepare for disasters, particularly those exacerbated by climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to establish a goal for net-zero carbon emissions and to promote all electric, net zero energy use in buildings around the Town of Ridgway.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO the following:

1. The Town pledges to address climate change at the speed and scale that it demands by committing to achieve net-zero carbon emissions for all municipal operations by 2030; and
2. The Town pledges to collaborate with other community leaders, residents and stakeholders to build our collective capacity, scaling the right solutions that grow our local economies, protect public health and create a sustainable carbon-free future for all; and
3. The Town commits the Sustainability Advisory Board to develop, for Town Council consideration and approval, a *Net-Zero Carbon Emission Roadmap* for implementation based on annual appropriation by the Town Council; and
4. Housing projects that receive financial investment from the Town of Ridgway, including but not limited to tax and fee waivers, shall be all electric and shall not include natural gas service or another fossil fuel source, or any appliances or equipment which use natural gas or rely upon another fossil fuel source; and
5. Housing projects that receive financial investment from the Town of Ridgway, including but not limited to tax and fee waivers, shall achieve net zero energy use, which is preferred to be achieved on-site to the extent economically practicable and may be achieved by enrolling in San Miguel Power Association's Totally Green Program from 100% renewable sources.
6. By pledging to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030, the Town of Ridgway will serve as an example for Town residents and businesses to achieve the same goal. The Town will explore mechanisms and potential incentives to enable Town residents and businesses in this pursuit.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of April, 2025.

TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO

John I. Clark, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pam Kraft, Town Clerk

AGENDA ITEM #3

SAB WORK PLAN ITEMS

FROM TOWN OF RIDGWAY 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

1	Advise the Town to adopt a resolution formally establishing a net-zero goal to be achieved by 2030. Once in place, explore initiatives to promote within the community.	Terry
2	Establish a “road map” to net zero.	David/Dave
3	Provide quarterly progress updates to the Town Council.	Terry
4	Draft and recommend adoption of idle-free (i.e., no idling) regulations.	Dana
5	Organize and hold two educational outreach meetings/public engagement events in 2025 to promote SAB educational campaigns.	Dave/Terry
6	Participate on the Sneffels Energy Board Energy Code Cohort by working with EcoAction Partners, Lotus Engineering & Sustainability and NORESCO to align our region on an approach and code package for 2024 International Energy Conservation Code adoption (this includes the model electric and solar ready code).	Dave
7	Evaluate establishment of a goal/date for all new construction projects to be all-electric.	Dave
8	Work to decrease festival and event waste by encouraging local management contracts and event organizers to provide for composting, recycling, etc. at Ridgway events.	Joyce/Sheridan
9	Evaluate and recommend options for instituting incentives/rebates for residential and commercial participation in local composting programs.	Joyce/Sheridan
10	Increase local organic/natural food production and consumption.	Joyce/Sheridan
11	Evaluate and recommend options for instituting a turf replacement program that could include rebates or incentives.	Terry
12	Explore identifying where wildlife corridors are and possibilities for mitigating speeding on US 550 and SH 62. Explore deployment of additional signage.	Dana

AGENDA ITEM #4



Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

April 1, 2025

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. Ridgway Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) members present were Dana Ivers, Dave Jones, David Kehmeier, Kristina Lemon, Sheridan Ribbing and Terry Schuyler. Joyce Huang was absent. Siobhan Montoya Lavender and Preston Neill were also present.

2. Update from EcoAction Partners re Sneffels Energy Board Code Cohort and other initiatives

Kim Wheels with EcoAction Partners gave an update on the work of the Energy Board Code Cohort. She said the amendment package and the Low Carbon Code is expected to be ready for presentation to communities for consideration by the end of May. Siobhan introduced herself to the group as the new Regional Climate Action Development Director for EcoAction Partners and explained some of the various projects and initiatives she's working on in her role.

3. Discussion and preparation for quarterly update to the Ridgway Town Council on April 9, 2025

The group discussed what work items to present and highlight at their quarterly presentation to the Ridgway Town Council on April 9, 2025. Dave and Sheridan agreed to spearhead getting a PowerPoint presentation developed.

4. Discussion re SAB work plan items from the Town of Ridgway 2025 Strategic Plan

The group discussed and gave updates on the various goals. Many of the goals were discussed but most of the discussion centered on the net zero roadmap and the two educational outreach events. A request was made to have an item on the next meeting agenda for the group to discuss the setting of a date for the ribbon cutting event for the Ridgway Space to Create Resilience Hub Microgrid Project.

5. Approval of minutes from the March 4, 2025, meeting

Terry made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2025 meeting. Dave seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously by members present.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The time was 7:00 p.m.