

# Mayor's Environmental Task Force

## Meeting Summary

June 1, 2017

- Introductions were made and new attendees identified included Rachel Jones from Planning Department ([rjones@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:rjones@lincoln.ne.gov).) who will be fulfilling some of Brandon Garrett's previous roles in supporting the METF.
- Announcements:
  - Dan King announced the completion and opening of the Household Hazardous Waste Facility at the North 48<sup>th</sup> St. Landfill site.
  - Ken Winston spoke briefly on the status of LR239 - Interim study to examine issues related to solar energy development in Nebraska.
  - Frank announced Brandon Garrett's departure for a position with the City of Council Bluffs, IA and that Rachel Jones from Planning Department would be fulfilling Brandon's role on the METF.
- Brittney Albin with Lincoln Public Schools next provided a great presentation of LPS' sustainability program and their efforts to align goals with The City of Lincoln's initiatives. Brittney's presentation can be found at: [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1QzWZJPiiNxDB-7hh03jBzDoQE8zIMDO\\_LfeqotLSEK0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1QzWZJPiiNxDB-7hh03jBzDoQE8zIMDO_LfeqotLSEK0/edit?usp=sharing).

Brittney provided some very impressive statistics related to energy efficiency, low maintenance landscaping, diversion/recycling, partnering with Community Crops for school gardens, idling policy for vehicles and the fact that LPS voluntarily complies with the City of Lincoln's drought schedule for lawn watering regardless of weather conditions.

- A general discussion followed regarding carbon divestment, energy goals and a request from the Citizen's Climate Lobby (CCL - <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/>) to sign a letter urging Congress to act on climate change. The discussion concluded with Mayor Beutler formally signing the CCL statement (Attached).

# Community Leader's Letter to Congress

## Organization/Individual Endorsing Action on Climate Change

### WHEREAS...

The costs of climate change—including destabilized weather patterns, rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and other serious impacts — now pose a substantial threat to the health, prosperity and security of Americans. The costs are real, they are growing, and they are already burdening businesses, taxpayers, municipal budgets and families.

Our economy, infrastructure, public safety and health are directly at risk.

Prudent action now will be far less costly than the consequences of delayed response and will create a more stable business environment for our nation.

### THEREFORE...

I/we urge **Congress to sponsor and/or support** measures that will:

- Acknowledge the serious threat posed by climate change
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a clear, transparent, and effective way

#### INFORMATION ABOUT SIGNER

Signed\*: Chris Beutler Date: 6-1-17  
Printed Name: Chris Beutler Title: Mayor, City of Lincoln, NE  
Email: Mayor@lincoln.ne.gov  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

#### INFORMATION ABOUT ENDORSER ON WHOSE BEHALF I'M SIGNING

Endorser is an:  Organization (e.g. business, congregation)  Individual (e.g. elected official, business owner)

Endorser Name\*: Chris Beutler; Mayor - City of Lincoln, NE  
Organization Name (e.g. XYZ Corp) or Individual Name and Title (e.g. Mark Reynolds, Executive Director at XYZ Corp)

Address: 555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 301

City: Lincoln State: NE ZIP: 68508

Endorsement is:  Public  Private (will not be shared with anyone outside of Citizens' Climate and Congress)

\*By signing, I affirm I have the authority to sign on behalf of the Endorser and understand that CCL may share the Endorser's name with members of Congress and their staff, and, if not marked Private above, that the name of the Endorser (without contact information) may be listed publicly. CCL agrees that it will not share a Private endorsement publicly.

[www.citizensclimatelobby.org/leaders](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.org/leaders)