



Members in Attendance (* denotes attendance via Zoom):

Karen Alholm, Pri Burnham, Jenn Hill, Brian Hummel, Bob Kulisheck, Michael Larson, Emily Leach, Jerry Messana*, Brad Neumann*, Joe Neumann, Tyler Penrod, Erik Powers, Dave Stensaas*, Darlene Walch*, Johanna Worley

Guests in Attendance: Isabelle Honkomp, Amy Stephens

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Proposed 2024 CATF meeting dates:

- Availability of Cohodas room 604 has been confirmed for the proposed dates. Meetings will be scheduled from 2:00-3:30 p.m.
- Pri moved to approve proposed dates. Karen seconds. Approved unanimously.
 - February 29
 - June 27
 - September 5
 - December 5

3. Committee updates

- Membership Committee
 - The CATF membership terms document has been updated. Karen moved to accept the updated terms. Pri seconds. Approved unanimously.
 - Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) and Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians have been contacted to discuss CATF membership.
- Marquette 2049 planning meeting
 - The kick-off meeting will be held January 26 starting at noon in the NMU Ballroom with funding to support this learning circles series provided by NMU and SWP. Invitations will be mailed in early January. A dress rehearsal is scheduled for January 4 from 10-11:30am and we're looking for additional CATF members to facilitate tables.
- UP Clean Energy Coalition
 - The focus of the coalition is to find funding to implement the 16 recommendations of the U.P. Energy Task Force and has identified the EPA CPRG Implementation Grant program. The coalition is in discussion with the Upper Peninsula's 3 development regions to submit a several million-dollar proposal. Priorities for the funding would include municipal community solar generation, home energy efficiency improvements, low income/environmental justice initiatives, and more. The Superior Watershed Partnership is also in discussion with the state as they consider utilizing their existing network of Upper Peninsula partners to apply for an EPA CPRG Implementation Grant to fund a wide range of GHG pollution reduction projects across the entire Upper Peninsula.

4. EGLE MI Healthy Climate Plan public meeting discussion

- EGLE is accepting project ideas to reduce GHG emissions to include in their Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) due December 20. EPA CPRG Implementation Grant funding will prioritize applications that address projects listed in state and tribal PCAPs. Applications are due at the beginning of March 2024 and are capped at \$2-\$500 million.

5. Round table updates

- Congratulations to Dr. Jessica Thompson for her appointment to NMU Associate Vice President of Sustainability.
- SWP was awarded over \$1.5 million from the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity (LEO) to expand the energy assistance services from serving just those below the federal poverty threshold to now include the ALICE population (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, and Employed).
- SWP received another nearly \$400,000 from NFWF to build upon years of coastal inventories for Upper Peninsula tribes. Shovel ready site plans and designs will be created to address coastal issues, which will help advance projects through the pipeline toward implementation.
- Another of SWP's NFWF funded projects (over \$2 million) will be breaking ground this summer. All state and federal permits have been received to implement a living shoreline/coastal resiliency plan for nearly 1 mile of Lakeshore Boulevard. This project will restore public access to the Lake and also provide new trails.
- Sands Township began installation of solar for the township office. Peninsula Solar is installing the system. Marquette Township will also have solar installed before snow flies this year.
- Sands Township has recycled 3 semi-loads of e-waste since June. More work is needed to find solutions for battery recycling. Other municipalities are also struggling with battery recycling and looking for solutions.
- MSUE is performing a strategic planning initiative with sustainability and climate being a major focus of discussion.
- MSU received another grant from MDHHS to do statewide education on the climate/health pathway with a goal to improve resiliency and protect human health. MSUE will be presenting at the Catalyst Communities webinar series with CATF and Marquette County highlighted as an example of climate resiliency and planning.
- The health department is witnessing an abnormally high rate of Lyme's disease in the western U.P. likely attributable to warmer conditions.
- The City of Marquette is nearing completion of the Master Plan project which will include climate action recommendations. There are opportunities coming up in February for public input on a draft of the Master Plan.
- Marquette County Planning was awarded a \$500,000 MISHDA Chill grant to fund home repairs for households under 80% of the area median income.
- Marquette County Planning is expecting to hear back soon on several grant applications that would address regional recreation planning, a facilities wide energy audit, climate action/sustainability planning, and provide Marquette County a MI Healthy Climate Corps member.
- LWV presented at NMU's Climate@Noon seminar series, facilitated opportunities for community members to meet local government officials, and is working on the battery recycling issues with local officials and state government.
- The Northern Climate Network's Climate@Noon seminar series will continue in 2024 with presentation on January 19, February 2, March 15, April 12.
- Rep. Jenn Hill shared about the state's new energy legislation and the process that went into passing the law. She also provided updates on a proposed propane bill and permitting for Enbridge Line 5.
- Marquette County Emergency Management is starting to update the county's Emergency Operations Plan. Participation in the process from CATF members is encouraged.

- Chocoday Township is planning to install solar on the township building next year.
- MEC received the DOE Energizing Rural Communities Prize focused on siting renewable energy installations and creating a home energy efficiency retrofit program in Alger County, which is a Justice40 community. The first phase is intended to serve as a community engagement period where they will host a series of community education events in coordination with Alger County Renewable Energy Solutions, doing energy auditing and generally building support and excitement for clean energy. The second phase if funded would include boots on the ground project implementation. MEC is working on the project with Michigan Energy Options, the UP Environmental Coalition, and Michigan Saves.

6. Good of the Order

- Adjourned 3:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 29, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.