



Notes
Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (ACES)
March 12, 2026
6:00 PM
Superior Community Center
1500 Coalton Road

This meeting will be held in person and online. Members of the public may [participate in the meeting via Zoom](#) ([instructions](#)) or [view the meeting on YouTube](#) (closed captioning available). The recording of the meeting will be made available on [YouTube](#) and at [SuperiorColorado.gov](#) after the meeting.

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Preliminary Matters
 - a. Roll Call
 - Present: Jim Zarske, Michelle Gazarik, Miles Hoffman, Lisa Barnes, Patrick Payne
 - Absent: John Heckman
 - Staff Present: Alexis Bullen
 - Council member present: Jenn Kaaoush
 - b. Approval of Agenda
 - c. Public Comment (limit 5 minutes/person)
3. Discussion Items
 - a. Scott Simkus sustainable technology presentation
 - Tim Hansen on zoom from Boston
 - Scott Simkus - Land owner in Superior
 - Power grid
 - High level overview of power grid
 - Microgrid
 - Localized energy system with defined electrical boundaries that can operate as a single entity in times of widespread outage or emergency
 - Set up to be able to disconnect from the main grid and operate separately as well as “plug in” to the regional grid
 - Can include buildings, solar, battery, etc.
 - Colorado specific considerations are wildfires, winter storms, climate events, growing demand

- When connected, excess energy can be sold back to the regional supplier (I.e. Xcel)
 - Core components:
 - Solar
 - Wind
 - Other generation
 - Batteries for energy storage
 - Self-sustaining control systems
 - Can support in network loads (homes, businesses, ev charging)
 - Two modes of operation: connected and “island mode”
 - Mobile battery systems can be deployed in an emergency to power closed micro-grids
 - Most valuable in rural areas, areas prone to outages, critical facilities, remote locations
 - Benefits: reliable power, clean electricity, local generation, community resiliency
- b. Front Range Sustainability Council discussion
- Conglomerate of sustainability committees along the front range
 - Quarterly meetings to share learnings, challenges and opportunities
 - Currently looking to formalize operations
 - Conversation on the table is for Superior to host the next meeting (ACES to coordinate)
 - Tentative dates: early May (6th, 7th, 13th, or 14th)
 - Alexis will book the space (likely civic space or town hall)
 - ACES will host and provide light meal (sandwich tray, chips, etc.)
 - Jim will operate as touchpoint with Alexis to confirm date
 - Next meeting we will vote on budget and finalize planning
 - Patrick to support
- c. Chamber & Sustainability discussion
- Jim makes motion to remove at the start of the meeting, which passed. This item will be saved for next month due to John not being present.
- d. Request for Support Letter for Colorado Air Quality Research Program
- Budget for investigation into benefits of programs
 - Looking for support on pursuing funding
 - Specific ask is for a letter of support
 - Future request for RAQ presentation
 - Jim and Miles are requesting more information
 - \$3 million over 3 years for research on efficacy
 - Councilmember Kaaoush can follow up if an April timeframe would work for a motion of support for a letter
- e. 2026 ACES Event Participation
- hard to recycle event on 4/11
 - Jim 9-11

- Miles 9-1
 - Patrick (tentative) 10-12
 - Rain barrel workshop 5/9
 - Tentatively Patrick
 - June might be a meeting to cancel
- f. Other business
 -
- 4. Updates
 - a. Town Council Liaison
 - Don't turn on your sprinklers yet :)
 - b. Town Staff
 - Grant report for multifamily composting and recycling coming next month
- 5. Adjourn

Action Items:

- 1) Jim to follow up with the Front Range Sustainability Council. Alexis to follow up on preferred dates for a Town location.

Next Meeting: April 9, 2026, at the Superior Community Center