

**Energy and Resiliency Advisory Board
City of Vergas**

The Energy and Resiliency Advisory Board met on Thursday, September 25, 2025, 5:30pm, at the Vergas Event Center Meeting Room

Attendance:

2025	Aug 14	Sept 25	Oct	Nov	Dec
Julie Bruhn	P	P			
Alex Ohman	P	P			
Bruce Albright	A	p			
Cal Miller		p			
Jeff Laney		p			
Kara Trupka	A	A			
Virginia Satrom	A	A			
Luca Moser	A	A			

• **P: Present. A: Absent**

1. Jeff Laney and Cal Miller were welcomed to the Board! They both bring valuable backgrounds.
2. Minutes from August 14, 2025 meeting were approved as written.
3. Julie Bruhn provided an update on the Energy Grant. The city has received the funds for the solar panels and batteries. City Clerk, Julie Lammers, met with Holsen Solar and the ordering is proceeding with installation planned by end of year. The City Energy & Resiliency Plan is being drafted by WCI.
4. Julie Bruhn provided an update on the MPCA Grant. The weatherization work has been completed at the Event Center, Fire Hall and Municipal Liquor Store building. A post work blower test will be conducted. Scheduling pending,
5. Julie Bruhn noted a new CERTS Seed Grant is available, with applications to be submitted by October 1st. The City Council approved applying for the grant and working on a submission to hold an Energy Fair. The Advisory Board supported this. The Grant awards to be announced in January. If funded received, would look to hosting the Energy Fair in March.
6. Copy of the 2025 Vergas GreenStep Cities assessment was provided to the Advisory Board. Reviewed the Best Practices and looked at areas we may want to prioritize for next steps. Based on preliminary discussion will further review the following:
 - Incorporating solar into current city ordinance- Alex Ohman
 - Complete streets section- Bruce Albright
 - Surface Water/Wast Water/Septic Systems- Cal Miller
 - Natural Resources Inventory/Assessment- Julie Bruhn & Jeff Laney
 - Community Trees- Alex Ohman

With completion of the City Energy & Resiliency Plan, a number of best practices can be met.

7. Concern raised regarding the weeds at the city swimming beach and whether weed removal should be looked at versus chemical. Will look at for next season and evaluate weed conditions.
8. Meeting schedule discussed. Will meet in October to further finalize GreenStep best practice steps. Do not anticipate meeting monthly. Will meet when City Energy & Resiliency Plan completed and if funding received for an Energy Fair.

Next Meeting October 23, 2025

No Recommendations for action

Recorder
Julie Bruhn