

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

The Energy and Resiliency Advisory Board met on Thursday, May 21, 2026, 5:30pm, at the Vergas Event Center Meeting Room.

Attendance:

2026	Jan 15	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 16	May 21	Jun 18	Jul18	Aug 20	Sept 17	Oct 15
Julie Bruhn	P	P	P		P					
Alex Ohman	A	P	A		A					
Bruce Albright	A	P	P		P					
Cal Miller	P	P	A							
Jim Courneya					P					

- **P: Present. A: Absent**

1. Agenda approved as distributed with one addition regarding Community Energy Ambassador
2. Minutes from the February and March meeting were approved as previously distributed.
3. Welcomed new member Jim Courneya! Review provided on the background and work completed regarding energy and resiliency.
4. Since the March meeting, member Cal Miller resigned. Looking for another member.
5. Event Center solar panels and battery hub installed. Await final electrical work. Anticipate the solar panels will be functional in June.
6. Received the \$8,000.00 funding from ESMC to assist in executing the Energy and Resiliency Action plan. Consensus was using to have an open house approach to showcase solar at the event center. It was proposed a date in September be looked at and secured. Will begin a list of who to contact to be part of the event; Lake Region, OTPC, CERTS, Holsen Solar, WCI, OTC Soil & Water. It was also proposed we come up with a title beyond energy to attract a broader attendance.
7. Vergas Energy & Resilience Plan and Action Plan were approved at the April City Council meeting. University of Minnesota is working on digital formatting. Discussed how to approach the action pan. The following areas were highlighted actions that could be addressed the first year:
 - Energy Fair- meets community education
 - Solar on fire hall- meets expansion of clean energy
 - Ordinances- Planning Commission address
 - Look at tree's available to the community in spring
 - Look at how to certify as a Tree City
 - Look at EMB (Emerald Ash Borer) Management Plans out there and adopt and have this part of the Energy Fair
8. There is a Community Energy Ambassadors training that is available to support community clean energy projects. The program is self-paced, up to 6 months, and free of charge. Registration for the training is at <https://learning.umn.edu/search/publicCourseSearchDetails.do?method=load&courseId=62733213&courseTitle=certs-community-energy-ambassadors-core-training> or go to learning umn edu and do community search for EXT XAE.0012 - CERTs Community Energy Ambassadors: Core Training.
9. Next meeting is June 18, 2026

Advisory Board Recommendations:

- Search for a new member to serve on the Advisory Board (Julie Bruhn)
- Check dates in September when the Event Center would be open for the solar open house/information fair (Julie Bruhn)
- Provide members with Community Energy Ambassador Training information (Julie Bruhn)

Recorder
e/s Julie Bruhn