

# Governor’s Task Force on Climate Change

Task Force Member Meeting  
August 26, 2020, 11:00 AM – 4:30 PM  
Online via Zoom

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## Meeting Notes

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### Opening Remarks, Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes

Good morning, thank you for taking the time to join us. As we get closer and closer to our final recommendations, it is important that everyone is present for these meetings. We are working to fulfill the Governor’s vision, and the vision of so many people, to reduce emissions and transition Wisconsin to a renewable future. We must do so in an equitable way.

We are closer to a solid, manageable amount of recommendations. I want to spend today discussing those recommendations and offer another opportunity for folks to bring anything forward that we might have missed. Today we will provide feedback to strengthen the recommendations and make them workable.

Our goal is a solid set of recommendations that everyone supports. Those will be given to the Governor, and we ask that you advocate for these changes, be they executive or legislative actions. We don’t want a report that just sits on a shelf; we want our hard work to drive us toward a cleaner State.

We have an amazing set of experts in this room, and the most important thing we can do today is come together. We have some tough decisions to make. You have brought a lot of commendable work to this Task Force, and all your work is still valuable and welcome, even if your recommendation does not make it to the final list. The parking lot will continue to hold ideas that are not in the final list of recommendations. Thank you.

**Roll Call (those in bold confirmed in attendance)**

**Amber Meyer Smith, Clean Wisconsin**  
**Anna Haines, Professor, UW-Stevens Point**  
**Bill Hogseth, WI Farmer's Union**  
**Bob Stone, International Brotherhood Electrical Workers**  
Chris Wallace  
**Doug Rebout, WI Corn Growers**  
**Daryl Williams, WI Emergency Management**  
**Dylan Jennings**  
**Jeffrey Crawford**  
**Carrie Schuman, WI Conservation Voters**  
**Kirsten Shead, Milwaukee Water Commons**  
**Kris Canto**  
**Krystal Westfahl**  
**Mark Stoering, Xcel Energy**  
**Paul Graham**  
**Sec. Randy Romanski**  
**Rep. Greta Neubauer, Rep. 66<sup>th</sup> dis**  
**Rep. Mike Kuglits, Rep. 82<sup>nd</sup> dis**  
**Rob Palmberg, Dairyland Power Coop**  
**Robert Garvin**  
**Robert Nigh**  
Sec. Caleb Frostman  
**Sec. Preston Cole**  
**Senator Mark Miller, WI State Senate**  
**Stacey Craig, Environmental Stewardship**  
**Stephanie Salgado**  
**Katie McGinty, VP Johnson Controls**  
**Mike Peters, WPPI**  
**Jeff Rafn**  
**Pollack**

**Guiding Principles, Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes**

The guiding principles of this Task Force are to:

- 1) Fulfill our Mission to Make Meaningful Recommendations
- 2) Fulfil our Vision to Reduce Emissions
- 3) Center on Environmental Justice
- 4) Align with the Public Will
- 5) Ensure Government is Provided with Diverse Options
- 6) Uphold Equity and Sustainability

The following recommendations have come together after research, feedback and subcommittee chair discussions. Today will help us get closer to a list of recommendations that we can present to the Governor for legislative and executive action.

## Energy Recommendations

### **1) Expand Wisconsin's Focus on Energy Program Funding and Increase Incentives**

- Miller: Ensure that low-income households are included.
- Kuglits: How much to expand and put on rate-payers? WEDTI report: +\$100M/year
- Meyer Smith: Double or triple the program's funding; it is cost-effective.
- Miller: Request that a specific funding number be included.

### **2) Utility Carbon Reduction Goals**

- Reduce power sector net carbon emissions by at least 60% by 2030
  - Reduce power sector net carbon emissions by 100% by 2050
- Rafn: How did the subcommittee come up with 60%?
  - How will this be financed?
  - Palmberg: We have concerns about the levels, especially the 2030 goal, reliability and implementation technology.
  - Neubauer: I support this recommendation. Technology is moving quickly. It is important to aim high. Many public comments were about setting ambitious carbon reduction goals.
  - Rafn: I am concerned that an overly ambitious goal will cause it to be dismissed for being unrealistic. Maybe 90%?
  - Investor-owned utility goals are net zero by 2050.
  - Peters: WPPi supports the 2050 goal as long as they are goals, not mandates. The 2030 is more of a concern. Reliability and cost must continue to be raised. Emissions are jointly purchased.
  - Salgado: I am disappointed. My generation will have to get to zero emissions. This is quite disappointing.
  - Palmberg: Dairyland supports these goals.
  - Neubauer: We need to be ambitious. What else can we do to support these goals being met? Work with MISO to ensure this is feasible.
  - Kuglitz: Government goal is *carbon-free*. Subcommittee goals are *net carbon emissions 100%*. Also *carbon-neutral*. Are there different meanings for each term? Yes, each term is different.
  - Define these terms for the Task Force.
  - Affordability and reliability are critical.
  - Stone: Are there recommendations that address the lack of technology that is needed to reach these carbon goals?
  - Rafn: Require all public institutions to reduce carbon emissions and implement these goals; that would move the market.

### **3) Cost Effective Closure and/or Reduced Use of Coal Facilities**

- Mechanism to close existing coal plants.
- More detail is needed about policies that are specific for customers and shareholders.
  - Palmberg: We have some reservations.
  - Stone: Add a plan/process to work with local communities regarding economic impact of plant closure, and employees of the plants.
  - Crawford: Job training will be included.
  - HCSE included this in its recommendations; it links to green jobs transitions in HCSE.
  - Neubauer: Yes, this is important.
  - Shed: Underline the public health and environmental justice components of this recommendation. The cost to public health of maintaining coal plants should be part of this recommendation.
  - Peters: Remember not-for-profit utilities. Reliability is important to remember as well.

#### 4) Low-cost Debt Financing of Customer Clean Energy Projects

- Maximizing the PACE financing opportunities for commercial customers; on-bill financing for residential customers; create a study committee to look into WI Green Bank.

-McGinty: PACE is Property Assessed Clean Energy: finance upgrades to energy features via mortgage or lending instruments. I strongly endorse this recommendation. Expand the full array of low-cost financing; insert private-public partnerships, energy performance contracts, to this recommendation.

-Stoering: Expand this to encourage others to provide financing. There is an environmental justice component regarding credit profiles. Consider lower costs of capital.

-Neubauer: A bill last year was put forth to address environmental justice and climate justice issues.

-Jennings: Ensure that Tribal properties are included.

-Include local jurisdictions.

-What is the source of funds? If from utilities, would be problematic for WPPI.

#### 5) Energy Use Reduction Goals

- Set standards for public utilities.

-Stoering: Utilization is in the hands of customers. I suggest that this is a better goal for state buildings, universities, and residents—it is difficult for utilities/government to set utilization goals for consumers.

-Meyer Smith: Other states have energy efficiency goals. I prefer to see this as a standard, rather than a goal. This is a way to use energy efficiency as a carbon reduction goal.

#### 6) Load Management

- Establish programs at Public Service Commission to incentivize load management, including tariffs to incent stationary and mobile battery load management.

-Neubauer: This is really critical. We need to invest in the technologies needed to help us manage load.

-Supported by WEDTI report.

-Is this at the MISO end or controlled locally?

-Palmberg: At retail level.

-Rate design and pricing are effective ways to manage this. Perhaps expand those aspects?

-McGinty: This would give people more options, allowing people to shape their own energy load.

#### 7) Interconnection Standards

- Standards have not been updated since 2004, and do not reflect latest the technology and energy storage.

-Supported by WEDTI report.

#### 8) Update State Commercial and Residential Energy Codes

- Include EV charging.

-Could be combined with another recommendation.

-Meyer Smith: I want clarification on this; hope it is a full update of the codes.

-Canto: Consider how to enhance buildings and resilience, not just codes.

-Tied to national standards: Maybe include a stretch goal that includes water, electricity, construction? -

-Not mandatory, but communities could require it.

-Williams: How would it influence schools and school construction?

-Parking Lot: Energy efficiency projects at schools.

-Meyer Smith: Local jurisdictions want the ability to enforce goals beyond the state standards.

-How to maintain affordability with increased standards?

### **9) Net Metering/Advanced Renewable Tariffs**

- Increase net metering caps; ensure customers generating are getting the retail rate; support PSC work to update WI policies; paying customers the MISO long-term credit.

-Crawford: A lot of tough issues here.

-Peters: There is a lot to unpack here. These sub-recommendations conflict with each other. The current PSC docket has been open already; encourage the PSC prioritize that docket but not be so prescriptive.

-The role of the PSC is important here.

-Mike: Regarding the retail rate, we'd rather get to the appropriate rate.

-Garvin: Affordability and fairness are important. We have concerns paying above-market prices for energy and capacity.

-Miller: There are areas of the State where manure should not be spread; consider a special rate for manure digesters to create demand for reduced spread.

-First manure, second energy. It is a higher-cost resource for generation. Ratepayers may pay more for higher costs. This is the domain of the PSC.

-Crawford: Policy #32 regarding digesters is parked on the master list.

### **10) Allow 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Renewable Financing (Solar/Energy Generation)**

- Clarify the ability of customers to utilize 3<sup>rd</sup> party financing for energy generation projects.

-Meyer Smith: Remember that this is about giving people more access to renewable energy. This promotes access for everybody, and net metering is the way to do it.

-Peters: This is a complex issue, currently in litigation. We need good rate design before WPPI can support this.

-McGinty: We've seen granular recommendations so far and we've left out some very big pieces, like decarbonizing buildings, building electrification and urging carbon reduction goals.

-Crawford: Similar to an EHI recommendation which is in the parking lot.

### **11) Support Community Solar**

- Includes utility-provided and community-sponsored solar projects.

### **12) Develop Electricity Storage and Microgrids for Critical Infrastructure, Pilot Microgrid Program**

- Build resilience of energy distribution, support local resiliency.

-Related to Focus on Energy, includes new technologies.

-Peters: Who is this aimed at? Resiliency is becoming a bigger issue and utilities are addressing it if there is enough demand. Microgrids and battery storage are expensive. Does this include technology advancement?

-Crawford: This includes rural locations, enabling them to provide their own power and backup power. Also includes facilities which need continual energy, such as data centers, military, etc.

-Peters: This is a rate design issue. We see those in the domain of the customer; other customers should not have to subsidize the needs of a few. Are these incentives for the public or private sector?

-Canto: This could fall under other infrastructure recommendations.

### **13) Modernize Rate Design (Healthy Community committee)**

- Incentivize clean energy and energy efficiency and to decrease disproportionate impacts on low-income communities.

#### **14) Utility Rate Design (EHI committee)**

-Garvin: This a huge issue, what we charge residential customers includes a lot of fixed costs that are covered by variable charges. Customers may elect to install their own systems, which will shift costs to those who don't invest in renewables.

-Peters: #13 and #14 are inconsistent; it is confusing to have them together. This is a matter of fairness across all our customers.

-Garvin: What about the timing of day of usage? Those who use off-hours, subsidize peak users.

-Peters: We have proposed time of use rates to the PSC. This is an ongoing issue. We see a benefit there but PSC has not been supportive.

-Meyer Smith: This is concerning for Clean Wisconsin. We are against the increase of fixed rate charges; they disincentivize customers from using energy efficiency and renewables. This is the opposite of what we are trying to do and doesn't get us to our 2050 goals.

-Miller: I second Clean Wisconsin, but support modernizing rate design.

-Neubauer: I third Clean Wisconsin.

-Robert: The cost of infrastructure in rural areas is very high.

-Bert: It seems there is not agreement on this issue. How to address this?

-Shed: Has the subcommittee compared how these recommendations relate to those of other states? How bold are we being compared to other states?

-Crawford: Yes, we referenced other jurisdictions. There are five energy recommendations in the parking lot, one additional policy based on WEDTI report, that will come up later.

-Identify where these will be evaluated, include in each recommendation.

-There are discrepancies on impact scores—how the scoring was done and what exactly is being scored. Clarify for Task Force.

### **Transportation Recommendations**

#### **1) Safer and Cleaner Streets Package**

- Joint recommendation (Energy and Healthy Communities committees)
- Restore the Complete Streets Program. Restore eminent domain acquisition. Increase state funding for TAP, bicycle programs and infrastructure.

-The overarching theme is to encourage movement away from automobiles.

-Supported by Lt. Governor.

#### **2) Promote Public Transit and Green Transportation**

- Joint recommendation (Energy and Healthy Communities committees)

-Canto: Reduce vehicles, reduce emissions, focus on green transportation. Local municipalities need the ability to coordinate with RTA.

-Neubauer: I agree. This is essential for the environmental justice component of our work.

-Include improving rural and elderly transportation options.

#### **3) Support Hybrid-Electric Vehicles, Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure**

- Written by all 3 subcommittees.

-Palmberg: We support this one strongly. Add a public/private partnership to study infrastructure Statewide.

-Shead: The overarching goal is to saturate low-income communities, communities that haven't traditionally been involved in the discussion, to deploy electric vehicles.

-Canto: Consider freight corridors; can our infrastructure support electric freight vehicles? Can our infrastructure support visitors to Wisconsin with electric vehicles?

#### **4) Carbon, Climate and EJ Audited Transportation Planning and Development**

- Direct the DOT to perform climate, EJ impact studies as transportation-related projects are developed

-Canto: Title 6: Federal DOT projects require environmental justice reviews. It is worthwhile to require this of all projects beyond federal ones.

-Meyer Smith: This recognizes the external costs of carbon, such as healthcare and tourism; ensures that all costs are considered as decisions are made.

-Consider: Strengthening the utilities' role; reducing the hassle of commercial electric vehicles, incentivizing charging at the right time of day.

-WEC Energy Groups agrees.

Additional recommendations:

- Allow direct EV sales
- Statewide electric transportation plan

### **Agriculture (Carbon and Soil Health) Recommendations**

#### **1) Avoid Conversion of Natural Working Lands**

- Incentivize the identification of long-term additional farmland and conservation land base with additional land use planning efforts.

-Remove first bullet point

-Hogseth: Edits to last bullet point are needed.

-Miller: The benefits to agricultural practices are high, but climate impacts are modest.

#### **2) Pay Farmers to Store Carbon Through Practices That Improve Soil Health**

- Establish a carbon farmer's program at DATCP, etc.

-Hogseth: Incentivize farmers to adopt carbon sequestration, increase FSA funding.

-Miller: Many farmers already doing these practices; the challenge is to fund/incentivize practices that are already being done. DATCP is working with farmers and conservation groups.

-Romanski: We can increase incentives and doing so is not counter to what is already being done.

-Hogseth: This will help farmers measure the soil carbon that is captured and connect with carbon credit programs.

-Romanski: This is a way to explore carbon markets.

-Hogseth: Third party carbon credits do incentivize past practices.

-Rebout: Lots of farmers are not yet willing to make changes; incentives will help them do so.

-Pollack: It is hard to justify changes in practices without financial incentives, especially in the current economic climate; this is an opportunity to make progress with support.

-Robert: There are high costs to implementing these practices; machinery that is not no-till is now worthless. Carbon sequestration is growing exponentially as we add farmers and practices. I'd like to give credit to those farmers currently doing the right practices and providing examples.

### **3) Advance Farmer Education**

-Hogseth: Help support farmers in their transition to new practices.

### **4) Support Farmer-Led Watershed Groups**

-Hogseth: This is in support of farmer-led watershed groups; there is benefit for carbon sequestration and climate adaptation.

-Romanski: I agree, there are good programs already in place.

-Pollack: Farmers need support to try new conservation practices. Groups have access to equipment so farmers can try them before buying them. Counties could buy equipment to let farmers rent instead of buy to promote new practices.

### **5) Make managed grazing livestock systems a conservation priority by incentivizing and producing technical assistance for transitioning.**

-Hogseth: This is grant support for current programs to revitalize them.

### **6) Increase nutrient and manure management to reduce nitrous oxide and methane emissions.**

-Pollack: Wisconsin has been a pioneer in nutrient management for manure spreading, thanks to university programs. Counties encourage farmers to use these, but some counties struggle. This would support farmers using a good program.

-Canto: Does this include biodigesters?

-Pollack: The cost of digesters is a challenge for small farms. Manure management is a low-cost, high-impact practice.

-Robert: Farmers with digesters also use manure management plans.

## **Forestry Recommendations**

### **1) Implement Climate-Focused Forest Management to 6)**

-Cole: Recommendations #1 to #6 can be viewed in aggregate:

These recommendations support tree planting in urban areas and keeping forest as forest. Wisconsin has a history of being a robust leader in forest and forest products. The simple act of planting trees has the value-added proposition of sequestering carbon. Then, place that carbon in a marketplace. These speak to industry; U.S. Forest Service has significant programs to support forest programs. These recommendations contribute to economy and environment.

-Electric vehicle infrastructure is getting short shrift: how much now, how much in the future? We could be embarrassed by not taking a more aggressive approach to electric vehicles.

-Meyer Smith: Did you discuss the stewardship program? It is set to expire soon.

-Cole: Yes, the DNR is all in, but to be determined is by how much.

-Shed: Forestry recommendations intersect with watershed quality and global resilience. Reforesting urban areas wherever we can will have an immediate impact on public health.

-Sherry: I echo the urban forestry recommendations. Exposure to green spaces impacts mental as well as physical health.

-Cole: Air quality in Milwaukee is in harm's way. Dutch Elm disease has denuded the tree canopy. We want to increase the tree canopy to 30-40%.

-Miller: Complete Streets is careful to not eliminate urban forest canopy.

-Shed: Trees can be included in Complete Streets programs to improve canopy density.

### Supporting Comments, Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes

Thank you to everyone for participating, and I hope to talk to you soon. I have to be in and out of this meeting due to other events taking place today. Thank you.

### Food System Recommendations

#### **1) Rice**

- Supported by Lt. Governor

#### **2) Implementation of Statewide Food Sovereignty Program**

-Jennings: We need food security when our population is projected to be much higher in 2050. This recommendation equips communities with the resources needed to grow their own food. It includes support for more local gardens.

#### **3) Food Waste Program**

-Overall, we need a more robust way to manage food waste Statewide and regionally. Composting and food waste are complicated; they involve managing food waste and keeping it out of landfill.  
-Meyer Smith: I strongly support this. The DNR stakeholder group expressed strong support for this.

#### **4) Subsistence Adaptation Plan**

-Jennings: Assess species vulnerability, adaptation plans as ecosystems change. How do we adapt as climate changes continues to affect species? For example, walleye.

### Flooding Recommendations

#### **1) Focus on Urban- and Rural- Specific Watershed Action**

-Shead: Wisconsin is going to have more flooding. Flooding is an environmental justice issue because of rebuilding costs. Water doesn't act the same everywhere, so we need watershed-specific action plans. This encompasses best practices around water policy management. It is critical to maintaining State resilience.

-Develop funding mechanisms for wetlands.

-Miller: Government recommendations include Statewide resiliency planning; incorporate this measure into resiliency planning.

-Yes, this is a key component of the Statewide resiliency planning process.

-Crawford: I support this. It overlaps with EHI Policy #47.

-Meyer Smith: This was put to the parking lot of another subcommittee, so I'm glad to hear it included here. There is potential for permitting and incentives.

-Shead: Folding this into Statewide resiliency planning is good, but we need to maintain regional language, and very local watershed-based action.

## 2) Focus on Wetlands

-Hogseth: This is specific to how we can use wetland systems, and strategically restore and rebuild them so they help manage water. This would establish an advisory council to set up a Statewide strategy; identify two pilot watershed projects to identify degraded wetlands and start restoration projects.

-Stacy: According to the Wisconsin Wetlands Association information, wetlands have a unique role in carbon sequestration, and I support this recommendation's specific focus on wetlands.

## 3) Update Rules and Increase Collaboration on Rainfall Models

-Hogseth: Rainfall patterns are changing, and the models we use for design standards are based on outdated models. This would work with NOAA to update models, and then update statutes to reflect new models.

## Green Jobs Recommendations

### 1) Create new jobs and increase economic viability for individuals and communities in conservation and green industries (renewable energies, green industries, forestry, state parks, etc.)

-Hogseth: Use workforce development opportunities, model off an AmeriCorps-like program.

-Wolf: This is supported by the Lt. Governor. It incorporates tree planting, watershed work. It includes training for apprenticeship-like work, technical training in green jobs targeted in low-income communities. It is modelled after other communities, such as Oakland.

-Cole: The DNR is all in here. We have a backlog of infrastructure work. This supports the profession of green industries. We are trying to offer young folks the opportunity to work and help them view the DNR as a place to work long-term, as a career.

-Include a statement that programs would be part of a pathway that would lead to Associate / Bachelor's degrees. The transition to jobs in green industries will require highly-skilled individuals. There is a need to move from these programs to highly-skilled positions.

-Cole: I agree. For example, train people as arborists, as we did in Milwaukee. We can replicate that type of work and increase exposure to these good jobs. I want to show young people the opportunities for professions; I want to increase exposure to these jobs.

-Jeff: Green industries include transportation, energy, etc., significant changes to our labor market. If this is focused on land/forest/environment, maybe we need to be more clear about that language. Our educational institutions need to build pathways in these areas.

- Wolf: After COVID, people of all ages will need jobs.

-Cole: Government alone can't do this, as government is contracting rapidly. There may be opportunities for private companies here. Encourage our contractors to hire others through workforce development boards and put people to work.

-Canto: This aligns with environmental justice work. Finance should be included, such as green banks, green investment. Also, there is an opportunity to use data science to benefit climate work.

-Shead: Retrofitting could be folded in here. Let's ensure that jobs are included into all our recommendations.

-Cole: Lots of work needs to be done on our farms.

-Sherry: Excited about this. Include language about gender equity here.

-Rafn: #1, #2, #4 are all about making the switch in jobs; require changes to education for jobs at every level. It would be less confusing to combine these.

-Romanski: Regarding Cole's green jobs, those are agricultural support positions. I am happy we are discussing the connectivity of employment and clean air/soil/water.

- Miller: This discussion about green jobs is important, however, the most important is to develop public policy to make those jobs available, public and private. We need to accelerate green infrastructure to accelerate green jobs.
- Cole: This is a very robust conversation, and this recommendation may need to be reshaped to be more robust and less choppy.
- How do worker rights fit into this task force?
- Sherry: Healthy Communities committee incorporates this.
- Discussion about incorporating workforce rights. Potentially a significant issue.
- Combine #1, 2, 4 and expand.

## **2) Job Transition Act**

- Wenona: Is this recommendation based on something in Minnesota?
- Colorado legislation addresses this.
- Fits with #6.
- Mark: Having a transition for the community shutting down a coal plant regarding jobs, tax base, property values, schools, etc. is very important. Do not underestimate the importance of this.
- Canto: I strongly support this. Transitional risk should be included in climate risk assessments.
- Palmberg: I agree.
- Our economy centers on carbon-based technology, and we are moving away from it.
- Cole: State government supports folks when plants close, it is a workforce development issue, and they will help when plants close. Those teams can help when moving from coal-based to green industry. A committee meets regularly to discuss these issues, and it could be helpful to include them here.
- Maria: Reorganize this category.
- Shed: Be realistic about how many jobs are actually coming.
- Mark: A coal-fired plant employs more people than a natural gas plant, as well as wind/solar installations.

## **3) Promote Green Business Through ...**

## **4) Universities/Colleges/Trades/State-Sponsored Apprenticeship/Pre-Apprentice Programs**

### **Environmental Justice Recommendations**

#### **1) Create an Office of Environmental Justice**

- Canto: This recommendation encompasses all subsequent environmental justice recommendations. These would help ensure that environmental justice permeates all state agency operations. They would help to hold people accountable as they work in this space.
- Wolf: The Lt. Governor is very passionate about this, as is the public.
- Shed: An environmental justice roundtable in Milwaukee seconds this recommendation. The environmental justice office should report to community advisory committee.

**2) Encourage Anti-Trust Enforcement**

-Hogseth: Farmers are already under significant economic stress, due to the monopolization of seed, chemicals, etc. This recommendation helps the WI attorney general enforce anti-trust laws and do investigations, with staffing and investigation demand authority. Other state attorneys general have this power. Farmers can't adapt to climate change if they are going bankrupt.

**3) Improve the State Consultation Process with Tribal Nations**

-Wolf: Mining issues is the source for this recommendation. We need a more intentional ways to engage with sovereign nations. It is similar to work being doing by DOA.

**4) Mandate Racial Disparity Impact Study**

-August Ball presented this but is not in attendance.

-Canto: This is similar to the environmental justice impact analysis recommendation: Title 6 requires federal projects to undergo racial disparity impact study, and that could be extended to and enhanced at the State level. Include public health and economic impacts.

-Sherry: Include as a bullet under the environmental justice office?

-Kerry Shuman: Yes, include this within the environmental justice office. The most important piece is that it would help the state prioritize efforts.

-Miller: Who would conduct the studies?

-Sherry: Depends upon how the office is set up: staff or consultant would conduct the studies.

-Wolf: Move this to environmental justice office recommendation, get more information from August Ball.

**5) Educating staff within industry about systemic oppression and bias/unconscious bias in employment and workforce practices can have both a positive and negative impact on underserved communities.**

-August Ball presented this but is not in attendance.

-Hogseth: There is a need for this training throughout State agencies.

-Shed: Similarly, place this under the environmental justice office recommendation. Climate justice and racial justice are inextricably linked.

-Wolf: Does this reference private industry or state government?

-Sherry: This is a hole in training of state employees. We looked at recommendations from Milwaukee.

-Hogseth: Agency-focused.

-Maria: Agency-focused.

-Incentivizing training is one avenue.

-Canto: Webinars, third-party experts and new employee training are ways this is implemented currently.

-Miller: I don't agree that this has a high impact on climate change.

-How was impact rated? Impact to climate adaptation? Impact to subcommittee? Clarification is needed.

-Talk with August Ball, flesh out if private/public groups are involved.

## Government Recommendations

### **1) Regional and Statewide Resilience Planning (especially as it relates to flooding)**

- Miller: I endorse the importance of this planning.
- Canto: Municipal and county level disaster and hazard mitigation could be integrated into planning processes.
- Miller: Let's reiterate planning on a watershed basis.
- Shead: This supports both rural and urban communities.
- Stacy: Recommend edit to second bullet point: not limit technical assistance grants but include flooding and watershed management for municipal and tribal communities.
- Miller: I concur.
- Crawford: Yes, EHI's policy is consistent with this one.
- Shead: Should this be an office of resiliency? i.e., how will this be funded?
- Canto: This is cross-agency, interdisciplinary work. An office or officer position, an entity that can cut across silos is critical. It can't be held within one government silo.

### **2) Give local control back to municipalities so they can regulate the use of plastic containers and plastic bags.**

- Canto: State law currently prohibits municipalities from prohibiting these.
- Miller: Expand this recommendation to allow local jurisdictions to adopt environmental regulations above and beyond what the State minimum is.
- Wolf: The Lt. Governor is in support of this recommendation and Senator's Miller recommendation.
- Shead: Senator, would that include sand mining?
- Miller: Local ordinances have been used to be very restrictive, as opposed to expansive. I would like to look at ways to expand local control, for example shoreline zoning.
- Robert: How does this relate to the plastic bagging that farmers use?
- Maria: This needs some thoughts on expansion of scope.
- Miller: Will look at more areas where this could be expanded and bring that to the committee.

### **3) Data collection: Track carbon reductions, electricity consumption and emissions data collection and provide data for energy decision-making.**

- Crawford: This is a fundamental thing that needs to happen.
- Miller: One of the fundamental responsibilities of government is to collect data; are we already doing this at PSC?
- Maria: The DNR does some tracking, another group tracks electricity; it is piecemeal now. This would make it more combined.
- Meyer Smith: The Strategic Energy Assessment is data in the aggregate, and we need individualized data.
- Canto: We need a dynamic dashboard to track usage and role it into the aggregate.

## Education Recommendations

### **1) Launch a Public Education Campaign**

-Canto: We need to engage the community on what our message is. Not just the message but the messenger is important.

-Meyer Smith: I am flagging “willingness to personally pay more for products and taxes that reduce carbon emissions.”

-Jeff: I wrote that, and I want people to understand the problem and why we need to react to it. We need a sense of urgency, to not immediately go to the price tag. The first issue should not be what it costs, but rather the long-term benefits.

-Meyer Smith: I agree that we need to educate on the urgency of action.

-Shed: Ensure that this is not framed as a financially privileged choice.

-Jeff: There will be a certain amount of pain, and the public will take it.

-Wolf: We need to understand the scope of this campaign. Government can't sway personal decisions, but rather create an environment in favor of certain actions.

-Jeff: Policymakers need to feel that the public is demanding this.

-Sherry: A critical tweak: public education isn't one-directional, but this could be more of a community engagement approach.

-Jeff: Need a strong, public visual.

-Wolf: Support the public/private partnership of community engagement.

-We won't persuade everyone, but people want to know how to get involved and help.

Jeff: Recycling is one example of a message that shaped public activity.

Wenona: Work out more details of what this campaign would look like.

Messaging and campaign could be an entirely separate committee project.

### **2) Create Climate Science and Climate Justice in K-12 Curriculum**

### **3) Direct the DPI to ...**

2) and 3) are interrelated

-Salgado: Me and August Ball discussed this, and the Youth Climate Action Team is very involved in this recommendation. Consider moving it to higher education.

-Jennings: This mirrors Act 31, teaching about Native American culture. But it is impossible to enforce. Ensure that our recommendation is enforceable.

-Miller: The curriculum of PreK-12 comes under direct state purvey, so how would it be extended to higher education? Propose that #2 becomes part of #3.

## Carbon Recommendations

### **1) Carbon Pricing**

-Wolf: Do we need both of these? Is this the lane of state government, or are there other options?

-Crawford: We need consensus on federal pricing legislation. This had a lot of public report. Legislation is not needed.

-Neubauer: An overwhelming number of people want more engagement at the federal level to advocate for carbon pricing.

-Mark: Many carbon pricing proposals are circulating at the federal level. If we endorse this as a committee, let's not limit our support to a specific bill. This is difficult to do on a regional level, but possible on a larger scale.

-Shead: Carbon pricing keeps rising to the top. We don't want to dismiss it to the federal government, maybe we look to neighboring states? We can incentivize green energy production and decision-making. I'd like some of this to move forward in conjunction with support for the federal legislation.

-Jennings: Agree.

-Wolf: I don't know if we have any direction on this.

-Need a subcommittee to study this.

-No state has moved solo on this issue; it needs a national perspective in order to make a difference. It is difficult for a single state to move on this, but a state could endorse federal legislation.

-Stacy: Many public members regard this as inevitable. It would be wise for Wisconsin to get out in front of it. Citizen's Climate Lobby has statewide chapters that support federal carbon pricing legislation.

Wolf: Flesh this out a bit more.

### **2) Require an Analysis on the Social Cost of Carbon**

Crawford: This is specific to the passage of Assembly Bill 766. Legislation is required here.

## Closing

Not all agenda items were discussed; still to discuss are public comments and gaps.

The Task Force decided to meet in two weeks to further discuss the issues highlighted above.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.