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# TREEDC Newsletter

## October 2017

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### The University of Tennessee Martin Chairman Dr. Keith Carver Named New TREEDC Chairman



The Board of Directors of the Tennessee Renewable Energy & Economic Development Council (TREEDC) recently selected UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver as Honorary Chairman of TREEDC, a statewide network of 108 mayors and 30 colleges and universities whose mission is to promote and connect renewable energy with economic development for Tennessee communities. Dr. Carver succeeds UT President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson who along with the Municipal Technical Advisory Service formed TREEDC in 2008. Dr. Johnson opened so many doors for the mayors of TREEDC and we are grateful for his wisdom and guidance over the years.

Carver began his tenure as UT Martin Chancellor in January 2017. Previously, he had served as executive assistant to the UT President since January 2011. Prior to that, he held roles at UT campuses in Knoxville, Martin and Memphis, including serving as interim vice chancellor for development and alumni affairs at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis and assistant vice chancellor for development at UT Martin. He held several positions at UT Knoxville, including assistant director and director of development and alumni affairs for the College of Law, program director for the Office of Student Activities and co-director of TeamVOLS. He also worked as director of special projects and coordinator of experiential education at Marietta College in Ohio for two years.

Carver will work with TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land to promote TREEDC's 10 year anniversary related events in 2018 and to create more awareness in renewable energy at UT campuses and local governments across the state. Carver will also be joined by West Tennessee TREEDC board members Huntingdon Mayor Dale Kelley, Mike McWherter, Memphis Councilman Dr. Edmund Ford, Jr., and Gibson County Utility Executive Director Pat Riley in promoting and utilizing UT Martin's mobile energy trailer and other related educational outreach activities.

## TREEDC and the University of Tennessee CIS Hosts Mayor's Energy Roundtable

On August 9, 2017, Mayors from the cities of Milan, Franklin and Dunlap representing the Tennessee Renewable Energy & Economic Development Council (TREEDC) participated in a clean energy roundtable discussion conducted by the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and the Natural Conservancy. Dodd Galbreath, Founder of the Institute for Sustainable Practice at Lipscomb University moderated the discussion which also included attendees from Senator Lamar Alexander's and Nashville Mayor Megan Berry's office.

Key Takeaways from the roundtable discussion included the following:

- For mayors, investment in clean energy is not always about the environment and many times an economic decision.
- In Nashville, more people are demanding a top down approach on climate change while rural cities face little or no demand from constituents to fight climate change.
- Mayors are the face of the community. It will take mayors to step out on these kinds of issues to get the community to change. Education of the public is essential.
- Timing is essential for mayors in determining when to step out on climate change.
- Being a mayor is a balancing act. There are many different grant opportunities that can be accessed through the EPA, Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA), Department of Energy (DOE) and more.
- FEMA can be a good partner for mayors interested in clean energy. Not everyone buys in to climate change but they do understand emergencies.



From Left to Right: Milan Mayor BW Beasley, Heather Toney, Founder, The Resolutions Firm, Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land, MTAS Consultant Warren Nevad and Martin Penny, Cooley Public Strategies



From left to right: Chad Kimes, Energy Systems Engineer, State of Tennessee Office of Energy Programs, TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land, Franklin Mayor Ken Moore, and Mark Schwartz, Owner, greenMARK COLLABORATIVE

## TREEDC Vice President/ Gibson County Utilities Director Pat Riley Addresses McKenzie Rotary Club



*TREEDC Vice President Pat Riley*

TREEDC Vice president Pat Riley addressed the Rotarians of McKenzie, Tennessee on August 21, 2017. Riley explained the origins and mission of TREEDC which is to promote renewable energy in Tennessee. Riley also stressed how compressed natural gas allows a community to become energy independent and to stabilize their energy costs. Compressed natural gas did not fluctuate in price due to Hurricane Harvey due to its availability and resistance to natural disasters. Riley also reviewed the development and operation of the Gibson county Utility state of the art compressed natural gas station.

## New Compressed Natural Gas Station Opens in TREEDC Member Fayetteville

On August 1, 2017, American Natural Gas (ANG) and Tennessee Clean Fuels, with the support of Frito-Lay, a division of PepsiCo, conducted a ribbon cutting event on August 1, 2017 to unveil the new ANG Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling Station in Fayetteville, Tennessee. ANG current owns and operates approximately 40 fueling stations in 13 states across the United States, inclusive of stations in process and under development. The company is expanding to meet fleets' demands for CNG, the cleanest burning alternative fuel available that has the power to run heavy-duty vehicles. CNG is also quieter, safer, less expensive and abundant in America. Vehicles that run on natural gas generally emit 13 to 21 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions than vehicles that run on gasoline.



Jonathan Overly with Tennessee Clean Fuels New CNG Fueling opens in Fayetteville

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## How Tennessee's Taken Politics out of Renewable Energy

The Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC) has found a way to take the politics out of renewable energy by focusing on creating jobs and saving money.

TREEDC's goal is simple: fast-track renewables in Tennessee. The organization holds free forums throughout the state to educate members on grants and other opportunities available to them.

[Click here](#) to read more.

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## Mayor Land Urges Linking Clean Energy With Economic Development to Chattanooga Times

Recently, TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land wrote this to the Chattanooga Times Free Press – click below for the article.

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/opinion/columns/story/2017/sep/21/landeconomic-development-and-cleenvironment/450152/>

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## TREEDC Memphis Mayor Joins Growing List of US Cities in Mayors National Climate Action Agenda

Memphis Mayor Strickland recently joined the Climate Mayors (aka, Mayors National Climate Action Agenda, or MNCAA), a network of 369 U.S. mayors representing 67.5 million Americans working together to strengthen local efforts for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting efforts for binding federal and global-level policy making. The mayor's action underscores steps that the city is already taking to foster a sustainable, resilient community. As part of Memphis' commitment to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, the city has completed a community-wide greenhouse gas inventory and will soon set near- and long-term targets to reduce emissions. The city will identify strategies and actions to achieve these targets through a climate action planning process which will kick off early next year. Additional sustainability efforts that city government is leading or supporting include:

- Energy efficiency improvements to city facilities
  - A Weatherization Assistance Program
  - Expansion of MLGW's energy efficiency programs for low-income
  - Healthy Homes Partnership and Green and Healthy Homes
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## TREEDC Communities Awarded Clean Tennessee Energy Grants

Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner Bob Martineau announced on August 24, 2017 that \$1.9 million was awarded to 24 communities for clean energy projects, including 11 distressed counties. The Clean Tennessee Energy Grant (CTEG) program provides financial assistance to municipal governments, county governments, utility districts and other entities created by statute. Awarded projects have demonstrated a plan to reduce air emissions, improve energy efficiency and create cost savings. The following TREEDC member communities were awarded funding:

- 1) City of Memphis for retrofitting of lighting on the Nature Center campus
- 2) Marion County for improving efficiency of county buildings including LED and new Energy Star rated windows
- 3) Rhea County for installing energy efficient roofing, insulation and lighting to the Rhea County Courthouse/Annex.
- 4) Sequatchie County for installing upgrades to Justice Center, County Courthouse and Sequatchie County Health Department through lighting upgrades to LEDs.

Congratulations, TREEDC members!

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## 2017 TREEDC State, National, and International Renewable Summit

Hosted by Tennessee Tech University, December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

This conference will feature a wide selection of renewable energy approaches and dialogue for networking and fellowship among our supporters in Tennessee and the rest of the world. Our International Renewable Energy Conference will showcase renewable energy technologies, leaders and local governments and university best practices to our state, national and international members of TREEDC.

### REGISTRATION LINK:

[https://epay.tntech.edu/C20205\\_ustores/web/product\\_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=1061&SINGLESTORE=true](https://epay.tntech.edu/C20205_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=1061&SINGLESTORE=true)

### Agenda Topics:

- TREEDC Overview
- International Best Practices in Renewable Energy
- Volkswagen Diesel Settlement
- Solar PV Update
- Energy Service Contracts
- Waste to Energy Projects
- Compressed Natural Gas and Propane
- Large City Renewable Energy Programs
- Small Town Renewable Energy Programs
- State Government Best Practices
- Jobs Outlook and Training from the University Perspective
- CEUs credit
- Grand Prize Drawing