

MOTION OF THE BOULDER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO SUPPORT THE ENACTMENT OF A GREEN NEW DEAL BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND TO LIMIT GLOBAL WARMING TO 1.5 DEGREE CELSIUS.

By Sharon Malloy smalloy@indra.com

Submitted 7/22/2019 and sent to Resolutions Committee 7/23/19

Updated and approved by the EC 8/14/19

<http://bcdp.co/20190723-R1> | Status: | Public: Yes

Key Document Updates

- 8/14/19: Revised during the EC meeting to fix two minor areas of the text and to add the last two Therefore statements. Passed by majority EV vote also.

WHEREAS, climate change is an urgent unfolding crisis that presents a serious threat to human existence; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has issued a special report in 2018 on the impact of global warming and the need to reduce global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions earlier than 2030 to hold atmospheric warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and avoid the most catastrophic impact of climate change; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the United States' Fourth National Climate Assessment made it clear that climate change will wreak havoc across the United States, and that the current pace and scale of climate action is not sufficient to avoid substantial damage to the economy, the environment and to human health over the coming decades; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County and the rest of Colorado already suffer from the impact of climate change in the form of drought, air pollution, extreme heat, species stress, negative health effects, and floods, and these disasters will become more severe as global GHG emissions continue to poison the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, climate change will increasingly make basic human necessities more expensive and difficult to obtain; and

WHEREAS, throughout the United States, communities of color, low-wage workers and low-income communities have historically borne the brunt of longstanding environmental injustice including fossil-fuel created degradation and it is acknowledged that these communities must benefit equally from a just transition to a sustainable and equitable economy; and

WHEREAS, to stay below 1.5 degrees Celsius increase of global warming, cities, counties and nations throughout the world will need to significantly reduce their per capita emissions by 2030 or earlier; and

WHEREAS, restoring a safe and stable climate will require mobilization at all levels of government and society on a scale, scope, and speed not seen since World War Two; and

WHEREAS, efforts to control climate change will have many benefits such as cleaner air and water, improved health, local employment, cost savings for households, businesses, and government, and the creation of a stronger community; and

WHEREAS, the non-binding resolution in support of the Green New Deal introduced in the House of Representatives on February 7, 2019 by Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-NY and Senator Edward Markey, D-Mass, shows that the Green New Deal will be a coordinated, ambitious, transformative plan to fight climate change which would include mandates to reduce GHG emission in

half by 2030 and for the United States to switch to 100% renewable energy within a decade, among other climate crisis- tackling goals.

WHEREAS, at the same time as it would commit the federal government to aggressively tackling the climate crisis, the Green New Deal would also promote income equality and economic and environmental fairness by promoting massive environmental job creation programs, support for farmers with sustainable agriculture, and boosting sustainable manufacturing.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of the Boulder County Democratic Party (the "Party") hereby declares that the global climate crisis poses a serious, urgent and pressing threat to the well-being of Boulder County, its inhabitants, economy, and environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Party supports the passage of the federal Green New Deal as proposed by Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Edward Markey to radically and effectively address and diminish the global climate crisis, with the goal of saving the inhabitants of Boulder County, the country and the earth from as much suffering and turmoil as possible arising from the climate emergency occurring now and in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the intent of the Party to do everything in its power to promote the swift conversion of our society to an ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable economy and to reduce community-wide carbon emissions as much and as quickly as possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party calls upon Boulder County, the State of Colorado, the United States of America, and all governments and peoples worldwide to initiate a Climate Emergency Mobilization and Just Transition effort to reverse global warming by restoring near pre-industrial global average temperatures and greenhouse gas concentrations, that halts the development of new fossil fuel infrastructure, rapidly phases out all fossil fuels and the technologies which rely upon them, transitions to regenerative agriculture, works to end the sixth mass extinction of species, and creates and guarantees high-quality, good-paying jobs with comprehensive benefits for those who will be impacted by this transition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BCDP sign onto the Sunrise Movements' website to register the BCDP's support of the GND in congress; and further.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BCDP contacts their representative attending the August 2019 national convention and urge them to vote for the broadcast of a climate change president debate.