



**AUSTIN ENERGY UTILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 28, 2018**

The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Mayor Steve Adler called the committee meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

Committee Members in attendance:

Mayor Steve Adler, Vice Chair
Council Member Alison Alter
Council Member Jimmy Flannigan
Council Member Ora Houston
Council Member Ann Kitchen
Council Member Sabino “Pio” Renteria
Cary Ferchill, Electric Utility Commission Chair

Committee Members absent:

Council Member Leslie Pool, Chair
Council Member Gregorio Casar
Council Member Delia Garza
Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo
Council Member Ellen Troxclair

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. Approve the minutes of the Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee meeting of February 28, 2018.**

This item was not addressed due to a lack of quorum.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- 2. The first five speakers signed up before the meeting is called to order will each be allowed three minutes to speak on items not on the agenda.**

There were two speakers:

- Gus Peña commended a staff member from the City Manager’s Office for the work he did to help disadvantaged customers avoid having their utilities disconnected. He said utilities are too expensive, and the poor need to be helped out.
- Paul Robbins described Austin’s sister city of Adelaide, Australia, their source of power and power usage, and the significant dispatchable energy project they are planning.

BRIEFINGS

3. General Manager's report:

- Upcoming items to be brought to Council: business intelligence and analytics software; automated systems manager software for reliability compliance; energy portfolio management software; and cyber liability insurance.
- Update regarding investigation of unusual water usage patterns of residential customers.
- Innovation update: launch of Maven Gig electric vehicles; electric-assist pedicabs; and shared solar.
- Recognition of Austin Energy employees.

(Notes: SPONSOR: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Council Member Ann Kitchen)

Jackie Sargent, General Manager, provided the report.

4. Corporate Services report, including human resources and facilities.

(Notes: SPONSOR: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Council Member Ann Kitchen)

Mark Dombroski, Deputy General Manager and Chief Financial and Risk Officer, provided the report. Discussion included efforts at employee engagement, vacancy rate, labor costs, hiring and compensation practices, performance measures for hiring in a competitive environment, human capital management system, hiring process and technology, expected impact on rates due to the new corporate office, and the laydown yard on Decker Lane.

5. Amendments to customer service regulations on deposits.

(Notes: SPONSOR: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Council Member Ann Kitchen)

Kerry Overton, Deputy General Manager and Chief Customer and Compliance Officer, and Elaine Veselka, Vice President of Customer Account Management, gave the presentation. Discussion included scheduling of the item to go to Council and appreciation for providing the backup in advance.

6. Update on downtown District Cooling Plant #3.

(Notes: SPONSOR: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Council Member Ann Kitchen)

Jim Collins, Director, On-Site Energy Resources, provided the update. Discussion included acquisition of the property and minority- and women-owned business participation in the project.

FUTURE ITEMS

7. Identify items to discuss at future meetings.

Items requested included Austin Energy's role in the permitting process and a presentation on dispatchable renewable resources.

ADJOURN

Mayor Adler adjourned the meeting at 2:54 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 25th day of April 2018 on Mayor Pro Tem Tovo's motion, Council Member Casar's second on a 7-0 vote. Mayor Adler and Council Members Alter, Flannigan, and Troxclair were off the dais.