



AUSTIN ENERGY UTILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
MAY 26, 2016**

The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Sheri Gallo called the committee meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Committee Members in attendance:

Chair Sheri Gallo
Vice Chair Leslie Pool
Mayor Steve Adler
Council Member Gregorio Casar
Council Member Delia Garza
Council Member Ora Houston
Council Member Ann Kitchen
Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria
Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo
Council Member Don Zimmerman

Committee Members absent:

Council Member Ellen Troxclair

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. Approve the minutes of the Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee meeting of April 28, 2016.**

The minutes of the April 28, 2016 meeting were approved on Council Member Garza's motion, and Council Member Houston's second, on a 7-0 vote. Mayor Pro Tem Tovo and Council Members Kitchen, Renteria, and Troxclair were off the dais.

A motion was made by Council Member Zimmerman to reconsider the minutes; however, it failed due to lack of a second.

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.**

There were two speakers:

- Cyrus Reed spoke about a solar-ready amendment for the Energy Code and the need to set aside money for debt defeasance of the coal plant.

- Carol Biedrzycki spoke about concerns with the proposed fixes for the Customer Assistance Program auto enrollment.

BRIEFINGS

3. Update from the City Manager regarding the process to fill the position of Austin Energy General Manager.

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

Assistant City Manager Robert Goode announced that Jackie Sargent has been hired as Austin Energy's General Manager. Discussion included her involvement in past AE projects, including the biomass plant, and ACM Goode stated her full resume would be provided.

4. General Manager's report

- **Rate review schedule and update,**
- **Customer Care Contact Center staffing update.**

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

Mark Dombroski, Austin Energy Interim General Manager; Elaina Ball, Interim Chief Operating Officer; and Mark Dreyfus, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Communications, provided updates regarding the listed topics. Discussion included testimony received as part of the rate case and issues brought forward by intervenors.

5. Customer Assistance Program update on automatic enrollment.

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

Jawana "JJ" Gutierrez, Vice President, Customer Care Services, provided the briefing. Discussion included how the proposed solutions would be paid for, cost effectiveness of the proposed solutions, and recommendation details.

Requests were made for the number of individuals falling through the cracks of the current system that would qualify through dual enrollment and case studies of low income customers whose power usage places them in higher tiers.

6. Upcoming update to the City of Austin Energy Code.

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

Debbie Kimberly, Vice President, Customer Energy Solutions, provided the briefing. Discussion included the cost increases for energy efficiency improvements versus estimated savings, the stakeholders involved in the process, and how these improvements relate to affordability.

Requests were made for the lists of individuals involved in the stakeholder meetings and the payback for energy efficiency enhancements made to the Austin Animal Center when it was constructed.

7. Overview of Austin Energy's wholesale market utilization of power production resources.

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

Elaina Ball provided the briefing. Discussion included the ability to dispatch resources quickly, the resource plan, the expected life of the Decker plant, and how renewables fit into the portfolio.

Requests included how often our generation resources operate at a profit and the numbers behind a graph depicting costs and capacity.

8. Austin Energy's storm response and outage restoration process.

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

Dan Smith, Vice President, Electric Service Delivery, provided the briefing. Discussion included the cost/benefits of burying power lines, issues with locally produced power, and issues experienced by customers when power is restored after an outage.

FUTURE ITEMS

9. Discussion of future agenda items.

This item was not addressed.

ADJOURN

Vice Chair Pool adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 8th day of August 2016 on Council Member Houston's motion, Council Member Garza's second on a 6-0 vote. Vice Chair Pool, Mayor Pro Tem Tovo and Council Members Kitchen, Renteria, and Troxclair were off the dais.