



**AUSTIN ENERGY UTILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 22, 2016**

The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee convened in a regular meeting on Monday, August 22, 2016 at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.

**Chair Sheri Gallo called the committee meeting to order at 9:13 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  
Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo  
Council Member Don Zimmerman

**Committee Members absent:**

Council Member Sabino “Pio” Renteria  
Council Member Ellen Troxclair

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1. Approve the minutes of the Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee meeting of August 15, 2016.**

The minutes of the August 15, 2016 meeting were approved on Vice Chair Pool’s motion, and Council Member Houston’s second, on a 6-0 vote. Council Members Garza, Kitchen, Renteria, Troxclair, and Zimmerman were off the dais.

**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 three speakers:

- Carol Biedrzycki spoke about the Electric Utility Commission’s support for the rate settlement agreement, and that a resolution had been passed regarding the Fayette decommissioning process.
- Dave Cortez stated that the Sierra Club was close to supporting the settlement, and that there needs to be a clear process to move forward with decommissioning Fayette.

- Richard Halpin stated that the House of Worship study should be performed prior to their rate being changed and urged Council not to raise rates at all for customers in Tier 1.

## **BRIEFINGS**

### **3. Staff rate review update and briefing from the Electric Utility Commission regarding its rate recommendations.**

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

Mark Dombroski, Chief Financial Officer; Thomas Brocato, Lloyd Gosselink Attorneys at Law; Mark Dreyfus, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Communications; and Elaine Kelly-Diaz, Vice President, Customer Account Management provided an update and responded to questions asked at previous meetings. Brent Heidebrecht, Electric Utility Commission (EUC) Vice Chair, provided the EUC's recommendation that the rates ordinance reflect the proposed settlement agreement.

Discussion included rate impacts on the different customer classes, reserves policies, the remaining rate review process, rollout of the "choose your due date" program, and the elements that make up the power supply adjustment charge.

### **4. Consider a set of policy determinations affecting electric rates and recommend that City Council approve a rate ordinance reflecting those policies.**

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

Mark Dreyfus provided the next steps in the rate review process and the remaining scheduled meeting dates. Discussion included reaching an agreement with Sierra Club and Public Citizen, availability of the draft ordinance, and concerns with the reserves policies and proposed increase for customers in Tier 1.

Kaiba White was invited to speak regarding the negotiations with staff. She stated that Public Citizen and Sierra Club were close to signing on to the settlement agreement; however, they were still looking for a timeline regarding the finances of retiring Fayette.

Council Member Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Council Member Houston, directing city management to draft a rate ordinance based on the current settlement agreement. Mayor Adler offered an amendment adding that the draft ordinance include language related to terms of a settlement agreement with other intervenors if they come to an agreement. The amendment was accepted. The motion passed on a vote of 9-0 with Council Members Renteria and Troxclair off the dais.

## **FUTURE ITEMS**

### **5. Discussion of future agenda items.**

This item was not addressed.

## **ADJOURN**

Chair Gallo adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m. without objection.

**The minutes were approved on this the 19th day of September 2016 on Council Member Houston's motion, Council Member Casar's second on a 6-0 vote. Chair Gallo and Council Members Garza, Renteria, Troxclair, and Zimmerman were off the dais.**