



**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. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.