

# AUSTIN ENERGY UTILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING MAY 15, 2019

The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Leslie Pool called the committee meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

### **Committee Members in attendance:**

Council Member Kathie Tovo, Chair Council Member Leslie Pool, Vice Chair Mayor Steve Adler Council Member Gregorio Casar Council Member Ann Kitchen Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria Cary Ferchill, Electric Utility Commission Chair

#### **Committee Members absent:**

Council Member Alison Alter Council Member Paige Ellis Council Member Jimmy Flannigan Mayor Pro Tem Delia Garza Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

# 1. Approve the minutes of the April 17, 2019 Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee meetings.

The minutes of the April 17, 2019 meeting were approved on Council Member Renteria's motion, and Vice Chair Pool's second, on a 6-0 vote. Mayor Pro Tem Garza, and Council Members Alter, Ellis, Flannigan, and Harper-Madison were off the dais.

#### CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

2. A maximum of five speakers signed up before the meeting is called to order will each be allowed three minutes to address topics not posted for committee action. Speakers may also sign up for specific items that the committee may take action on.

There were two speakers:

- Al Braden spoke about Resolution Number 20140828-157, the 2017 generation plan update, and distributed a spreadsheet listing Austin Energy's generation sources. He said there should be a robust public process updating our generation plan this summer.

 Paul Robbins spoke about the surplus in Customer Assistance Program (CAP) funds and issues with auto enrollment. He suggested increasing the discount for CAP customers in the first two usage tiers from 10% to 15%.

# BRIEFINGS

- 3. General Manager's report:
  - Upcoming recommendations for Council action: purchase power agreement for solar energy, eminent domain, line clearance, substation air switches, network storage products and services, utility pump maintenance, Utility Contact Center quality monitoring services, mobile customer outreach trailer.
  - Suspended time-of-use rate.
  - Recent awards.

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

Jackie Sargent, General Manager, provided the report.

4. Decker workforce planning. (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)

Charles Dickerson, Deputy General Manager and Chief Operations Officer, and Monika Arvelo, Assistant Director, Human Resources Department, provided the update. Discussion included the possibility of placing all of the affected employees into other positions and opportunities open to affected employees.

 Second quarter Fiscal Year 2019 operations report highlights including vegetation management. (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)

Charles Dickerson provided the report highlights. Discussion included the necessity of adequate vegetation management.

6. Second quarter Fiscal Year 2019 financial report highlights. (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)

Mark Dombroski, Deputy General Manager and Chief Financial and Risk Officer, provided the report highlights. Discussion included reasons for higher than expected expenses, line congestion effects on prices, and importance of the credit rating improvement.

7. Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) market update and summer readiness. (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Kathie Tovo, CO 1: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 2: Mayor Steve Adler)

Erika Bierschbach, Vice President of Energy Market Operations and Resource Planning, provided the update. Discussion included the expected impact of the upcoming solar purchase power agreement on power supply adjustment costs.

# FUTURE ITEMS

## 8. Identify items to discuss at future meetings.

Decker workforce planning and janitorial services were requested as future agenda items.

## ADJOURN

Chair Tovo adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 19th day of June 2019 on Mayor Pro Tem Garza's motion, and Council Member Ellis' second, on an 8-0 vote. Council Members Casar, Harper-Madison, and Renteria were off the dais.