



**AUSTIN ENERGY UTILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 26, 2018**

The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Leslie Pool called the committee meeting to order at 1:49 p.m.

Committee Members in attendance:

Council Member Leslie Pool, Chair
Mayor Steve Adler, Vice Chair
Council Member Gregorio Casar
Council Member Jimmy Flannigan
Council Member Ann Kitchen
Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo
Cary Ferchill, Electric Utility Commission Chair

Committee Members absent:

Council Member Alison Alter
Council Member Delia Garza
Council Member Ora Houston
Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria
Council Member Ellen Troxclair

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. Approve the minutes of the May 23, 2018 Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee meetings.**

The minutes of the May 23, 2018 meeting were approved on Council Member Casar's motion, and Council Member Kitchen's second, on a 6-0 vote. Council Members Alter, Garza, Houston, Renteria, and Troxclair 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 six speakers:

- Richard Halpin stated that the Fayette Power Project is a health, safety and financial risk that needs to be closed as soon as possible. He also said a houses of worship study was promised during the last rate case.
- Mark Kapner said houses of worship should have input into the request for proposals for the regulatory study, and Austin Energy should partner with the University of Texas to study the relationship between the percentage of renewables in their generation portfolio and cost to customers.

- Beki Halpin spoke about the financial complications of Austin Energy getting out of the Fayette Power Project and the costs of climate change.
- Juan Oyervides spoke about the tree trimming contract approved last year, and stated that this is the time and place to talk about barriers for local contractors before the contract comes back next year.
- Tim Arndt encouraged Austin Energy to increase the amount of funding going towards energy efficiency programs for low income customers.
- Gilbert Starkey spoke about the need to become fossil fuel free as soon as possible.

Discussion included the inclusion of houses of worship in the stakeholder process for the regulatory study, the budget rider regarding low income weatherization and what it includes, reporting on low income weatherization at future Committee meetings, and the tree trimming contract.

BRIEFINGS

3. General Manager's report:

- **Upcoming items to be brought to Council: City Code amendment for electric vehicle charging stations; procurements for electrical supplies, soil remediation and equipment decontamination, chiller maintenance, and electric grid and generation portfolio modeling software.**
- **Renaming the Power Plus newsletter**
- **Small Business Meet and Greet**
- **Power market update**
- **Purchase power agreement for solar energy**
- **Innovation update: unmanned aerial vehicles**
- **Awards and recognition of Austin Energy employees.**

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

Jackie Sargent, General Manager, provided the report.

4. Third quarter fiscal year 2018 financial report.

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

Mark Dombroski, Deputy General Manager and Chief Financial and Risk Officer, provided the report.

5. Third quarter fiscal year 2018 operations report.

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

Charles Dickerson, Deputy General Manager and Chief Operations Officer, provided the report.

6. Energy storage and dispatchable renewables update.

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

Khalil Shalabi, Vice President of Strategy, Technology, and Market Operations, provided the update. Discussion included appreciation for staff's research and efforts in this area and a description of compressed air energy storage, or CAES.

FUTURE ITEMS

7. Identify items to discuss at future meetings.

Future agenda item requests included regular reports on low income weatherization and follow up on the regulatory study regarding peak usage to include houses of worship.

ADJOURN

Chair Pool adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 24th day of October 2018 on Council Member Garza's motion, Council Member Troxclair's second on a 6-0 vote. Mayor Adler, Mayor Pro Tem Tovo, and Council Members Casar, Flannigan, and Kitchen were off the dais.