



Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 1:00 – 3:30 PM
10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT (Hearing Room 1)

MINUTES¹

In Attendance

Voting Board Members: Neil Beup (EEB Chair), Amanda Fargo-Johnson (Vice-Chair), Michael Li, Amy McLean, John Viglione, Jack Traver, John Wright, Eric Brown (phone), Bruce McDermott (phone)

Utility Board Members: Andy Brydges, Will Riddle, Ron Araujo

Board Members Not in Attendance: Scott Whittier

Board Consultants: Glenn Reed, George Lawrence, Craig Diamond, Richard Faesy (phone)

Others: Donna Wells, Linda Foreman, Jane Lano, Steve Bruno, Sheri Borrelli, Gahni Ramdani, Glenn Eigo, Amanda Stevens, Alice Martin, Sharon Borino, Joel Kopylec, Mary McCarthy, Leticia Colon, Guy West, Bernie Pelletier

Process

Minutes

The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2020 Board meeting. Ms. McLean moved to approve. Ms. Fargo-Johnson 2nd. Vote: all present voted to approve. **1/8/20 meeting minutes approved.**

Public Comments

Ms. Lano - introduced Joel Kopylec with UI. Leticia Colon - she said she was representing Green Eco Warriors with her comments. She said that Green Eco Warriors had accomplished a significant amount of work since 2008. She said that Green Eco Warriors had begun work with several cities. She said she would like to make a presentation to the EEB to see if the EEB would be interested in supporting Green Eco Warriors work in CT, similar to projects done in other cities.

Board member changes

- New OCC Representative - Introduction to John Viglione. Mr. Viglione introduced himself. He said he was taking over for Taren O'Connor in representing the OCC on the EEB. He said that he had been an economist at OCC for five years.
- Status of Residential Seat Appointment. Mr. Li said that he had no updates at this time.

¹ Meeting materials available on Box.com: <https://app.box.com/s/dgmng2iby8f2p0f9ipza33o231c55ucj>

Committee membership

Ms. Fargo-Johnson said the Consultant Committee needed another member because only two Board members were on the Committee. Ms. McLean said that the Residential Committee also needed an additional Board member.

Programs and Planning

2019 End-of-Year Program Summaries

Mr. Riddle provided a presentation for UIL. Mr. Bruno provided a presentation for Eversource. There was no Board discussion.

2020 Plan Update

- 2020 Update Decision status. Mr. Li said that today DEEP had issued an approval of the 2020 Update with 24 Conditions.
- Changes in 2020 Budgets and Savings. Mr. Bruno provided a presentation for Eversource and UIL. He said the Companies would plan to file the version presented today on March 1, unless the Consultants had requests for changes, and unless any of the DEEP Conditions of Approval might require any changes.

Training and Education Focus Area

- Budget Expenditures and Benchmarking to Other States. Mr. Reed provided a presentation. There was no Board discussion.
- Company Training and Education Activities. Ms. Martin from UI provided a presentation on eeSmarts on behalf of UI and Eversource. Mr. Brown asked why C&LM funds were used to education on renewable energy and other non-energy efficiency topics. Ms. Borino said that in Massachusetts education programs, they consider renewables to be linked with energy efficiency. Mr. Riddle also noted that renewables were linked to energy efficiency because educating about renewables is part of educating on energy efficiency. Ms. Foreman asked if eeSmarts offered advice to high school seniors who wanted to go into a career in energy efficiency. It was clarified that eeSmarts did not offer that. Ms. Fargo-Johnson asked which organization operated the education programs. Mr. Riddle said that they used a contractor to operate the eeSmarts programs, and they bid out the work every 3 years. Mr. Beup asked how they prioritized distressed communities. Mr. Martin said that they put an emphasis on distressed communities when they did their outreach. Mr. Beup asked how they measure success of the programs. Ms. Martin said they provided a survey to educators, which measured the quality of the program. Mr. Beup asked how they measured the impact of the programs. Mr. Riddle said that they benchmarked the program with other states. He said they looked at how much was spent per student. Mr. Beup requested that the Companies provide that number. Mr. Riddle said it was difficult to measure success with education programs. He said that they would engage somebody to evaluate the success of the education programs. Mr. Araujo said that perhaps the education programs could be evaluated through the Evaluation Committee. It was noted that the last survey of the educators was conducted in 2015. Ms. Borino and Ms. Borelli presented on Educate the Workforce activities (i.e., trade education in high schools). They said there were 17 programs across the state, and the

overall program had been in place since 2010. They said the same contractor (Capital Region Education Council, or CREC) that administered this program also administered eeSmarts. Ms. Borino and Ms. Borelli said they would be starting to measure (for 2019-2020 school year) how many of the students ended up going into the energy efficiency workforce. Ms. Borelli presented on workforce development. Mr. Beup said he would like to know what the specific impacts of the programs were (specific impact measures). He suggested that energy efficiency vendors who have been trained could be asked to respond to a survey in the future to assess the impact of the training they underwent. Ms. Martin and Ms. Borelli presented on the Museum Partnerships program and technical assistance efforts. They also noted that there was still community outreach being conducted, even though the Clean Energy Communities program was terminated a few years ago.

- Energize CT Center Alternatives. UI proposed an Energy Mobile Trailer as an option for replacement of the Energize CT Center's energy education function. UI provided a proposed budget for start-up and on-going operations. The second option presented by UI was EnergizeCT on Wheels. They said this would be an enhancement to the eeSmarts program, and would require a small hybrid or electric minivan to transport exhibits. UI said it was recommending the EnergizeCT on Wheels option over the Mobile Trailer options, since start up and overhead costs were lower than for the Mobile Trailer. They said the displays for both options would be very similar. It was noted that either of these options could be applied to adult populations, in addition to student populations. Mr. Beup said the Board needed to better understand the benefits (including students reached) and various applications of each option, so that the Board could compare the two options. He said the comparison should be done at the next Board meeting. The Companies clarified that whoever the eeSmarts vendor is would manage either of the proposed programs.

Update on 2019 Annual Legislative Report

Mr. Beup said that Board leadership and the EEB Consultants were reviewing a draft of the report.

Update on PURA Grid Modernization Dockets

No update was provided.

DEEP Update on Cost-Effectiveness and Thermal Renewable Standard

No update was provided.

Committee Updates

No updates were provided.

Other

Ms. Fargo-Johnson said that the Consultant Committee was aiming to release the Executive Secretary RFP on March 1.

Closing Public Comments

Ms. Colon - she discussed a proposal to implement a public schools education program. She said the program would be similar to a program implemented in Massachusetts. She said that the eeSmarts program in Connecticut only reached 1% of schools at a cost of \$4 million. She said that the program she wanted to propose would cost \$1.5 million, and would reach all schools, including schools with low-income populations. She formally requested an opportunity to submit a proposal to the EEB. She noted that the Green Eco Warriors programs had received awards. She requested that Green Eco Warriors be given an opportunity to submit a proposal before the Board makes a decision on public education programs. Bernie Pelletier (West Hartford Clean Energy Task Force) - he said the 70 active Clean Energy Task Forces in CT were an excellent resource for the Board to work with. He recommended adding the number of schools touched/impacted to the C&LM Dashboard. Guy West - he said that Clean Water Fund missed the Clean Energy Communities program. He said that the C&LM education programs should be further reviewed and evaluated.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.