



Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Webinar Only

MINUTES¹ (Draft)

In Attendance

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

Utility Board Members: Will Riddle, Ron Araujo, Steve Bruno, Liz Murphy

Board Members Not in Attendance: Scott Whittier

Board Consultants: Glenn Reed, Richard Faesy, George Lawrence, Phil Mosenthal, Ashley Nichols, Craig Diamond, Linda King

Others: Donna Wells, Larry Rush, Jordan Schellens, Art Marcelynus, Adrienne Houel, Alex Sopelak, Jennifer Hunsperger, Mike Weissmann, Katie Savino, Russell King, Erin Kempster, Joel Kopylec, Dan Robertson, Amanda Slate, Dan Race, Brendan Thomas, Brian Malarkey, Paul Horowitz, Thomas Phillips, William Giblin, Timothy Schneider, Steve Cowell, Ricardo Jordan, Bernard Pelletier, John Kibbee, Richard Tomasko, Sam Schneider, Ida Churchill, Patrice Gillespie, Amanda Trinsey, Shannon King, Nicole Mastriano, Rebecca Baez Castro, Pam Conrad, Brittany Luntz, Cheryl Mattson, Guy West, Morgan Odland, Randy Vagnini, Jodi Sullivan, Robert Auer

Process

Minutes

The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2020 Board Planning meeting. Ms. Fargo-Johnson moved to approve. Ms. McLean 2nd. All present voted to approve, except for one Board member who abstained.

EEB Service Recognition for Taren O'Connor and Adrienne Houel

Ms. Houel attended the beginning of the meeting. Ms. O'Connor did not attend the meeting. Mr. Beup thanked Ms. Houel and Ms. O'Connor for their service on the EEB. Ms. Houel thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve. She said she was impressed by the dedication of Board members, Board consultants, and others. She said she was pleased and honored to have been on the Board.

¹ Meeting materials available in Box.com: <https://app.box.com/s/a1ur3d45j8e7awaibzb3saams3zxispr>

Public Comments

Steve Cowell, E4TheFuture - Mr. Cowell commented on the recent federal court ruling regarding the C&LM fund. He said he believed that the effort from advocates to influence the outcome of the court ruling made a big difference in changing opinions in the state, because the advocates were able to highlight the benefits of energy efficiency. He noted that the advocates' efforts played a large role in Governor Lamont pledging not to divert C&LM funds to other purposes.

Introduction of new Executive Secretary

Mr. Beup welcomed Linda King, the new Executive Secretary. Ms. King thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve. She said she was looking forward to learning about Connecticut's energy efficiency programs.

Programs and Planning

C&I Focus Area

Mr. Lawrence provided a presentation. Mr. Beup thanked Mr. Lawrence for the presentation, and said it was very informative.

Covid-19 Response Update

Mr. Araujo provided a presentation on return to work guidelines. He also provided an update on Company changes to personal protection equipment (PPE) requirements for contractors, and other H&S guidelines. There was no Board discussion following the presentation.

2021 Plan Update

Mr. Reed, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Faesy, and Mr. Bruno provided a presentation. Mr. Brown noted that he would like to help with outreach to manufacturers.

Energize CT Website Strategy Project

Ms. Conrad, with Mile 7, provide a presentation. Ms. Mattson noted that the last web strategy was created eight years ago, so it was time to create a new web strategy. Ms. McLean asked about how web users could locate sources of funding/incentives that are outside of C&LM funding. Ms. Mattson said that the structure of the website would allow that. Ms. Mattson said the main overall change to the website design would be changing the focus from who the user is, to what the user is looking for and what stage the user is at with exploring an energy efficiency project. Ms. Nichols said that the Mile 7 team had done a great job. She said she would be participating with the Mile 7 team on the RFP process. Ms. McLean thanked Mile 7 for its work on the web strategy.

Operation Fuel Overview

This topic was not covered at this meeting. It was agreed that it would be covered at the August Board meeting.

Summary of June 30 Company Conditions of Approval for 2020 Plan Update filing

Mr. Bruno provided a brief overview of the Compliance filings that were submitted by the Companies on July 1. There was no Board discussion following the overview.

Court ruling on use of C&LM funds

Ms. McLean noted Mr. Cowell's earlier public comments regarding CT advocates, in particular that Governor Lamont had pledged not to divert C&LM funds to other purposes.

Other

Mr. Riddle announced that he would be leaving Avangrid for another position outside of the utility industry. He said this would be his last Board meeting. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to participate in his role. Ms. Murphy said that Joel Kopylec at Avangrid would replace Mr. Riddle as the SCG/CNG representative on the EEB. She also said that Larry Rush would take over as the Avangrid representative on the Residential Committee.

Mr. Diamond noted that this was his last EEB meeting, and that Linda King would be taking over as Executive Secretary on August 1. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve.

Closing Public Comments

None.

The meeting adjourned at 3:27 pm.