



Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Thursday, October 10, 2019, 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Eversource, 107 Selden Street, Berlin, CT (Conference Dining Room)

MINUTES¹

In Attendance

Voting Board Members: Neil Beup (EEB Chair), Amanda Fargo-Johnson (EEB Vice-Chair), Michael Li, Taren O'Connor, Adrienne Houel, John Wright, Jack Traver

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

Board Members Not in Attendance: Eric Brown, Bruce McDermott, Amy McLean Salls, Scott Whittier

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

Others: Donna Wells, Linda Foreman, Anne Hulick, Michael Harris, Patrice Gillespie, Guy West, Jane Lano, Steve Bruno, Tarsha Galloway

Process

Minutes

The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2019 Board meeting. Ms. Fargo-Johnson and Mr. Araujo requested changes to the draft minutes; those changes were incorporated into the draft minutes. Ms. O'Connor moved to approve, Ms. Houel 2nd. Vote: all Board members present voted to approve the minutes.

September 11, 2019 meeting minutes approved.

Public Comments

None

EEB procedure for managing unsolicited proposals

The Board discussed the draft procedure for managing unsolicited proposals to the Board. Mr. Beup suggested that the procedure should provide an opportunity for parties that submit proposals to present their proposals to the Board. Ms. Fargo-Johnson suggested that the procedure should include consultation with DEEP, in addition to the EEB Technical Consultants. She also suggested that the Companies should make their determination on proposals within a certain number of EEB meetings, rather than within a certain number of days. Mr. Araujo suggested that the Board should specify to what extent it would like the Companies to conduct analyses as part of their review of proposals. Mr. Brydges suggested

¹ Meeting materials available in Box.com: <https://app.box.com/s/xvsvd7776hdydsvx3lr7fbuxyc0nxd4b7>

some criteria for the evaluation of proposals; he said he would send Mr. Diamond suggested language to incorporate into the draft process. It was agreed that the suggested changes would be incorporated into the draft proposal, and that a revised draft would be considered by the Board at its next meeting.

Programs and Planning

VOTE: 2020 Plan Update: Budget, Savings, Plan Text, PMIs

- *Overview presentation:* Mr. Reed provided a presentation. He said the Consultants were recommending approval of the Plan Update, with three conditions: 1) the Companies and the Board will continue to discuss the Customer Engagement line item and proposed marketing expenditures, with the understanding that 2020 program activities and accompanying budgets might change as a result of these discussions; 2) the Companies, the Evaluation Administrators, DEEP, and the Technical Consultants will work together to address how best to apply the HES/HES-IE realization rates coming out of the recent impact evaluation; 3) the Companies will fully align their cost categories in their Table Cs.
- *Planning Process Changes:* Mr. Reed suggested two process changes for annual C&LM planning: 1) start the process earlier (one month earlier would be beneficial); 2) involve the Evaluation Administrators early in the planning process to engage the Companies in evaluation results.
- *Companies' presentation:* Mr. Bruno provided a presentation. Mr. Reed suggested that the Board could ask additional questions on the CEP. Ms. O'Connor asked if any of the CEP/marketing work had actually changed since the last draft Plan Update? The Companies said no - the Plan contained the same programs. Mr. Bruno noted that most CEP costs were locked in until 2021, due to an existing agreement with a vendor (as a result of an RFP). Mr. Bruno clarified that it was the license fee that was locked in until 2021. Mr. Li asked how a change in DOE appliance standards could impact savings assumptions. Mr. Araujo said the Companies had already built those assumptions into their savings projections. Ms. Fargo-Johnson asked about the budget for the Energize CT website. Mr. Bruno said that all technically feasible changes to the website had been made, and that larger changes would be made in a larger website overhaul. Mr. Beup asked if the Companies would engage other housing authorities (similar to the program with the Stamford housing authority). Mr. Araujo said that the Companies were currently working with the Hartford Housing Authority, and that they were looking at pursuing others as well. Mr. Riddle noted that UIL worked closely with housing authorities in UIL territory. Mr. Beup said that that the housing authority case studies should be highlighted more in the future. Ms. Fargo-Johnson asked if the Companies had issued RFPs for the sustainable community outreach program. Mr. Bruno said some of the programs used RFPs, and some did not. Mr. Araujo said the Companies did not issue RFPs for community organizations.
- *Board discussion, and vote on all Plan elements.* Ms. O'Connor said she was comfortable approving the Plan Update, but she wanted to see quick action on the first two conditions (CEP and realization rates) recommended by the Consultants. Mr. Beup and Ms. Fargo-Johnson agreed with Ms. O'Connor's suggestion. It was

agreed that a timeline was needed for resolution of the first two conditions. Mr. Reed said he would work with Ellen Zuckerman and the Companies to put forward a timeline for next steps on the first condition. It was agreed that second condition should be addressed in the Evaluation Committee. Mr. Traver moved to approve all elements of the Plan Update. Ms. Houel 2nd. Vote: all present voted to approve (including Ms. McLean Salls, whose vote was provided via proxy by Ms. Fargo-Johnson) except DEEP which abstained. **The Board approved the 2020 Update to 2019-2021 C&LM Plan.**

Committee Updates

Ms. Houel said the Residential Committee would be ready to present to the Board on low-moderate income issues in a few months.

Other

None

Closing Public Comments

Michael Harris, Energy Coordinator, City of Middletown - Mr. Harris said that he supported the Clean Water Fund's community outreach proposal. He said that he was speaking to the Board as an energy coordinator, but not on behalf of the City of Middletown. He said that the City would like to ask for a refund for the C&LM funds it has paid, given the inequitable access to energy efficiency services in the City. He noted that CHEER in Middletown was providing services to low-moderate income populations. Mr. Harris said the Clean Water Fund proposal was critical, and that it was unacceptable for the Board and Companies not to move forward with it. He asked that the Companies and the Board work out their differences, and move forward with proposal. Mr. Li said that the Board and DEEP needed to determine how to best align and use all state resources to address low-moderate income needs, including C&LM funding. He said that DEEP would have a better answer on this question next year. He suggested that Mr. Harris speak with Ms. Foreman, so DEEP could better understand Middlesex's needs. Mr. Beup said that Board would continue to discuss issues of underserved populations. He said the Board was actively considering and discussing such issues.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.