

Resource Management Commission November 18, 2014 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Leo Dielmann at 6:35 p.m. Vice Chair Sean Kelly and Commissioners Carol Biedrzycki and Grace Hsieh were also in attendance. Commissioners Richard Amato and Luke Metzger were not present at the call to order, but arrived after consent items were approved. Commissioner Hari Krishna was absent.

Austin Energy staff in attendance included Debbie Kimberly, J.J. Gutierrez, Danielle Murray, Denise Kuehn, Scott Jarman, Darlene Berghammer, Stacy Lewis and Toye Goodson-Collins.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve minutes from the September 16, 2014 regular meeting. Motion to approve the minutes by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Hsieh, passed on a vote of 4-0.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS – There were no speakers.

NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT

Items 5-9 were pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

Motion to recommend approval of Items 2-4 on consent by Mr. Dielmann, seconded Mr. Kelly, passed on vote of 4-0.

Mr. Amato and Mr. Metzger arrived.

- 2. Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with LegalZoom, to provide a performance-based incentive for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 9900 Spectrum Drive, Austin, Texas 78717, for an estimated \$34,142 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$341,420 over a 10-year period.
- 3. Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Overlook at Rob Roy's Hills Office Park, to provide a performance-based incentive for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 4611 FM 2244, West Lake Hills, Texas 78746, for an estimated \$9,371 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$93,710 over a 10-year period.
- 4. Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Overlook at Rob Roy's Lake Pointe Center, to provide a performance-based incentive for the generation of solar energy at its facility located at 11612 FM 2244, Austin, Texas 78738, for an estimated \$14,166 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$141,660 over a 10-year period.
- 5. Approve issuance of a rebate to Riverstone Residential, for performing energy efficiency improvements at the Fort Branch at Trumans Landing Apartments located at 5800 Techni Center Dr., Austin, Texas 78721, in an amount not to exceed \$85,203.
- 6. Approve issuance of a rebate to Westdale Asset Management, for performing energy efficiency improvements at Hunters Chase Apartments East Phase located at 12343 Hunters Chase Dr., Austin, Texas 78729, in an amount not to exceed \$131,250.

- 7. Approve issuance of a rebate to Bouldin Willows Apartments Inc., for performing energy efficiency improvements at The Willows Apartments located at 600 South 1st St., Austin, Texas 78704, in an amount not to exceed \$67,900. Motion to recommend approval of Items 5-7 by Mr. Dielmann, seconded Ms. Biedrzycki, passed on vote of 6-0. Ms. Biedrzycki requested data regarding water savings resulting from the installation of low-flow showerheads in multi-family units to be provided later.
- 8. Authorize additional funding in an amount of \$1,300,000 to the job order contract with GO GREEN SQUADS, LLC (WBE/FW); MCCULLOUGH HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.; CLIMATE MECHANICAL, INC., AIRTECH ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.; GOOD NEIGHBOR MANAGEMENT, INC. DBA CITY CONSERVATION; AND AMERICAN CONSERVATION & AIR, INC., for Austin Energy's Home Efficiency Assistance (HEAP) Program Tier 2 Basic Weatherization Plus HVAC, to be distributed to the contractors based on work authorization and availability. Motion to recommend approval of Item 8 by Mr. Metzger, seconded Ms. Hsieh, passed on vote of 5-1 with Ms. Biedrzycki voting no. Ms. Biedrzycki requested budget information on the weatherization program to be provided later.
- 9. Approve an ordinance authorizing appropriation of \$5,010,812 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant funds from the U.S. Department of Energy and amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Austin Energy Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20140908-001 to appropriate the funds to continue the Retrofit Ramp-Up Program, including two temporary full-time equivalent positions for continued implementation of the program. Motion to recommend approval by Mr. Dielmann, seconded Mr. Kelly, passed on vote of 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS – NON-CONSENT

- 10. Briefing and possible action regarding City of Austin utilities' customer deferred payment agreements, arrearage management program and hearings process J.J. Gutierrez, Vice President of Customer Care, briefed the commissioners and presented recommendations from staff and from the Working Committee composed of Discount Steering Committee members, consumer advocates and staff from Austin Energy and Austin Water Utility.
 - Mr. Dielmann suggested that members vote for either the Working Committee recommendations or the Staff Alternative for each of the four options listed below.
 - 1) <u>Payment Arrangements for CAP Customers</u>: Ms. Biedrzycki and Mr. Kelly voted in favor of the Working Committee recommendation; Mr. Amato, Mr. Dielmann, Ms. Hsieh and Mr. Metzger voted in favor of the Staff Alternative. Therefore, the RMC recommended approval of the Staff Alternative.
 - 2) <u>Payment Arrangements for Non-CAP Customers</u>: Mr. Amato and Ms. Biedrzycki voted in favor of the Working Committee recommendation; Mr. Dielmann, Ms. Hsieh, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Metzger voted in favor of the Staff Alternative. Therefore, the RMC recommended approval of the Staff Alternative.
 - 3) <u>Arrearage Management for CAP Customers</u> There were no votes in favor of the Working Committee recommendation; all members present voted in favor

- of the Staff Alternative. Therefore, the RMC recommended approval of the Staff Alternative.
- 4) Arrearage Management for Non-CAP Customers Motion to support the Working Committee's recommendation with the caveat that customers in specific zip codes be automatically eligible, by Ms. Biedrzycki, seconded by Mr. Metzger. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn. Motion to add "neither" as a third alternative on which the members would vote by Mr. Dielmann, seconded by Ms. Biedrzycki, passed on a vote of 6-0.

There were no votes in favor of the Working Committee recommendation; Dielmann and Hsieh voted in favor of the Staff Alternative; Amato, Biedrzycki, Kelly and Metzger voted for the "neither" option. Therefore, the RMC recommended neither the Working Committee recommendation or the Staff Alternative and suggested that staff "go back to the drawing board."

11. Adoption of 2015 meeting schedule – After discussion about possibly moving their monthly meetings to another day of the week, Commissioners agreed to set the first meeting in 2015 and adopt a meeting schedule at their next meeting. Motion to hold the first meeting of 2015 on Tuesday, January 20 by Ms. Biedrzycki, seconded by Mr. Dielmann, passed on a vote of 6-0.

Motion to consider Item 13 before Item 12 by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Dielmann, passed on a vote of 6-0.

ELECTIONS

13. Election of Chair and Vice Chair to serve through June 2015 – Motion to override the term limit provision, required to allow Mr. Dielman and Mr. Kelly to continue in their current positions, by Ms. Biedrzycki, seconded by Mr. Metzger, passed on a vote of 6-0. Motion to elect Mr. Dielmann as Chair and Mr. Kelly as Vice-Chair by Mr. Metzger, seconded by Mr. Amato, passed on a vote of 6-0.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12. Requests for future agenda items and updates from Commissioners on activities of interest – Mr. Kelly requested a briefing by AWU regarding current regional water planning activities. Mr. Dielmann volunteered to contact the utility's leadership. Ms. Biedrzycki thanked her colleagues for nominating her to serve on the Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force. She reported that she was elected chair and their next meeting would be December 10.

ADJOURN – Mr. Dielmann adjourned the meeting without objection at 7:45 p.m.