



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MINUTES – MAY 19, 2015

The Resource Management Commission convened in a regular meeting on May 19, 2015 at Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Road, in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order by Chair Leo Dielmann at 6:40 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance: Chair Leo Dielmann, Vice Chair Sean Kelly and Commissioners Carol Biedrzycki and Hari Krishna. Commissioners Richard Amato, Grace Hsieh and Luke Metzger were absent. **Staff in Attendance:** Debbie Kimberly, Liz Jambor, Denise Kuehn, Danielle Murray, Karl Popham, Jaime Gomez and Toye Goodson-Collins of Austin Energy; Kristi Fenton, Martin Tower, Brian Long and Mark Jordan of the Austin Water Utility.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Paul Robbins – urged a review of proposed recommendations from the Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force, specifically their recommendation to reinstate replacement of HVAC systems in the weatherization program. He also requested that natural gas conservation programs be reviewed for their cost effectiveness. Chris Czichos – a local, low-income multi-family developer, spoke in support of Item 3 because such measures directly benefited residents. Moore McDonough – an energy efficiency contractor, requested Austin Energy notify contractors 90 days before making any changes to its programs.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Approve minutes of the April 21, 2015 meeting. **Motion to approve by Ms. Biedrzycki, seconded by Mr. Kelly, passed on a vote of 4-0.**

3. NEW BUSINESS - CONSENT

Items 3a-h were pulled from the consent agenda for discussion by commissioners. After staff provided additional information, a motion to approve Items a, b, d, e, f, g and h, by Mr. Dielmann and seconded by Ms. Biedrzycki, passed on a vote of 4-0. A separate motion to approve Item c, by Mr. Dielmann and seconded by Ms. Biedrzycki, passed on a vote of 4-0.

- a. Approve issuance of a rebate to 8800 I 35 LLC, for performing energy efficiency improvements at Avesta Solano Apartments located at 8800 N. IH-35, Austin, Texas 78753, in an amount not to exceed \$79,382.
- b. Approve issuance of a rebate to BTL Thrive LTD, for performing energy efficiency improvements at The Bluffs at Town Lake Apartments located at 2005 Willow Creek Dr., Austin, Texas 78741, in an amount not to exceed \$210,000.
- c. Approve issuance of a rebate to Cousins Properties Incorporated for the installation of energy efficiency measures at its newly constructed Colorado Tower located at 303 Colorado Street Austin, Texas 78701, in an amount not to exceed \$146,801.
- d. Authorize execution of an agreement with Foundation Communities to provide incentives for the installation of solar electric systems at its 140 residential units at the Homestead Oaks location at 3226 W. Slaughter Lane, for a total amount not to exceed \$193,248.
- e. Approve issuance of a rebate to Firmus Equity Partners, LLC, for performing energy efficiency improvements at Mueller Flats Apartments located at 1071 Clayton Lane, Austin, Texas 78723, in an amount not to exceed \$97,786.
- f. Approve issuance of a rebate to 6808 S. IH 35, LLC, for performing energy efficiency improvements at Southpoint Village Apartments located at 6808 S. IH 35, Austin, Texas 78745, in an amount not to exceed \$79,200.
- g. Approve issuance of a rebate to Presidium AMC Hidden Villas Venture, LLC, for performing energy efficiency improvements at The Vue Apartments located at 7607 Blessing Ave., Austin, Texas 78752, in an amount not to exceed \$85,800.

- h. Approve issuance of a rebate to Texas Student Housing Authority, for performing energy efficiency improvements at Town Lake Student Apartments located at 1109 S. Pleasant Valley Rd, Austin, Texas 78741, in an amount not to exceed \$73,878.

4. NEW BUSINESS – NON-CONSENT

Presentation, discussion and action regarding Austin Water Utility's Capital Improvement Projects located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone (DWPZ) for inclusion in the utility's five-year capital spending plan as required by its financial policies. AWU staff members Kristi Fenton and Martin Tower briefed Commissioners on proposed projects. **Motion to recommend approval of the Drinking Water Protection Zone projects related to new water and wastewater plants, capital expansions and growth-related projects to be included in the Austin Water's five-year Capital Improvement Program with final approval by City Council during the annual budget approval process by Mr. Dielmann, seconded by Mr. Krishna, passed on a vote of 4-0.**

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS

- a. Plug-In Electric Vehicle Program Update by Karl Popham, Manager, Electric Vehicles and Emerging Technologies, Austin Energy.
- b. Quarterly Report by Mark Jordan, Water Conservation Program Coordinator, Austin Water Utility.

6. OLD BUSINESS – Discussion and possible action regarding the Annual Internal Review report to be submitted to the Office of the City Clerk by May 31, 2015.

On page 4, the following amendments were made to the third and fifth bullets in Section V:

- The RMC ~~had~~ has had great success when we worked ed with AE, AWU, and other departments in a spirit of partnership and collaboration. Adversarial relationships with the departments do not accomplish the mission of the RMC nor do they benefit Council or the citizens of Austin.
- ~~The RMC does not have budgetary/fiduciary responsibility. Matters pertaining to departmental finances, budgets, etc. are the responsibility of the EUC and Water & Wastewater Commission are not actionable in RMC proceedings. The RMC should review budgets and expenditures to the extent necessary: 1) to maintain an overview of all programs, studies and proposals referenced in I (A); 2) to review and analyze energy conservation technologies and renewable energy sources as to their short-term and long-term feasibility in the city as stated in I (D) (1); and, 3) to advise the city council under I (E) in developing and reviewing city plans and programs in the area of alternate energy technologies, renewable energy sources and energy conservation.~~

Motion to approve the report, as amended, by Ms. Biedrzycki, seconded by Mr. Kelly, passed on a vote of 4-0.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioners requested that the following items be added to next month's agenda: an update from the Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force and a review of their recommendations; and, an update from Austin Energy on its multi-family program.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS – There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Dielmann adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:55 p.m.