



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MINUTES – November 17, 2015

The Resource Management Commission convened on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Road, in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order by Chair Leo Dielmann at 6:05 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance: Leo Dielmann, Chair; Andrew Gill, Cyrus Reed, Gregory Santiago, Shane Saum, Susanne Vaughn and Kaiba White. James Dwyer, Luke Metzger, Michael Wong were not present at the Call to Order, but arrived prior to action taken on Item 3a. Jennifer Cregar was absent.

Staff in Attendance: Debbie Kimberly, Liz Jambor, Denise Kuehn and Toye Goodson of Austin Energy; and Mark Jordan of Austin Water.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approve minutes of the October 20, 2015 regular meeting.
Motion to approve by Mr. Dielmann, seconded by Mr. Saum, passed on vote of 7-0.

2. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

Lanetta Cooper spoke in support of the Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force report.

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Authorize negotiation and execution of a 12-month contract with CREATIVE CONSUMER RESEARCH INC., or another qualified offeror to Request for Proposals RMJ0302, for marketing research service studies, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 with four 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,500,000. **Motion to approve by Ms. Vaughan, seconded by Mr. Wong, passed on a vote of 10-0.**
- b. Adoption of a 2016 meeting schedule – Members agreed to consider this item after the briefings and reports as a courtesy to presenters.

4. **BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS**

- a. Quarterly Update from Austin Water by Mark Jordan, Water Conservation Program Manager.
- b. Reports related to the Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force including the Final Report and Minority Report, and Austin Energy's response to the Final Report – Carol Biedrzycki, Task Force Chair, and Tim Arndt, Task Force Vice Chair, presented the group's final report including recommendations distributed to City Council members. Debbie Kimberly, Vice President, Customer Energy Services, and Denise Kuehn, Manager, Energy Efficiency Services, provided Austin Energy's response to the Task Force report.
Chris Strand, Task Force member, and Michael Wong, Task Force member and RMC member, presented the Minority Report.
Speakers on this item were:

- Paul Robbins said about 50% of the total Customer Benefit Charge paid to the residential sector is going to customers in the lower half of income, and these same customers are only paying 29% of total funds because the commercial sector

subsidizes residential programs, lower income customers pay less into the fund because they use less electricity and there is more participation in energy efficiency programs from these customers; and when you add it together, customers in the lower half of income are receiving 70% more funds than they pay into it.

- Tim Arndt – said that much of the discussion at the RMC had focused on the cost associated with air conditioner replacement when only 12 homes out of over 420 homes in the weatherization program last year received new air conditioners.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- b. Adoption of a 2016 meeting schedule – Motion to approve the meeting dates listed below, by Mr. Dielmann, seconded by Mr. Wong, passed on a vote of 10-0.**

January 19

February 16

March 22 (*March meeting held 1 week later than usual to avoid meeting during AISD/UT spring break*)

April 19

May 17

June 21

July 19

August 16

September 20

October 18

November 15

December 20

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioners requested items related to the following topics: discussion and possible vote on the recommendations of the Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force in December (Dielmann); study of single and multifamily residential and commercial rebate programs (White); Google cars as a disruptive technology (Vaughan); Austin Energy's district cooling systems (Reed, Wong); Watershed Protection efforts, from a water conservation aspect, and the co-benefits provided from some of their initiatives especially as it relates to questions about the appropriate level of rebates for rainwater harvesting, etc. (Metzger)

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Dielmann adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:54 p.m.