



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES Tuesday December 15, 2020

The Resource Management Commission convened via videoconference on Tuesday December 15, 2020 in accordance with social distancing protocols necessitated by the COVID 19 pandemic.

Commissioners in Attendance: Dana Harmon, Chair (District 9); Kaiba White, Vice Chair (District 2); Jonathan Blackburn (District 8); Rebecca Brenneman (District 10); Tom “Smitty” Smith (District 5); Shane Johnson (District 4); Sam Angoori (District 3).

Commissioners Absent: Lisa Chavarria (Mayor) Leo Dielmann (District 7); Nakyshia Fralin (District 1).

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Harmon called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

(Item 2) **Paul Robbins commented on the cost-effectiveness of natural gas energy efficiency programs.**

(Item 3) **Paul Robbins commented on the need to expand RMC purview to include Texas Gas Service rates.**

Consent Items:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve minutes of the November 17, 2020 meeting.
The motion to approve minutes of the November 17, 2020 meeting was approved on Commissioner Smith motion, Commissioner Brenneman second. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent, 1 abstention (Commissioner Angoori).

STAFF REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS

1. Quarterly update from Texas Gas Service regarding energy efficiency programs. **Jasmine King Bush of Texas Gas Service presented the quarterly update from the Texas Gas Service. Larry Graham of Texas Gas Service also discussed some of the programs. Rondella Hawkins, Officer of Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs for the City of Austin also joined the discussion with Commission members.**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

2. Discuss future agenda items for 2021 to ensure that Commission will be able to meet the goals and objectives memorialized in the Annual Internal Review of the Resource Management Commission of July 2020. **Committee members discussed future topics of interest for the upcoming year including: use of City owned land for local solar projects (Angoori); Coordination of efficiency programs with expected federal stimulus funding and predicted federal energy efficiency changes (Smith); cost/benefits of programs and measures within the Commission’s purview.(Smith and Harmon); Ensuring significant citizen input into Commission’s work (Harmon); Implementation of Climate Equity Plan (Harmon);**

Ensuring equity in Commission's work (Harmon); Ensuring each sector in Climate Equity Plan reaches "net-zero" carbon emissions and the use of carbon offsets (Blackburn); Oversight of Texas Gas Service' plan for carbon emission reductions and methodology for selecting efficiency rebate measures (Blackburn); Continued focus on carbon emissions and equity (White); Reductions of carbon emissions, carbon offsets, carbon capture systems, and the use of natural solutions to capture carbon (White); Development Services Department's role in meeting carbon reductions in Climate Equity Plan and consideration of climate impact inputs (Angoori and Smith); Development Services Department's consideration of climate adaptation (Smith); Water conservation and new measures such as rain gardens and water reuse (Smith); Consideration of full embedded life cycle carbon costs of solar panel manufacturing and disposal in future purchase power agreements, RFIs, and RFPs in order to apply market incentive for responsibly manufactured solar panels (Brenneman); Consideration of long-term behavioral changes brought about by Covid 19 and the effects on energy savings estimates in commercial sector efficiency programs (Babyak); Potential opportunities for energy savings and emission reductions presented by Covid 19 behavioral changes (e.g. work from home) and how to develop programs to incent such behavior to continue post pandemic (Brenneman)

ADJOURN

Chairman Harmon adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm