



**ELECTRIC UTILITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, August 14, 2023**

The Electric Utility Commission convened in a Regular Called meeting on Monday, August 14, 2023, at Austin Energy Headquarters, 4815 Mueller Blvd, Austin, TX 78723.

Chair Dave Tuttle called the Electric Utility Commission meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance: Dave Tuttle, Chair; Randy Chapman; Cyrus Reed,

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely: Raul Alvarez; Jonathon Blackburn, Jeremy Seibert

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

There was one speaker under general communications.

Al Braden spoke about the Resource Planning Workgroup.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Electric Utility Commission Regular Meeting on July 10, 2023.

The motion approving the minutes of the Electric Utility Commission meeting of July 10, 2023, were approved on Commissioner Chapman's motion, Commissioner Reed's second on an 6-0 vote with Commissioners Bowen, Trostle and White absent and two vacancies.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS

The motion to approve recommendations 2-6 was approved on Commissioner Chapman's motion, Commissioner Reed's second on a (6-0) vote with Commissioners Bowen, Trostle and White absent and two vacancies.

2. Recommend approving the acceptance of a Clean Energy Innovation Fellowship position hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy and administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Technology to support equity research and development of key equity performance measures for energy efficiency programs at Austin Energy.
3. Recommend authorizing negotiation and execution of a multi-term cooperative contract to provide A10 Networks products and services, including maintenance, training, and

support services, with Innovation Network Technologies Corporation d/b/a InNet, for up to three years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$693,000.

4. Recommend authorizing negotiation and execution of a contract to provide a Continuous Emission Monitoring System (CEMS) upgrade and installation of associated custom shelters, with Cemtek Environmental, Inc. D/B/A CEMTEK KVB-Enertec in an amount not to exceed \$700,000.
5. Recommend authorizing negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract to provide substation relay panels, with Control Panels USA Inc, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$15,000,000.
6. Recommend authorizing an amendment to a contract for continued purchase of electric meters for use throughout the Austin Energy service area, with Texas Electric Cooperatives, for an increase in the amount of \$16,000,000 and to extend the term by one year for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$56,000,000.
7. Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation on the FY 2023-24 Austin Energy Budget.

The motion to recommend the FY 2023-24 Austin Energy Budget, was made Commissioner Chapman's motion, Commissioner Reed's second on a (6-0) vote with Commissioners Bowen, Trostle and White absent and two vacancies.

The Budget Recommendation also includes the \$115 million General Fund Transfer, subject to the following stipulations:

- A. City Council ensures that there is sufficient money in the budget so that Austin Energy can complete the entire approved cycle of vegetation management by the end of FY 2027;**
- B. City Council should ensure that there is sufficient money in the budget for the CAP to increase enrollment of customers to 70% in FY 2024 and 90% of eligible customers by the end of Fiscal Year 2025;**
- C. City Council should ensure there is sufficient money allocated to demand-side and energy efficiency programs to meet the annual 1 percent savings goal as well as the overall demand reduction goal in the Austin Energy Resource plan, and that the programs are designed to be equitable to customers, including those living in rental units, and that expenditures be equitably distributed;**
- D. City Council should carefully monitor and evaluate any costs of joint projects, especially the Fayette Coal plant, and consider actions to reduce costs, especially in light of the upcoming review of the Resource Plan, and the reduced use of the plant. To the extent that any major expenditure at Fayette would exceed \$100,000, it should be separately reviewed and approved by City Council.**
- E. City Council should encourage the City Manager and Austin Energy to take advantage of any federal funding opportunities to increase investments in energy efficiency, weatherization assistance, resilient grid projects, electrification, renewable energy and EV charging and infrastructure, with the understanding that those funds would be used to supplement customer solutions.**

The recommendation can be accessed via this link:

<https://services.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=413522>

8. Discussion and possible action for the creation of a Standard Offer for Distributed Solar at Austin Energy working group. (Sponsors: White, Trostle, Reed, Chapman)
No action taken. The item will be taken up at the September meeting.
9. Discussion and possible action on the Annual Internal Review of the Electric Utility Commission for July 2022 through June 2023.
The Annual Internal Review was submitted by Chair Tuttle to the City Clerk, no additional discussion or action was taken.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

10. Staff briefing on the Third Quarter Operations Report by Lisa Martin, Acting Deputy General Manager and Chief Operating Officer.
The presentation was made by Lisa Martin, Acting Deputy General Manager and Chief Operating Officer.
11. Staff briefing on the Third Quarter Financial Report by Stephanie Koudelka, Finance Director.
The presentation was made by Stephanie Koudelka, Finance Director.
12. Staff briefing on the FY 2023/24 Austin Energy Budget by John Davis, Finance Director.
The presentation was made by John Davis, Finance Director, Rusty Maenius, Vice President of Finance, Richard G  nec  , VP of Customer Energy Solutions, Jerry Galvan VP of Customer Care Services, Elaine Veselka Acting VP of Electric System Engineering and Technical Services, Elton Richards, VP of Electric System Field Operations, Pat Sweeney, VP of Power Production, Stuart Reilly, Interim Deputy General Manager and Matt Russell, Chief Technology Officer.
13. Staff briefing on the Value of Solar public participation process to develop a standard offer for local distributed community solar by Richard G  nec  , Vice President of Customer Energy Solutions and Tim Harvey, Manager of Customer Renewable Solutions.
The presentation was made by Tim Harvey, Manager of Customer Renewable Solutions.

WORKING GROUP UPDATE

14. Update from Budget & Audit Working Group
Commissioner Chapman said the working group would next be working on reviewing the PSA information in September.

15. Update from the Resource Planning Working Group

Commissioner Reed reported that the working group has not met yet, he would going to the Resource Management Commission meeting to let them know they could participate without breaking quorum, and they were doing outreach for community participants. He also reported that the working group meetings will likely be held at Austin Energy, in a location/time to be announced.

Commissioner Reed asked about the special called EUC meetings to discuss the Resource Generation Plan, but those logistics are still being worked out.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

16. Discussion of report regarding City Council action on items previously reviewed by the EUC.

There was no discussion.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Reed asked about the battery storage RFP

Commissioner Alvarez asked about transition of streetlights to LED – how the process has worked, cost savings, issues with changing to LEDs. He said he ok meeting with staff in lieu of a briefing.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tuttle adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the September 11, 2023 meeting on Commissioner Chapman's motion, Commissioner Reed's second on a (7-0) vote with Commissioners Blackburn and Bowen absent and two vacancies.