

The Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council

Minutes-April 3, 2008

Department of Administration

Conference RM (B)

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 3:35 by Andrew Dzykewicz serving as Chairman

Members Present: Sam Krasnow, Alfred Degen, Ron Gerwatowski, Paul Ryan, Tim Stout and Vic Allienello

Others Present Marion Gold, Joe Newsome, Ken Payne and John Farley

Staff: Tim Howe, Lydia Cruz and Pat Condon, Janet Keller

Consultant: VEIC- Scudder Parker

Acceptance of Minutes- A motion to accept the minutes of the February 28, 2008 EERMC meeting as presented was made by Paul Ryan and seconded by Al Degen. The minutes from the March 13, 2008 meeting were not completed and this time and will be sent to members upon completion stated Pat Condon

Executive Directors/Executive Secretary Report

Mr. Dzykewicz reported that the State has a RFP on the State Purchasing Website as of today, seeking a partner for the wind power initiative for design, finance, build, and operate. Also, announced today, the state will be going forward with a special area management process to zone our off shore water development. This process should reduce the time with the permit process.

Mr. Dzykewicz introduced two new members of the council- Christopher Powell from Brown University, and Dan Justynski from Citizens Bank. Both provided an overview of the background and experience on energy matters.

Next, Mr. Dzykewicz announced that Joe Newsome has been approved as the low-income representative and is waiting on senate confirmation. Paul Ryan was introduced as the new chairman of the council by Mr. Dzykewicz. Mr. Ryan stated we now need a vice chairman nominated and Mr. Dzykewicz stated that the Governor will make the selection.

Sam Krasnow began a discussion of Docket 3931. The first meeting will be a pre-hearing conference. The PUC will take comments through April 23 and responses to the comments through May 7th. PUC will hold a hearing on May 14th. Sam stated he saw a need for

legal representation for the EERMC at the PUC. Mr. Dzykewicz said that OER will have separate representation and that he intends to participate in the hearing as the OER Commissioner.

Mr. Dzykewicz introduced Marilyn McConaghy, DOA Chief Legal Council, to clarify issues related to having the EERMC retain Dan Prentiss as legal council for Docket 3931. Marilyn said that purchasing the services of an attorney requires special, specific attention. Marilyn asked if the council was a government entity? Ken Payne former policy director for the Senate, stated that members are appointed with the advice and consent of the Senate 37-2-70. Marilyn added that before a government entity procures the services of an attorney, certain paper work needs to be filled out which outlines the area of expertise. The process would include DOA reviews, budget office and the Director for final approval. Sam Krasnow thinks that there are some things that the EERMC can do with and without government approval/Oversight. The funding for EERMC comes from the ratepayers. The process has been competitively bid through and RFP. Paul Ryan saw no problem with submitting forms to DOA, Mr. Dzykewicz asked who signs the contract?

Ron Gerwatowski said that a % of the SBC funds was for hiring of the EERMC consultants but does not say how to handle, whether it was necessary to do the state process.

Ken Payne assumed there could be a difference of opinion between

the EERMC and the OER on the custody of funds. He said that the Assembly was not trying to create a Quasi public agency with its own purchasing power, but the EERMC needed to be able to act on its own agility. Whether the council is a state agency, Mr. Payne thinks it is established in statute and the members were appointed with the advise and consent of the Senate.

Mr. Payne provided an update on how the URI team is doing with the opportunities report. They are looking at RI specific wind sites conditions, certain hydro dam sites, through DEM information. It was reported that the work is going well and on schedule. Mr. Payne reported that that he is working with a group of five energy fellows with whom he meets weekly.

Scudder Parker said that renewables, CHP and demand response need to be coordinated with LCP and proposed VEIC to do said coordination.

Mr. Dzykewicz stated that he wants the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Director in the bylaws. Paul Ryan did not see the need to hire an attorney to do the by-laws.

It was agreed too, that further discussion will take place on this subject at the next council meeting.

A motion to adjourn was called by Paul Ryan and seconded

unanimously by members at 5:25pm.