



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

EERMC FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 18, 2022

Full Council Meeting | 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Department of Administration Conference Room 2B, Providence, RI 02908 with additional audio/video participation available through Zoom.

Members in Attendance: Peter Gill Case, Sue AnderBois, Brett Feldman, Tom Magliocchetti, Harry Oakley, Kate Grant, Tom Garlick, Bob Izzo, Kurt Teichert, Chris Kearns

Others in Attendance: Steven Chybowski, Adrian Caesar, Craig Johnson, Marisa Desautel, Nelson DiBiase, Sarah Barraco, Michael O'Brien Crayne, Josh Kessler, Angela Li, Sam Ross, Hank Webster, Kathryn Cleary, Mary Spruill, Karen Bradbury, Rachel Pinnons, Karen Verrengia, Jeremy Newberger

All meeting materials can be accessed at <https://rieermc.ri.gov/meeting/2773/>.

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Oakley called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

2. Chair Report

Chairperson Oakley provided an overview of the meeting agenda, listed materials available online that will not be discussed at today's meeting, and provided instructions for making public comments. He also noted the correct dates for the September Council meetings which will be September 22nd and 29th.

3. Executive Director Report

Interim Commissioner Kearns updated the Council on a new Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) allocation proposal that is available for public comment, noted that the Office of Energy Resources' high-efficiency heat pump program proposal is still available for public comments, and asked Council Members to start thinking about candidates for the remaining Council seat vacancies.

4. Meeting Minutes - [July 28, 2022](#)

Council Member Teichert motioned to approve the July meeting minutes. Council Member AnderBois seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

5. Program Oversight (60 Minutes, 3:10 - 4:10 p.m.)

- a. [Presentation of 2022 Q2 Energy Efficiency Programming](#) (15 minutes, 3:10 - 3:25 p.m.)

Mr. Caesar and Mr. Johnson of the Council's Consultant Team presented on the 2022 energy efficiency programming for the second quarter of the year. Ms. Li of Rhode Island Energy presented on equity updates and metrics that have been tracked to date in 2022. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Ross of the Consultant Team provided their takeaways on the equity commitments from the Company.

- b. [Rhode Island Energy Presentation on Updates to the 2023 Energy Efficiency Program Plan](#) (15 minutes, 3:25 – 3:40 p.m.)
Council Member Feldman presented on updates to the 2023 Energy Efficiency Program Plan and responses to feedback on the initial plan draft. The presentation focused on five major themes based on the comments received on the initial plan draft. Vice Chair Gill Case noted that the non-incentive costs were particularly high and that he requests that Rhode Island Energy further study these costs.
 - c. [Consultant Team Presentation on Updates to the 2023 Energy Efficiency Program Plan](#) (15 minutes, 3:40 – 3:55 p.m.)
Mr. Ross of the Council's Consultant Team presented on their takeaways on the progress and updates to the 2023 Energy Efficiency Program Plan. Mr. Ross expressed his appreciation for the Company's collaboration on the plan development process and noted areas for additional review and development. Mr. Caesar presented on commercial and industrial sector programming and Mr. Johnson presented on residential sector programming.
 - d. *Council Discussion on Program Oversight* (15 minutes, 3:55 – 4:10 p.m.)
Council Members discussed clarifying questions of the program oversight presentations, shared their thoughts on the Company's cost assumptions and projections, and what they would like to see for equity metric tracking. Council Members noted the increased planning and administrative costs for 2023, partly due to a reliance on outside consultants, and the need for increased staff within the Company for energy efficiency programming to reduce administrative costs.
- 6. Council Business (45 minutes, 4:10 – 4:55 p.m.)**
- a. [Discussion and Vote on 2022 K-12 Energy Curriculum RFP Proposals](#) (10 minutes, 4:10 – 4:20 p.m.)
The Technical Review Committee, comprised of Vice Chair Gill Case, Council Member Garlick, and Council Member Izzo shared the results of their scoring for the K-12 energy curriculum services and the Committee's recommendation to select the Green Buildings Research Institute for the Council's K-12 energy curriculum training services. Council Member Teichert motioned to approve the Technical Review Committee's recommendation to select GBRI to conduct the K-12 curriculum training work, as described in the proposal plan and to direct OER to work with legal counsel to draft a contract for the described services. Council Member AnderBois seconded. All in favor, none opposed.
 - b. [Discussion and Vote on 2022 Public Forum and Lecture Series RFP Proposals](#) (10 minutes, 4:20 – 4:30 p.m.)
The Technical Review Committee, comprised of Vice Chair Gill Case, Council Member Garlick, and Council Member Izzo shared the results of their scoring for the 2022 Public Forum and Lecture Series services and the Committee's recommendation to select the University of Rhode Island's (URI) Extension Services

for the Council's public forum and lecture series services. Council Member Teichert motioned that the contract be awarded according to the Technical Review Committee's recommendation for URI to conduct the public forum and lecture series work as described in the submitted proposal and to direct OER to work with legal counsel to draft the contract for the described services, and to allocate an additional \$2,524.14 of unallocated Public Education funds to the series budget. Council Member AnderBois seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

c. *Discussion and Vote on Council Branding and Communications Development (10 minutes, 4:30 – 4:40 p.m.)*

The Council discussed the process for moving forward with the Council Branding and Communications Development request for proposals (RFP). Council Member Teichert motioned that from the unallocated funds from 2022, the Council proceeds with a branding and communications initiative and directs OER to draft an RFP for branding and communication services based on the guidelines outlined by the EERMC and the Council's Consultant Team's 2023 budget proposal memo. Council Member AnderBois seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

d. *Presentation on the Open Meetings Act (15 minutes, 4:40 – 4:55 p.m.)*

Chair Oakley held this agenda item for a future Council meeting due to time constraints.

7. Public Comment

None.

8. Adjournment

Council Member AnderBois motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Gill Case seconded. Chair Oakley adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.