



FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 16, 2026 | 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Department of Administration, Conference Room 2A, Providence, RI 02908

Members in Attendance:

Brett Feldman, Chris Kearns, Harry Oakley (departed at 4 p.m.), Priscilla De La Cruz, Peter Gill Case, Melissa Travis (arrived at 3:30 PM), Dr. Carrie Gill (arrived at 3:30 PM)

Others in Attendance:

Steven Chybowski, Josh Cornell, Rachel Sholly, Theo Smith, Brendan Dagher, Toby Ast, Jordan Galluzzo, Claire Williams, Atticus Makuch, Sam Ross, Seth Handy, Quinn Miller Smith, Jeanne Cherry (virtual), Oliwia Krupinski (virtual), Edward Schmidt (virtual), Luke Meunier (virtual), Dan Mellinger (virtual), Craig Johnson (virtual), Nicholas Zhu (virtual), Beatrix Picotte (virtual), Leo Eberman (virtual), Sophia Gosselin-Smoske (virtual), Samantha Caputo (virtual), Tina Munter (virtual), Ann Clarke (virtual), Ashlee Arnould (virtual), Emily Sims (virtual), Carniel LeGrand (virtual), Matt Clarke (virtual), Adam Jacobs (virtual)

1. Call to Order

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

2. Chair Report

Chair Oakley began by sharing the meeting instructions for making public comment and outlined the meeting agenda. Chair Oakley explained that program oversight would include a presentation from RIE on the draft 2027-2029 Energy Efficiency (EE) plan. Next, the Consultant Team would present and then lead a council discussion on the EE plan. Then, the Council planned for a potential vote to enter executive session to discuss and potentially vote on the 2027-2029 draft EEC budget and the Consultant Services Request for Proposal (RFP).

3. Executive Director Report

Acting Commissioner Kearns shared news that the Weatherization Assistance Program will be moving to the Office of Energy Resources (OER). He also shared a summary of two existing Heat Pump programs through the New England Heat Pump Accelerator (NEHPA). Former Council Member Thomas Magliocchetti is expected to join the latter part of the August EEC meeting to share some remarks with the Council so Acting Commissioner Kearns hopes most Council Members can join for that meeting.

4. Meeting Minutes

- a. May 28, 2026
- b. June 2026 LEAD Session
- c. June 18, 2026

A quorum was not met; the minutes will be held for the August meeting. The meeting continued as an informational meeting.

5. Public Comment

None.

6. Program Oversight

a. *Rhode Island Energy Presentation on Draft 2027-2029 Energy Efficiency Plan*

Mr. Ast from Rhode Island Energy (RIE) presented on the Energy Efficiency Plan timeline. At the time of the meeting, RIE was still digesting the stakeholder comments. RIE plans to provide the final draft Energy Efficiency Plan to the EEC on 8/10. Mr. Ast shared ways in which the draft Energy Efficiency Plan addresses the priorities of the EEC. He noted that RIE reads and considers all EEC Priorities even if they are unable to respond directly to all.

Next, Mr. Ast provided a slide on the draft three-year budget and other sources of funding that RIE will coordinate with such as CHRI, HER, and HEAR to maximize savings for ratepayers. Vice Chair Gill Case indicated that he would be interested in a combined report of all EE programs (RIE plus OER offerings) as a way to promote these accomplishments. The Council also discussed mid-term modifications (MTMs) under the draft plan framework.

b. *Consultant Team Presentation and Facilitated Discussion on the 2027-2029 Draft EEC Budget Proposal*

Mr. Caesar of the Consultant provided a plan summary to prepare the Council for a vote on whether to endorse the Plan. He shared the review process and the key takeaways from the Consultant Team's review for the Council's consideration. Vice Chair Gill Case stated that the proposed changes to the Performance Incentive Mechanism (PIM) raises some concern. Mr. Caesar provided sector program highlights on the residential, income-eligible, and commercial and industrial sectors.

7. Council Business

a. *Council Discussion and Potential Vote on the 2027-2029 Draft EEC Budget Proposal*

Mr. Chybowski of OER presented on the draft EEC budget proposal key points and timeline. He shared budgetary considerations in moving to a three-year budget and the current 2026 budget as a point of reference. The EEC should plan on voting on the budget during the August meeting. He presented on historical spending from 2023 through the current 2026 year and proposed 2027-2029 budget spending for consideration. The Council intends to discuss the budget further and vote on the budget proposal in August.

b. *Review and Potential Vote to Issue Consultant Services RFP*

A review and potential vote to issue the Council's draft Consultant RFP was held for the August meeting.

8. Public Comment

None.

9. Adjournment

Vice Chair Gill Case adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.