



Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Webinar Only

MINUTES¹

In Attendance

Voting Board Members: Neil Beup (Chair), Amanda Fargo-Johnson (Vice-Chair), Michael Li, Brenda Watson, Bruce McDermott, John Wright, Amy McLean

Utility Board Members: Will Riddle, Steve Bruno, Ron Araujo, Liz Murphy

Board Members Not in Attendance: Eric Brown, Jack Traver, John Viglione, Scott Whittier

Board Consultants: Ashley Nichols, George Lawrence, Glenn Reed, Richard Faesy, Craig Diamond, Lisa Skumatz

Others: Donna Wells, Rebecca Meyer, Jane Lano, Jennifer Gray, Mark Grindell, Violette Radomski, Jeff Pollock, Joel Kopylec, Vinay Ananthachar, Bernie Pelletier, Brendan Thomas, Christopher Jobson, Erin Kempster, Glo Koch, Guy West, Michael Harris, Nekabari Goka, Paul Horowitz, Russel King, Tim Fabuien, Steve Cowell

Process

Minutes

The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2020 Board meeting. Mr. Wright moved to approve, Mr. Li 2nd. All present voted to approve, except for Ms. Watson who abstained. Minutes approved.

Public Comments

Steve Cowell, E For The Future - he said that the industry survey on workforce development in CT would be coming out within the next few weeks. He said that the Synapse report on electrification of the ISO grid would also be coming out within the next few weeks. He said that E For The Future would be sharing these reports through introductory workshops. He also said that the Heat Pump analysis to address electrification would be starting soon with Eversource, National Grid and others.

EEB Service Recognition for Taren O'Connor and Adrienne Houel

This will be postponed until the Board is able to hold an in-person meeting.

Status of EEB Residential seat appointment

Mr. Beup welcomed Ms. Watson to the EEB. Ms. Watson is with Operation Fuel.

¹ Meeting materials available in Box.com: <https://app.box.com/s/p9gjuclpvb19vzwc46v83gp0f0exrx>

Committee membership

Ms. Fargo-Johnson said that Mr. Diamond would send a list of Committee memberships to the Board so that Board members could see the gaps in Committee membership.

Status of Executive Secretary RFP

Ms. Fargo-Johnson said that the Executive Secretary RFP was being administered by the Companies. She said the RFP had already been released.

Upcoming EEB Public Input sessions and Planning Meeting

Mr. Diamond reminded the Board of the April 8 and May 13 public input sessions, in addition to the June 24 planning meeting.

Programs and Planning

Customer Engagement Platform (CEP) and Marketing Focus Area

Mr. Reed presented a summary on budget and expenditures of the CEP and marketing programs. Ms. Gray and Mr. Pollock provided a presentation on the Eversource CEP and the Companies' marketing programs. Ms. Watson asked what the best way was for managing customer preferences. Ms. Gray said that Eversource was developing a preference management process, including modes of communication (email, text, etc). Ms. Watson said that Operation Fuel was developing a portal that could include Eversource information. Ms. Fargo-Johnson asked about the expanded use of social media beyond Facebook and Twitter. Ms. Gray said Eversource was developing an RFP for a media partner that would help develop plans for expanded use of social media. Mr. Beup asked if there was a direct connection between the CEP and activity/savings. Ms. Gray said that customers could self-report, but they did not have data developed for this meeting showing a direct connection between activity/savings and the CEP. Mr. Beup asked for that information to be presented at the April EEB meeting. Mr. Grindell provided an overview of the status of UI's engagement platform. Mr. Beup asked that UI present data at the April EEB meeting showing the connection between their engagement platform and activity/savings. Ms. Nichols said that the Companies have made progress on being able to connect marketing activity and project/savings. She noted that Sales also plays a large role in closing leads and direct savings. Mr. Beup said he would like to see a consistent approach between the Companies on how this is accomplished. Mr. Gray said that Eversource would be able to develop new reporting on marketing in about two months.

Energize CT Center alternatives - follow up from February meeting

Mr. Riddle said that the Companies would be issuing an RFP for an organization to help develop and implement the Energize CT Center alternative. The scope of work includes for the organization to develop ideas and options for the Center alternative. It was agreed that the EEB and the Board Consultants would have an opportunity to review the RFP prior to its release. The RFP will be issued in May 2020, with a selection in September 2020 and implementation in the first half of 2021.

2020 Plan Update March 1 filing

Mr. Bruno said the Update was filed on March 1. Mr. Li said that the DEEP would review the filing and let the Companies know if DEEP had any questions or issues with the filing.

Summary of DEEP Conditions of Approval for 2020 Plan Update

Mr. Bruno said that Eversource would be repurposing \$2 million for heat pumps from the Behavior programs.

Bills related to energy efficiency in 2020 Legislative Session

Mr. Li said that there was a Governor's bill on Stretch Codes for communities to adopt, similar to that in NY and MA. The bill might include training involvement from the Companies. Mr. Li also said that incentives would need to be addressed based on mandatory vs. voluntary baselines, and that DEEP would want to allow a statewide baseline. Mr. Li said there was also a bill on Energy Benchmarking and Disclosure, which would require commercial buildings larger than 50,000 square feet to benchmark and report their energy use. On the Residential side, the bill would potentially require disclosure of HES scores or the previous year's energy bills.

2020 ACEEE Utility Energy Efficiency Scorecard

Mr. Reed provided a presentation. There was no Board discussion.

3. Committee Updates (5 min)

- Evaluation Committee - it was noted that the updated Evaluation Plan had been approved by the Evaluation Committee on March 9. The plan's budget is \$7.99 million.
- Residential Committee - Ms. McLean said that a process was put in place to facilitate meetings. She also noted that Brenda Watson would be joining the Residential Committee.
- C&I Committee - Mr. Lawrence said that the Committee would be preparing for the Board's focus area on C&I programs.

4. Other

None

5. Closing Public Comments

None

The meeting adjourned at 3:17 pm.