Joint Committee of the CT Energy Efficiency Board and the Connecticut Green Bank Board of Directors

Connecticut Green Bank, 845 Brook Street, Rocky Hill

Wednesday, January 20, 2016
1:30-3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

In Attendance

Voting Members: Norma Glover, John Harrity, Eric Brown, Amanda Fargo-Johnson (phone), Diane Duva

Non-Voting Members: Bryan Garcia, Pat McDonnell, Matt Gibbs, Ron Araujo

Others: Brian Farnen, Steve Bruno, Donna Wells, Evan Seretan, Kim Stevenson, Chris Kramer (phone), Jeff Schlegel (phone), Andy Brydges, Genevieve Sherman (phone), Kerry O’Neill, Marcus Smith, Colette Slover

1. Call to Order

Eric Brown called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes for October 28, 2015 meeting

Ms. Glover suggested that the Joint Committee invite a few small businesses to attend a Joint Committee meeting (comment not related to the minutes). Mr. Harrity moved to approve, and Ms. Glover 2nd. All voted in favor to approve the 10/28/15 meeting minutes.

4. Brief Report-Outs from Sector Working Groups

a. Government. Mr. Brydges provided an update. He said that an important challenge was getting the first big project’s scope of work completed; doing that would set a precedent for additional projects. He said the University of Connecticut Phase I project was moving along and could end up being the first project moving to
implementation. Mr. Garcia said that the Green Bank would be recommending approval of revenue Bonds on April 22.

b. Small Business. Mr. Bruno provided an update. He said that the Green Bank and the Companies had held several meetings to discuss a path forward for small business. Ms. Sherman discussed potential additions to the SBEA program, perhaps for larger customers. She also noted the possibility of combining different loan types.

c. Med-Large Business. Ms. Wells provided an update. Ms. Glover asked how customer experience has been in this customer segment. Mr. Bruno said that this customer segment's experience does not run as smoothly in the SBEA program, and said that they are working to remove impediments in the process. He said that the medium-size customer segment (above 200KW) is the most challenging segment. Ms. Glover said that we need to continue focusing on improving financing offerings for that market. Mr. McDonnell suggested that the program managers speak at the next Joint Committee meeting to discuss the challenges with the program.

5. In-Depth Report Out from the Residential Single Family and Multifamily Working Groups

Mr. Araujo discussed the format of the update developed by the Residential working groups. Ms. O'Neill provided an overview of the single family update. Ms. O'Neill and Mr. Farnen noted that there was a good chance that the Green Loan Guarantee Fund would be make it on to the agenda of the Bond Commission by the end of the 2nd quarter. Regarding the multi-family update, Mr. Araujo and Ms. Stevenson noted the good progress in working with the Department of Housing on integrating energy efficiency into public housing renovations. Ms. Stevenson said that their process could be looked at by other states as a model. Mr. Araujo provided an overview of the multi-family update. He and Ms. Stevenson said that they had identified key multi-family financing needs and would be developing an action plan by the end of the 2nd quarter. Ms. Slover from the CT Department of Housing (DOH) said that it is important for the DOH to leverage other resources for energy efficiency. She said that she is working on standardizing the application process with Eversource, UI, and contractors. She said that a new application likely will be completed by the end of March. Ms. Slover also noted that she is working on enhancing coordination between the DOH and contractors earlier in the process. Mr. Araujo noted that the Green Bank has pre-development financing available. Ms. Stevenson said that the coordination with the DOH grew out of the process in May 2015 on multi-family housing financing. Mr. Harrity commented that it was very encouraging to see the DOH, Green Bank, utilities working together very effectively.

6. Issues to Address and Resolve. Review meeting preparation process.

It was noted that the Joint Committee had identified liaisons/coordinators for each of the five working groups. Joint Committee members said that they supported the proposed process, and it that Mr. Diamond and Mr. Garcia would follow the process from this point forward. Mr. Harrity moved to approve the proposed process, and Ms. Fargo-Johnson 2nd. All voted in favor to approve the process. Mr. Brown said that he likes the matrix format proposed by Mr. Araujo for the Residential updates. Mr. Brown suggested that the matrix include a column called "Satisfies" to indicate which Joint Committee goals are addressed by the working group’s actions. It was agreed that all working groups would follow the proposed format for the updates.

7. Planning for Next Meeting

For the April Joint Committee meeting, it was agreed that the Committee would do a "deep dive" on the Small Business and Med/Large Business working groups. It was also agreed that the location for April meeting would be DEEP in Hartford. The Committee also agreed
that the deep dive for the July meeting would be Government, and that the location of the July meeting would be the Energize CT Center in North Haven. It was proposed that the October Joint Committee meeting be held at Eversource in Berlin.

8. Other Business

Green Bank Model–Program Logic Input Model, other financing evaluation. Mr. Garcia and Mr. Brydges provided a presentation on the Program Logic Model (PLM). Mr. Gibbs commented that PLM can be applied to energy efficiency market transformation, not only financing market transformation. He asked if the Committee should flesh out the left side of the PLM graphic (CGB and Utility/Government) - not only incentives/rebates. Mr. Kramer said the model was a good way to understand financing, but agreed that it could be applied to market transformation for energy efficiency. Mr. Garcia noted that the PLM will be incorporated into the CGB's next two-year Plan. Mr. Garcia commented that the PLM can show how green banks and energy efficiency programs can work together in market transformation. Mr. Kramer said that there are two key metrics: 1) the level of savings; 2) how much can savings be increased by using financing?

9. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

______________________________
Eric Brown, Chairperson