



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 6, 2017
100 Cambridge St, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Attendees: Eric Belliveau (via phone), Toby Berkman, JoAnn Bodemer, Don Boecke, Amy Boyd, Rachel Evans, Ian Finlayson, Jonathan Goldberg, Craig Johnson, Judith Judson, Emmett Lyne, Richard Malmstrom, Jerrold Oppenheim, Alex Pollard, Jonathan Raab, Matt Rusteika

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Judson, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:38 PM.

2. Upcoming Meeting Agendas

September EEAC Agenda

Rusteika began by noting that the meeting would be held at the usual location on the usual date, but that it had been moved from the afternoon to the morning. He noted that the meeting would begin at 9AM and would run to 12PM. Rusteika noted that the meeting would be focused on the residential sector, and would include presentations from the consultant team (C-Team) on residential program impacts and the PAs on residential delivery channels. Rusteika also indicated that the PAs would be giving an update on the statewide database issue and MassSave Data. He added that the meeting would conclude with a kickoff discussion on the upcoming workshops.

October EEAC Agenda

Commissioner Judson noted that the October meeting was scheduled to be held in the middle of the planning workshops and that they were contemplating cancelling the meeting. She asked if members of the Executive Committee had any thoughts on the matter.

Boyd indicated that she would prefer to not cancel any meetings given the amount of work that needs to be completed. Lyne indicated that the PAs had not expressed a desire to have the October meeting cancelled, but did note that they would be appreciative if it were. Boecke and Malmstrom indicated that they did not have a strong preference either way.

The Commissioner asked if it would be helpful to poll the full Council on the matter. Rusteika indicated that he could reach out to the rest of the Councilors to solicit feedback.

3. Open Councilor Seats

Commissioner Judson noted that DOER was actively engaged in a process to fill the vacant residential seat. Boyd noted that she felt it was important to have that seat filled as soon as possible given the upcoming planning period.

Boyd noted that several Councilors tenures were scheduled to expire in October of 2018, near the end of the Planning period. She asked if there would be a process for finding replacements or if the DPU could reappoint those Councilors. Rusteika noted that there are five Council seats that fit this description, and that the DPU had indicated to DOER that appointment dates are not rigid, and so those Councilors should be fine to stay on until after the Plan is filed.

Malmstrom asked if DOER could provide a list of Councilor expirations so that they could think about them ahead of time. Rusteika indicated that they could circulate that information ahead of the next Executive Committee meeting.

4. Workshops Planning

Workshop Plan and Schedule

Raab began by reviewing the draft plan and schedule. He noted that there would be three residential workshops, two commercial and industrial (C&I) workshops, and one workshop for cross-cutting topics. For each of the planned workshops, Raab highlighted the main topic, the sub-topic, the discussion points, and the planned approach. He indicated that he was looking for the Executive Committee's approval on the plan. He added that he would be amenable to refining workshops three through six, but that they really needed to lock down the plan for the first two workshops.

Lyne shared several points of feedback on behalf of Jeremy Newberger from National Grid. First, Newberger suggested that the active demand response discussion be moved from the residential and C&I workshops to the cross-cutting workshop. Raab indicated that the idea was to have a high-level introductory discussion at the sector workshops, followed by a deeper dive at the cross-cutting meetings. Newberger also suggested that the data driven customer acquisition discussion be moved from the first C&I workshop to the second C&I workshop. Raab indicated that they felt this topic would require a lengthy discussion and that there would likely be more time for that in the first C&I workshop. Lastly, Newberger suggested that the second residential workshop might be too initiative specific. Raab noted that the idea was for that workshop to be focused on products and delivery enhancement and that it is specific because they wanted to make sure those topics were covered.

Boyd suggested that the briefing materials, where appropriate, contain recommendations. Belliveau indicated that the briefing documents should ideally be focused on the current state without predisposing outcomes from recommendations. Rusteika suggested that recommendations would vary by workshop: the first residential workshop was designed to

consist of a more open-ended discussion, whereas some subsequent workshops would hone in on more specific topics.

Commissioner Judson noted that while not in the workshop schedule, guidelines, cost-effectiveness, and regulations need to be kept in mind. Raab suggested that there be some discussion of this in the briefing materials. Malmstrom and Boyd agreed, noting that technologies or strategies that would achieve savings should not be ignored just because they might be limited by regulations. The Commissioner asked that the PAs flag any areas where programs need to evolve, but are unable to do so because of regulations or other barriers. Lyne indicated that the PAs have heard that message and that it would be an interesting topic of discussion. Goldberg suggested that any discussion on regulations or guidelines be delayed in the near-term as there are two open dockets at the DPU that are likely to have a significant impact on the programs regardless of the ruling.

Workshop Agendas

Lyne asked what would be expected from the PAs at the workshops. Raab indicated that the PAs would be expected to help frame and vet the briefing materials. He also suggested that the PAs should have content experts available as resources during question and answer sessions at the workshops. Raab also indicated that the C-Team would be leading the presentations, but that it is possible that there may be a place for the PAs to help on those as well.

Gundal indicated that he felt joint presentations would be helpful. Malmstrom noted that he hoped that the presentations would be short and made by the person or persons that know the most about it, regardless if they are members of the C-Team or the PAs.

Finlayson indicated that the C-Team would be providing recommendations in cases where there are ideas that have been discussed before. Gundal suggested that recommendations should not be part of the briefing materials and added that he was concerned that the meetings could become contentious. Raab indicated that there would not be any recommendations for the first residential workshop. He suggested that the C&I workshop would include briefing materials with a few recommendations for Councilors to consider.

5. Adjournment

Commissioner Judson, as Chair, adjourned the Executive Committee at 4:10 PM.