



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 1, 2020
Virtual Meeting via GoToWebinar

Executive Committee Members Present: Amy Boyd, Elliott Jacobson, Emmett Lyne, Maggie McCarey

Other Attendees: Marie Abdou, Eric Belliveau, Adrian Caesar, Maggie Downey, Audrey Eidelman, Rachel Evans, Jonathan Goldberg, Frank Gundal, Paul Johnson, Emily Powers, JoAnn Bodemer, Jerrold Oppenheim, Christina Schlegel

1. Call to Order

McCarey, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

2. Executive Committee Updates and Business

Bodemer, from the Office of the Attorney General, announced that she will be representing the Attorney General at the Executive Committee and Council meetings for anything related to energy efficiency.

Belliveau presented a review of work completed during the second quarter of 2020, as well as priorities for the third quarter. 2022-2024 Three-Year Planning workshops, monitoring COVID-19 program implementation, and review of Program Administrator (PA) potential studies will all be priority areas during Q3.

McCarey wanted clarity on the Consultant Team (C-Team) role in energy optimization, as well as next steps PAs will take to facilitate the energy optimization rollout. McCarey and Boyd agreed that energy optimization should be a discussion topic during the July Council meeting in order to establish clear next steps.

Boyd noted that HVAC systems can be effective in mitigating COVID-19 spread through increased air exchange. Boyd asked how increased air exchange and people returning to workplaces would impact energy consumption, and whether PAs should target employers who are resuming in-person work. Belliveau said HVAC experts are redetermining the amount of air

exchange buildings need, but increased air exchange and filtration would increase energy use. Belliveau believed a shift in air exchange practices may have permanent effects on technical reference manuals (TRMs) and savings algorithms for HVAC systems. McCarey asked if Energy Service Performance Optimization (ESPO) could be used to ensure efficient HVAC system operation as HVAC load increases.

Lyne said the PAs can produce an ESPO presentation for the July meeting if it is an area of interest. McCarey wanted to ensure sufficient discussion time during the July meeting, particularly on the reopening of commercial buildings and COVID-19 energy use impacts on residential customers. McCarey suggested that updates on virtual audits and completed projects should be submitted in writing prior to the Council meetings. Lyne agreed that more substantive COVID-19 updates should be discussed during the July meeting, but needed to confirm appropriate staff would be available to provide those updates. Boyd also requested that HVAC strategy be included the PA presentations.

Johnson asked how the PAs and Council would equitably serve renters, who are primarily Black and comprise 38% of all residential customers, as they have not received adequate program benefits. McCarey said the Equity Working Group will strategize around serving renters, but there is also a specific topic on renters and equity in the July EEAC meeting for the Council to discuss this topic. Johnson continued his questioning on this topic. McCarey noted that the Executive Committee is not a deliberative body and therefore should not be discussing, or seeking feedback on topics that are not included on the agenda.

3. Mass Save Program Update – Implementation efforts during COVID-19

Lyne updated the Executive Committee on program implementation during COVID-19. Lyne stated that contractor community has provided feedback on the first set of safety protocols; the PAs have considered several updates to the protocols to accommodate contractors. Lyne added that over 3,600 residential and 520 small business virtual audits have been performed as of June 30th. Lyne noted that both exterior and interior projects are being completed, but the PAs are still monitoring safety protocols and contractor experiences.

Jacobson said LEAN has worked with PAs to resume low income programs in compliance with new health and safety protocols. Jacobson predicted that programs should return to full production within the next two months.

4. July EEAC Meeting – Agenda Finalization

McCarey listed the agenda items for the July 15th Council meeting, which included an update on the Equity Working Group, Council discussion on the 2019 Plan Year Report, and an update on the 2022-2024 Three-Year planning process.

McCarey said the July meeting should be very discussion-focused since the June meeting included mostly presentations. McCarey recommended that Energy Optimization results from 2019, Energy Optimization priorities for 2020, and renter and limited English proficiency (LEP)

customer KPIs are all discussed. Boyd commented that the Energy Optimization discussion should be divided by sector. Bodemer said C&I Energy Optimization should not detract from the Residential discussion. Jacobson emphasized that the discussion must be streamlined in order to make it productive.

5. August EEAC Meeting – Draft Agenda Topics

McCarey noted the August Council meeting will be focused on low-income program updates, including process evaluation and a review of participation data.

6. EEAC Meeting Topics: Schedule for the Remainder of 2020

Powers gave an overview of draft meeting topics for the second half of 2020 and noted that Three-Year Planning workshops will be scheduled such that they align with Council meeting topics. Lyne said the grouping of specific topics into meetings will make discussion and planning much more efficient. Powers said she would distribute the draft schedule to the PAs for review.

McCarey said a draft workshop topic list would be distributed prior to the August Council meeting so the PAs and C-Team could begin assembling workshop briefings as soon as possible. McCarey said DOER is considering how to facilitate public comment during listening sessions and diversify participation. Powers added that DOER is planning to issue the third-party facilitator procurement in mid-July

Jacobson asked for an update on when in-person meetings might resume. McCarey said they are working under the assumption that no in-person meetings will occur for the rest of 2020.

Johnson stated that he felt McCarey had not been allowing him to provide input during the virtual meetings held throughout the COVID-19 State of Emergency and asked if McCarey felt that she should resign from her position. McCarey responded that she continues to follow the EEAC Meeting Ground Rules and Bylaws and that since Councilor Johnson is not a member of the Executive Committee, the appropriate process has been followed to hear from Executive Committee members prior to other meeting attendees. McCarey also noted that she did not feel that she should resign from her position. Johnson continued to press that he felt he was not receiving adequate time for input during the virtual meetings and repeatedly asked McCarey if she should resign. During this exchange, Evans and McCarey notified Johnson that he was in violation of the EEAC Meeting Ground Rules. Several Executive Committee members expressed that they disagreed with Councilor Johnson's assessment of his discussion time during recent EEAC meetings. Due to Johnson's breaking of EEAC Meeting Ground Rules 3, 4, 5 and 7 of Section III, "Meeting Participation," and Johnson's unwillingness to stop his disruptive comments, McCarey notified him that she had to mute his line to bring order and continue the meeting.

After this disruption, Executive Committee members Boyd, Jacobson, Bodemer, and Lyne expressed their support for McCarey and each stated that McCarey should not resign from her position as Chair.

7. Adjournment

McCarey, as Chair, adjourned the Executive Committee meeting at 11:15 AM.