



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 4, 2023
Virtual Meeting: Zoom

Executive Committee Members Present: Greg Abbe, Jo Ann Bodemer (for Commissioner Mahony), Emmett Lyne, William Rose, Dennis Villanueva

Executive Committee Members Absent: Kyle Murray

Other Attendees: Adrian Caesar, Ina Dasso, Maggie Downey, Paul Johnson, Audrey Eidelman Kiernan, Eric Belliveau, Kate Peters, Joe Dorfler, Jerrold Oppenheim, Rachel Evans, Steve Menges, Benjamin Silverman, Margaret Song, Michael Hershberg, Chad Ihrig

1. Call to Order

Bodemer, acting on behalf of the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

2. Executive Committee Updates and Business

In response to repeated requests for more data from Councilors, Bodemer announced that the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and program administrators (PAs) established monthly reporting of weatherization projects and home-energy assessments on the EEAC website, in addition to quarterly updates that the PAs will discuss with the Council.

Bodemer stated that DOER will post positions for Councilor reappointment on the EEAC website on October 18, accept statements of interest through November 15, and make recommendations to the Department of Public Utilities by December 15. Bodemer said that DOER will work with organization with designated seats on the Council to determine appointment of Councilors and that Paul Gromer will not seek reappointment to represent energy-efficiency businesses. Bodemer encouraged all to share open Council seats with their networks.

Bodemer requested that the PAs provide a summary of the notice on Commercial & Industrial lighting during the October EEAC meeting. Lyne confirmed that the PAs would provide an update on the lighting notice.

Bodemer said that the Equity Working Group, an EEAC subcommittee comprised of councilors, PAs, and other stakeholders focused on equity, will advance its recommendations on the 2025-2027 Three-Year Plan to the EEAC and review these recommendations during the October 10 workshop on equity.

3. October EEAC Meeting – Finalize Agenda

Bodemer announced that the October EEAC Meeting agenda would include votes on PAs' Mid-Term Modifications (MTMs), a primer on evaluation, measurement, and verification, and refinement of recommendations from the first four EEAC Workshops on the 2025-2027 Plan.

Bodemer indicated that the EEAC Consultants are analyzing the PA MTMs in order to make recommendations to the Council. Bodemer said the Office of the Attorney General (AGO) and DOER have been engaged with the EEAC Consultants to assess cost-effectiveness challenges at the sector level. Lyne noted that the PAs will gather and share data to inform EEAC Consultant review of the MTMs. Lyne said that there is overlap between information requests on the MTMs and the information the PAs will share with the EEAC Consultants and AGO.

Johnson asked how Councilors can contribute to recommendations on the 2025-2027 Plan and what the deadline is for feedback on the recommendations. Bodemer replied that Councilors can provide feedback by October 16 or during the October 26 workshop, which will be used to finalize EEAC recommendations on the 2025-2027 Plan.

Abbe suggested that DOER send Councilors a schedule describing when they should review and develop comments on the recommendations prior to October 16. Bodemer agreed and said that DOER will send Councilors advanced notice of the upcoming deadlines.

Bodemer emphasized that the October 26 workshop will focus on recommendations that require refinement and substantive changes.

4. November EEAC Meeting – Draft Agenda

Bodemer stated that the November EEAC Meeting agenda would include updates on active-demand management, clean-energy efforts led by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), and feedback on the EEAC Workshops on the 2025-2027 Plan.

Bodemer asked if Councilors would like the MassCEC to provide updates on workforce development or complementary programs to Mass Save. Lyne said that MassCEC receives \$12 million annually from the PAs and had already presented updates on workforce development and other initiatives during a prior EEAC meeting. Johnson suggested that MassCEC present data-driven results of workforce development efforts, explain challenges, and share more detailed information than what was last presented. Johnson commented that contractors found that some graduates of the MassCEC program did not have basic job skills and were not interested in energy-efficiency work, so MassCEC should discuss these issues with the Council.

Bodmer proposed that the Council develop its priorities for 2024 beginning in December and finalize them in January. Bodmer encouraged Councilors to consider their purpose on the Council, the unique expertise they provide, and the structure of EEAC meetings.

Johnson said that the Council worked with Jonathan Raab several years prior to evaluate its processes and agreed that reviewing the Council process and meeting structure is a good idea.

Lyne seconded Johnson's comments and added that remote meetings enable greater participation, but in-person meetings are refreshing and engaging. Johnson agreed with Lyne and said that the in-person meeting in 2022 was valuable for supporting engagement. Bodmer concurred that in-person meetings are valuable, but said that hybrid capabilities are essential for allowing virtual attendees to actively participate.

5. Adjournment

Bodmer, acting on behalf of the Chair, adjourned the meeting at 10:35 AM.

Meeting Materials

- Official Meeting Notice
- Agenda