

City of Gainesville

*City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

5:15 PM

City Hall Room 16

Regional Utilities Committee

*Commissioner Jack Donovan, Chair
Commissioner Ed Braddy, Member
Commissioner Craig Lowe, Member*

Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Office of Equal Opportunity at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.

CALL TO ORDER

Present: Craig Lowe and Jack Donovan
Absent: Edward Braddy

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

071211. Regional Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes for April 8, 2008 (B)

The minutes for 4/8/08 were approved. Commissioner Donovan pointed out that there were a couple of typographical errors that needed to be corrected.

RECOMMENDATION *The Regional Utilities Committee approve the minutes for the April 8, 2008 meeting as circulated.*

This matter was Approved as Amended. The motion carried.

RUC Meeting Minutes for Apr 8 2008.pdf

CURRENT RUC ACTION ITEMS

070456. Large Electric Power Customers Referral (B)

Heidi Lannon, Utility Managing Analyst, gave a presentation to the RUC on the impact of conservation on large power customers. The Committee examined the question of the most appropriate rates and the methodology for large power customers.

Commissioner Lowe asked the question why do we have a given incentive for people to use more power?

Heidi Lannon explained that the business partner discount had been discontinued and was being phased out.

Commissioner Donovan asked that there be a more refined recommendation back to the commission and clarify that the RUC did get some answers to their questions and the answer is ultimately there is no need for a change.

The RUC determined that the rate structure reflects the lower costs to serve large power customers with better load factors. The concerns mentioned about the impact of load factor based charges on solar incentives will be included in an alternate RUC referral on solar issues. The Committee agreed that it is not necessary to change the current rate structure and that the methodology is rational and sound.

RECOMMENDATION *The Regional Utilities Committee: a) hear a presentation from*

staff on GRU Large Power electric customers and conservation strategies; b) recommend to the City Commission to remove this item on the referral list.

This matter was Approved as Recommended. The motion carried.

RUC Large Power Presentation October 9 2007.pdf
Backup for #070456 Large Power May 13 08.pdf
070456_20080609.pdf

070181.

Forest Stewardship Issues (B)

Joe Wolf, GRU Forester, made a presentation to the Regional Utilities Committee on Standards for the Stewardship of Forestlands Providing Biomass to GRU.

Commissioner Lowe asked about the public relations program and what that would be. Joe Wolf advised he thought it would be community meetings, perhaps like a focus group.

Paula Stahlmer asked at what stage does the community support plan get implemented in order to get community stakeholders like environmental groups to comment. Bob Hunzinger responded that we can tell Nacogdoches how important it is to be involved in the community. Commission Donovan stated we should find out what they're thinking but it wouldn't preclude the City from being proactive as well as responsive.

Commissioner Donovan noted that Nacogdoches is working to develop sustainability standards for the project and are we're developing sustainability standards and asked if that will that put us in conflict. Joe Wolf indicated it would not.

There was further discussion about the standards and incentives and the need to be specific and the ability of Nacogdoches to comply with what we develop.

Commissioner Donovan expressed his excitement over the new jobs that are projected and the opportunities for people to work in an industry where they have some growth opportunity.

Commissioner Lowe stated that we need to fold in what is in the RFP with what is in the draft standards in terms of what we negotiate. Commissioner Donovan agreed.

It should be noted there will be more than one set of standards, (1) minimum standards and (2) Standards for participation in the forest biomass incentive program. The Ad-hoc Committee is developing standards for the proposed incentive program. Comments to the Draft standards were favorable.

The RUC asked staff to return to the RUC in two (2) months with revisions from the input received. The RUC expressed the need to share this information with the full Commission to give them a chance to comment.

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Utilities Committee: 1) hear a presentation from staff on Standards for the Stewardship of Forestlands

Providing Biomass to GRU; and 2) recommend the City Commission remove this item from the referral list.

Discussed

RUC Forestry Presentation October 9 2007.pdf
Backup for Forest Stewardship Item #070181 Oct 9.pdf
Memo to RUC re Backup for Item #070181 Feb 12 2008.pdf
Forest Product Procurement Standards Item #070181 Attachment Feb 12 2008.pdf
Backup for 070181 Draft Forest Certification Standards May 13 08.pdf
Backup for Aug 13 2008 RUC Meeting Item #070181.pdf
Backup for item #070181 Markup Incentive Plan Oct 20 08.pdf
Backup for item #070181 Final Stewardship Incentive Plan Oct 20.pdf
070181_referral_20090402.pdf
070181_MOD_ERRATA SHEET_20090416.PDF

070255.**HERS (Home Energy Rating System) #070255 (B)**

Due to time constraints the RUC briefly discussed this item. Commissioner Donovan asked for a response to his specific question which was: is there some mechanism for informing people who are looking to rent or buy a place what the energy efficiency of the house is. This item will be discussed at a future meeting.

RECOMMENDATION *The RUC discuss staff's recommendations concerning these four issues and recommend the City Commission remove this item from the referral list.*

Discussed

Back up for item 070255 HERS 5 13 08.pdf

MEMBER COMMENT**CITIZEN COMMENT****NEW BUSINESS**

OUTSTANDING REFERRALS

071212. Regional Utilities Committee Outstanding Referral Status Report (B)

RECOMMENDATION *The Regional Utilities Committee review the Outstanding Referral Status Report.*

No Action Taken

RUC Outstanding Referrals status report May 13 2008.pdf

NEXT MEETING DATE

The RUC asked to schedule a meeting for June 10, 2008.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.