

# **City of Gainesville**

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



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 13, 2008**

**5:15 PM**

**CITY HALL ROOM 16**

## **Regional Utilities Committee**

*Commissioner Craig Lowe, Chair  
Commissioner Lauren Poe, Member  
Commissioner Jack Donovan, 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

## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

*Agenda was adopted as prepared.*

Present: Craig Lowe, Jack Donovan and Lauren Poe

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### **080234. Regional Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes for July 9, 2008 (B)**

**RECOMMENDATION**     *The Regional Utilities Committee approve the minutes for July 9, 2008 as circulated.*

**This matter was Approved as Recommended. The motion carried.**

RUC Meeting Minutes for July 9 2008 .pdf

## CURRENT RUC ACTION ITEMS

### **070181. Forest Stewardship Issues (B)**

*Ed Regan gave an overview of the Stewardship Incentive Plan for biomass fuel procurement.*

*Commissioner Donovan asked if the standing advisory committee was going to be voluntary. Ed Regan responded that it would be voluntary.*

*Commissioner Lowe asked what flexibility would we have to make modifications if a particular practice we were incentivizing caused environmental damage? Ed Regan responded that if it was something with our stewardship program, we could change that fairly easily. If it was a problem with the fuel supply we would have to call it to the attention of Nacogdoches representatives because they would be relying on our minimum standards.*

*Commissioner Lowe raised the issue of having a higher premium for the Forest Stewardship Council participation than the Division of Forestry program.*

*Dave Conser, representative from the Florida Division of Forestry asked about the requirement in the incentive plan that only properties obtaining the appropriate certifications after October 2008 would be eligible for the financial incentive. He understands the desire to change future behavior but feels those who are already behaving properly should be rewarded as well.*

*Ed Regan went over the proposed minimum standards with the committee.*

*Commissioner Lowe expressed concern about destruction of listed species and requested that it be added to the minimum standards.*

*Commissioner Donovan moved to accept staff's recommendation to approve the proposed forest stewardship incentive plan for biomass fuel procurement with the modification of adding listed species to the minimum standards and to recommend removing this item from the referral list. Commissioner Lowe added a second motion and that was to remove the provision about eligibility for properties prior to October 2008. Both motions were approved.*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The Regional Utilities Committee: 1) hear a presentation from staff; 2) approve staff's proposed forest stewardship incentive plan for biomass fuel procurement; and 3) recommend removal of this item from the referral list.*

**This matter was Approved as Modified. The motion carried.**

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

### **070528.**

#### **Nuclear Energy Option Workshop (NB)**

*Mr. Bob Hunzinger made opening comments regarding the status of discussions with Progress Energy and informed the Regional Utilities Committee (RUC) about a meeting staff was going to attend with Florida Power and Light (FP&L) in Miami to hear a presentation on their proposed nuclear project.*

*Commissioner Lowe asked when would be the earliest timeframe where the Commission would need to make a decision as to whether to enter into the Progress Energy project or not.*

*Mr. Hunzinger advised that the earliest would be early December or towards the end of the year.*

*Commissioner Donovan spoke in favor of a workshop and recommended Mr. Jim Harding and Mr. Peter Bradford be invited to come speak. Commissioner Donovan also expressed his concern with how the costs estimates keep going up.*

*Ed Regan suggested asking Progress Energy to attend the workshop and make a presentation.*

*Commissioner Poe stated he would like to see anyone in fuel energy economics that could lay some of the numbers out for the Commission.*

*Commissioner Donovan made the motion that staff contact the Mayor and other Commissioners for additional recommendations on who to invite to speak at the workshop and arrange the meeting around the schedule of the invitees (Mr. Bradford, Mr. Harding plus others) and have the meeting broadcast or taped for future viewing. Commissioner Lowe and Commissioner Poe agreed.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The Regional Utilities Committee discuss arrangements and possible experts in the nuclear energy field to make presentations to the City Commission and the citizens of Gainesville in a workshop format. The workshop will serve as part of the Commission's deliberations on the options available to participate in joint ownership of new nuclear generating units proposed for construction by Progress Energy Florida (PEF) and Florida Power & Light (FP&L). A previous nuclear energy workshop was held by the City Commission on November 27, 2007.*

**Discussed**

## OUTSTANDING REFERRALS

### 080235. Regional Utilities Committee Outstanding Referral Status Report (B)

*Mr. Hunzinger suggested that he work with Commissioner Lowe on the outstanding referral list.*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The Regional Utilities Committee review the outstanding referral status report for August 13, 2008 and select items for discussion at the next meeting.*

#### **No Action Taken**

RUC Outstanding Referrals status report August 13 08.pdf

## MEMBER COMMENT

## CITIZEN COMMENT

## NEXT MEETING DATE

## ADJOURNMENT

*Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.*