

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes

Thursday, October 9, 2014

5:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room

Regional Utilities Committee

*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Todd Chase, Chair
Commissioner Lauren Poe, Member
Commissioner Craig Carter, Member*

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Kathy Viehe requested that the Cost of Service item, which was third on the agenda under "Current Action Items", be heard first. The Committee agreed and adopted the agenda with that change.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[140364.](#) Minutes of the 09/11/14 RUC Meeting (B)

Attachments: [140364 RUC 9-11-14 Meeting Minutes](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Approve the minutes of the September 11, 2014 RUC meeting.*

The minutes of the 9/11/14 meeting were approved as drafted.

CURRENT ACTION ITEMS

[120686.](#) Low Income Solar (B)

Attachments: [120686-110783 Renewable Energy 20141009](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Hear a presentation from staff.*

Tara Thomas gave a presentation on GRU's current programs designed to help low income customers. She focused on the LEEP program and explained what makes it a more cost effective program for GRU to administer as well as providing more benefit to low-income customers in terms of comfort and energy efficiency of their homes.

Commissioner Poe asked staff to provide information on how much energy has been saved to date through the LEEP program. Commissioners Chase and Pinkoson asked for data on how many homes in Gainesville are potentially eligible to participate in LEEP.

Staff does not recommend development of a program to assist low-income customers attain solar PV systems.

Citizens Jim Konish and Nancy Deren spoke on this item.

After hearing the next item, the Committee voted to accept staff's recommendation and to recommend removal of this item from committee.

[110783.](#) Green Energy Payment Options (B)

Attachments: [120686-110783 Renewable Energy 20141009](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Hear a presentation from staff.*

Lewis Walton gave a presentation on the history of GRUGreen and explained that it had a low participation rate. He said that customers are already paying for green energy through our regular rates. He recommended that we not offer green pricing at this time but that we continue to monitor and consider opportunities for green pricing.

Commissioner Chase asked that we keep this item in committee and continue to research options and find something that will be an incentive for customers to pay extra for green energy.

110665

GRU Cost of Service Study (B)

Attachments: [20121011 RUC Presentation Item 110665](#)
[20121120-RUC Presentation Item #110665](#)
[20130624 RUC Presentation Item 110665](#)
[FINAL GRU Electric Rate Study.Baker Tilly](#)
[FINAL GRU Gas Rate Study.Baker Tilly](#)
[FINAL GRU Water Rate Study.Baker Tilly](#)
[FINAL GRU Wastewater Rate Study.Baker Tilly](#)
[110665 FY15 Cost of Service Study Schedule 20141009](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Receive presentation from staff on the schedule and content of the Cost of Service Study.*

Diane Wilson presented a timeline for completion of the update of the cost of service study. Commissioner Chase asked that staff go over the study with all commissioners individually prior to presenting the update, since the original study had never been presented to the full commission.

140215.

RUC Outstanding Referrals List (B)

Attachments: [140215 RUC Future Meeting Dates 2014.09.11](#)
[140215 Outstanding Referrals List - 2014.09.11](#)
[140215 Outstanding Referrals List - 20141009](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Review the outstanding referrals and make recommendations for which items to hear at future meetings, and specify dates from the attached list of meeting dates.*

MEMBER COMMENT

CITIZEN COMMENT

Citizen Nancy Deren spoke about the need for GRU and the City Commission to get the story out and connect the community to the value of local, community-owned power.

NEXT MEETING DATE

November 13, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.